



# El Shaddai Ministries

## Feasts of the Lord in Prophecy Newsletter eNews!

11 May 2012, Vol V, Issue 5

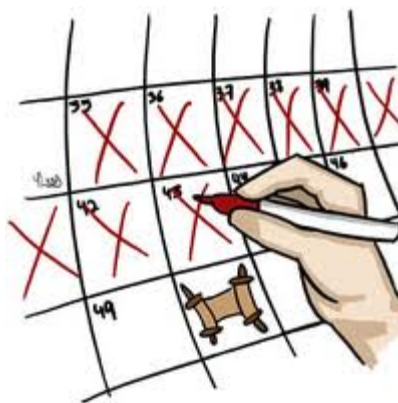


### Message from Pastor Mark

Here we are deep into the counting of the omer.

We are about to come to the 40th day when Messiah ascended.

What a day to remember and to realize just as He left from the Mount of Olives He has promised to return! May it be in our day.



In just a few weeks we are coming to the Feast of Shavuot! I cannot express how exciting our Shavuot conference will be. Be sure and register to attend this power packed conference. Dr. Frank Seekins and Dr. Danny Ben Gigi will be sharing some of the most fascinating insights into

marriage as well as the Hebrew language. This is one of the three pilgrimage Feasts where the children of Israel were required to come up to Jerusalem. When we remember what happened on that day 2,000 years ago we can see why.

Register here: <http://www.elshaddaiministries.us/events/conference.html>

Right after our Shabbat service on Memorial weekend we will have a picnic at the park at Clark's Creek Park. We will be doing mikvahs (baptisms) in the river for anyone interested after the service. We will also be honoring our vets this weekend as well. We are asking all who can to wear their uniforms or send us pictures of them in uniform.



### IN THIS ISSUE

[Message from Pastor Mark](#)

[Shavuot](#)

[Recipes](#)

[Recommended Product](#)

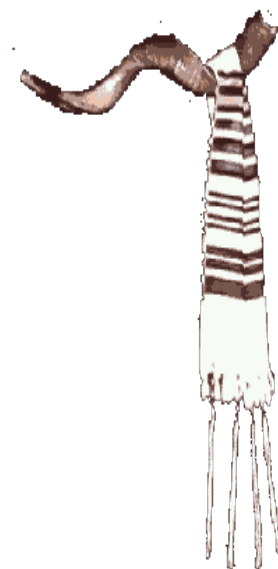
[This Month in Jewish History](#)

[Recommended Videos](#)

[Home School Links](#)

[Download Newsletters](#)





We still have a few openings left on our Israel tour this November so if any of you were considering coming to the Promised Land now is the time to make the decision. Just know as Moshe Kempinski of the Shoreshim bookstore always says that “while you think you made the decision it was actually God inviting you and you just accepted His invitation.”

You can sign up here: <http://unseensites.com>

We have exciting news for those who have an iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch or Android Phone. Our new El Shaddai App is now available for free download! Just go to your iPhone or iTunes App Store or Android Play or App Store to download it today. Before too long we will also be live streaming allowing so many of you who have no place to go to join us live, wahoo!

Now for a little Hebrew fun! Many of you have been following our Hebrew letter series.

This last Monday we went over the letter Ayin ע .

I received an email from Karen Jacks concerning some artwork she had created.

Many of you know Yeshua's name in Hebrew is spelled ישוע ending with the letter ע .

We know Yeshua is at the right hand of God and Yeshua's right hand is what supports us:

*Heb 12:2 Looking unto Yeshua the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

*Ps 18:35 Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation(Yeshau): and thy right hand hath holden me up,*

*Isa 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.*

Well take a look at this and you will never see your hand the same again!

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[Hear Shabbat Messages](#)

[Feasts of the LORD](#)

[Get Connected](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

[Our Bookstore](#)

[13 Attributes of God](#)

[Water Baptism](#)

[Jesus' view on Torah](#)

[Gospel in Gen 5](#)

[FAQ's](#)

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The website is: [www.sacredhandpublishing.com](http://www.sacredhandpublishing.com)

Enjoy her website, it has some great information,

Be Blessed!

***Pastor Mark***

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## SHAVUOT

### (The Feast of Pentecost)

By Tom O'Haver

Paul said in Colossians 2:16-17 that the Biblical feasts and celebrations were a shadow of the things to come through Jesus Christ.

*Let no one therefore judge you in eating, or in drinking, or with respect to a feast day or a new moon or a Sabbath day, which are a shadow of the things to come; but the*



*body is Messiah's.*

As we discover the significance of each of these special times when God has said He will meet with us, we will certainly gain a greater knowledge of God's Word, an improved understanding of the Bible, and a deeper relationship with the Lord.

Pentecost - Shavuot - Feast of Weeks:



Pentecost or Shavuot has many names in the Bible (the Feast of Weeks, the Feast of Harvest, and the Latter Firstfruits). Celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover, Shavuot is traditionally a joyous time of giving thanks and presenting offerings for the new grain of the summer wheat harvest in Israel. The name "Feast of Weeks" was given because God commanded the Jews in Leviticus 23:15-16, to count seven full weeks (or 49 days) beginning on the second day of Passover,

and then present offerings of new grain to the Lord as a lasting ordinance.

*You shall count from the next day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths shall be completed: even to the next day after the seventh Sabbath you shall number fifty days; and you shall offer a new meal offering to the LORD*

Shavuot was originally a festival for expressing thankfulness to the Lord for the blessing of the harvest. And because it occurred at the conclusion of the Passover, it acquired the name "Latter Firstfruits." The celebration commemorates the time that God gave the Torah to the people and thus bears the name Matin Torah or "giving of the Law." Tradition tells us that God gave the Ten Commandments to the Jews on the sixth night of the Hebrew month of Sivan. Shavuot always falls 50 days after the second night of Passover. The 49 days in between are known as the Omer.

Celebrating Shavuot Today

The Jews had been commemorating Shavuot (Feast of Pentecost) for approximately 1500 years before the "Day of Pentecost" in Acts 2. They were the first "Pentecostals". Today most modern Pentecostals don't celebrate it. Traditionally many Jews celebrate by spending the entire night studying Torah at their synagogue or at home. This all-night gathering is known as Tikun Leyl Shavuot and at dawn participants stop studying and recite shacharit, the morning prayer.



In addition to study, other Shavuot customs include:



Chanting the Ten Commandments. Reading Megilat Rut, known as the Book of Ruth in English. This biblical book tells the story of two women: a Jewish woman named Naomi and her non-Jewish daughter-in-law Ruth. Their relationship was so strong that when Ruth's husband died she decided to join the Jewish people by converting to Judaism. The Book of Ruth is read during Shavuot because it takes place during the harvest season and because Ruth's conversion is thought to reflect our acceptance of the Torah on Shavuot. Also, Jewish tradition teaches that King David (Ruth's great-great-grandson) was born and died on Shavuot. Decorating our synagogues and homes with roses or aromatic spices. This custom is based on midrashim that connect the events at Sinai to spices and roses.

## The Foods of Shavuot



Jewish holidays often have some food-related component and Shavuot is no different. According to tradition we should eat dairy foods such as cheese, cheesecake and milk on Shavuot. No one knows where this custom comes from but some think it is related to Shir HaShirim (The Song of Songs). One line of this poem reads "Honey and milk are under your tongue." Many believe that this line is comparing the Torah to the sweetness of milk

and honey. In some European cities children are introduced to Torah study on Shavuot and are given honey cakes with passages from the Torah written on them.



Tom O'Haver is a Zaken (Pastoral Elder), the IT Director and Web Administrator for El Shaddai Ministries. He is also the Production Editor of this Newsletter.

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## RECIPES

Submitted by Tina Fallstead

On Shavuot, the day the Torah was given to Moses on Mt Sinai; it is tradition to eat dairy foods. Many possible reasons are given by Torah scholars. One of the possible reasons is as follows: The Biblical book Song of Songs (4:11) refers to the sweet nourishing value of Torah by saying: "It drips from your lips, like honey and milk under your tongue."

Whole Baked Fish: *taken from aish.com*

- 1 Whole fish, cleaned (trout, red snapper, whitefish, grouper, etc.)
- Paprika
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- salt

- lemon pepper
- butter or margarine
- parsley
- dill
- onions

Season fish very graciously the day before serving with a paste of paprika, fresh garlic-crushed, salt, (lemon) pepper, etc. inside and out. Dot with butter or margarine. Place sprigs of fresh parsley and dill, and a few chopped onions inside, on top and on underside of fish. Wrap air tight in heavy foil, place in plastic bag, and refrigerate overnight or for 24 hours. Next day, open foil and bake, uncovered at 350 degrees F (180 degrees C) until fish flakes, about one hour. Cool. Fish may be eaten at this time, or wrapped in heavy foil and plastic bag and refrigerated until next day when flavors have blended beautifully. Serve at room temperature. Great to take to a cottage or to have on hand for a weekend!

Serve with Yogurt Cucumber Sauce: *taken from aish.com*

- 1/2 cup plain yogurt 125 mL
- 1/4 cup grated, peeled cucumber 60 mL
- 1/4 teaspoon dried dill 2 mL
- salt and pepper to taste

Combine ingredients and mix well.

French Onion Soup: *taken from aish.com*

- 10 onions, sliced
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- 1-tablespoon sugar
- 1-teaspoon nutmeg
- 8 teaspoons parve beef soup mix
- 10 cups water
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 3/4 cup dry red wine
- 12 slices thick French bread, toasted
- 2 cups grated mozzarella cheese mixed with 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Heat butter and oil in large stockpot. Sauté onions until soft. Add sugar and nutmeg and continue to Sauté. Add soup mix water, salt and pepper and bring to a boil. Simmer for 10 minutes, add wine and simmer for another 10 minutes. Prepare 12 ovenproof bowls. Sprinkle some cheese in the bottom of each bowl. Ladle in soup. Cover with slice of bread and then sprinkle cheese on top to cover. Bake until top browns.

Oreo Cheesecake

By Emuna Braverman *taken from aish.com*

This is my favorite cheesecake recipe and the one I plan to make this Shavuot.

2 cups Oreo cookie crumbs (about 20 cookies)

- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 2 lbs. cream cheese, softened
- 1-1/4 cups sugar
- 1/3-cup pareve [non-dairy] whip
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1-teaspoon vanilla
- 4 eggs
- 2 cups coarsely crumbled Oreos
- 1 lb. sour cream
- ¼ cup sugar
- 1-teaspoon vanilla
- 1/3-cup pareve [non-dairy] whip
- 1-1/4 cups semisweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Combine first 3 ingredients and press mixture in bottom and up sides of a 10-inch springform pan. Bake for 10 minutes and set aside. Beat cream cheese until creamy. Gradually add 1-1/4 cups sugar, beating well. Add 1/3-cup pareve whip, flour and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Mix well. Add eggs one at time, beating well after every addition. Pour 3-1/2 cups of this batter into prepared crust. Top with crumbled cookies. Pour remaining batter over cookies. Bake for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Combine sour cream, remaining ¼ cup sugar and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Spread over cheesecake. Bake for 7 more minutes. Turn oven off and leave cheesecake in with door close for 45 minutes. Remove from oven and cool completely on a wire rack. Cover and chill 8 hours. Remove sides of pan. Combine 1/3-cup pareve whip with chocolate chips in a small saucepan. Stir over low heat until chocolate melts. Stir in teaspoon vanilla and remove from heat. Carefully spread mixture over cheesecake allowing it to drip down the sides. Chill. Serves 16 - 20. Very rich and very good.



Tina Fallstead is El Shaddai Ministries' receptionist and Administrative Assistant. She and her family are a valued part of our congregation and ministry.

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## RECOMMENDED PRODUCT

Submitted by Tina Fallstead

You Will Not Fail

**by Sarah Sanders**



\$15.00

A Colossal Debut from an exciting new recording artist...

A heavenly blend of worship songs with a Hebraic overtone that will bring you closer to the Heart of God....

*Sarah Sanders is an excellent musical artist committed to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. As assistant Worship Director at El Shaddai Ministries, who truly understands what it means to worship the Living God, has written many inspirational songs. I know you will love her CD if you love to come close to the heart of God. ~ Pastor Mark Biltz*



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**by Dr. Danny Ben-Gigi**

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- Explains the structure of Hebrew roots
- Highlights the basic infinitive forms





- Two sided durable UV coated cover stock
- The corners are rounded for children's safety

Learn the Hebrew alphabet, Hebrew reading, Hebrew writing, and Hebrew grammar, all with one product....

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## THIS MONTH IN JEWISH HISTORY

Submitted by Tina Fallstead

**Jewish Books Confiscated (1510)** Following his 1,500 Jewish books were confiscated in Frankfurt am Main, Germany at the instigation of an apostate (*Meshumad*) on the 11th of Iyar.

**Riots in Wasilkow and Konotop (1881)** Anti-Jewish riots (*pogroms*) continue to escalate in Russia and break out on the 11th of Iyar in Waslikow and Konotop. The Jews were blamed for the assassination of Czar Alexander II, who was assassinated by revolutionaries. The riots continued for three years across the entire Russia.

**The Israeli Army defeated the advancing Syrian Army, following the shelling at the entrance of Deganya, which began at sunrise and lasted nine hours. It is considered the first Israeli victory following the start of the War of Independence.**

**Roman Jews Granted Privileges (1402)** On the 12th of Iyar, 1402, the Jews of Rome were granted "privileges" by Pope Boniface IX. They were given legal right to observe their Shabbat, protection from local oppressive officials, their taxes were reduced and orders were given to treat Jews as full-fledged Roman citizens.

**Jews Expelled from Berne (1427)** The Jews of Berne, Switzerland were expelled on this date in 1427. Berne had a long history of expulsions and anti-Jewish riots.

**"Second Passover" (1312 BCE)** A year after the Exodus, G-d instructed the people of Israel to bring the Passover offering on the afternoon of Nissan 14, and to eat it that evening, roasted over the fire, together with matzah and bitter herbs, as they had done on the previous year just before they left Egypt. "There were, however, certain persons who had become ritually impure through contact with a dead body, and could not, therefore, prepare the Passover offering on that day. They approached Moses and Aaron ... and they said: '...Why should we be deprived, and not be able to present G-d's offering in its time, amongst the children of Israel?'" (Numbers 9). In response to their plea, G-d established the 14th of Iyar as a "second Passover" (*pesach sheini*) for anyone who was unable to bring the offering on its appointed time in the previous month. The day thus represents the "second chance" achieved by *teshuvah* the power of repentance and "return." In the words of Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak of Lubavitch, "The Second Passover means that it's never a 'lost case.'"

**Jews of Bisenz Massacred (1605)** The Jews of Bisenz, Austria were massacred on the 14th of Iyar, 5365 (1605).

**Germans Burn Jewish Books (1933)** Following the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany in the year 1933, the Nazis burned thousands of books written by Jews on the 14 of Iyar of that year.

**Eichmann Captured in Buenos Aires (1960)** Adolf Eichmann, a key party in implementing of Hitler's "final solution," was captured by agents of the Israeli "Mossad" in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Eichmann was in charge of all transportation required for the shipment of Jews to the extermination camps. The height of his career was reached in Hungary in 1944, when he managed to transport 400,000 Jews to the gas chambers in less than five weeks. After the war, Eichmann fled to Argentina and lived under the assumed name of Ricardo Klement for ten years until Israeli Mossad agents abducted him on May 11, 1960 and smuggled him out of the country to stand trial in Jerusalem for his crimes against the Jewish people, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

During the four months of the trial over one hundred witnesses testified against him. Eichmann took the stand and used the defense that he was just obeying orders. "Why me," he asked. "Why not the local policemen, thousands of them? They would have been shot if they had refused to round up the Jews for the death camps. Everybody killed the Jews."

Eichmann was found guilty on all counts, sentenced to death and hanged at Ramleh Prison on May 31, 1962.

**Rabbis Burnt at Stake (1728)** On this day Rabbis Chayim and Yehoshua Reitzes were tortured and burned in Lvov, Poland after they were accused of having attempted to convince an apostate to return to Judaism.

**Giving of the Torah (1313 BCE)** On the 6th Sivan of the year 2448 from creation (1313 BCE), seven weeks after the Exodus, G-d revealed Himself on Mount Sinai. The entire people of Israel (600,000 heads of households and their families), as well as the souls of all future generations of Jews, heard G-d declare the first two of the Ten Commandments and witnessed G-d's communication of the other eight through Moses. Following the revelation, Moses ascended the mountain for 40 days, to receive the remainder of the Torah from God.

At Sinai, God rescinded the "decree" and "divide" (gezeirah) that had been in force since the 2nd day of creation separating the spiritual and the physical into two hermetic worlds; from this point on, "the higher realms could descend into the lower realms, and the lower could ascend to the higher." Thus was born the "mitzvah" -- a physical deed that, by virtue of the fact that it is commanded by God, brings Godliness into the physical world.

**Passing of King David (837 BCE)** David, a descendent of Judah the son of Jacob as well as of Ruth, a Moabite convert to Judaism, was anointed King of Israel by Samuel in 878 BCE. All future legitimate kings of Israel were David's descendents, as will be Moshiach (the messiah), who will "restore the kingdom of David to its glory of old."

David fought many wars, defeating Israel's enemies and securing and expanding its borders. He conquered Jerusalem, purchased the Temple Mount from its Yebusite owner, and prepared the foundation for the Holy Temple (which was built by his son, King Solomon). David served as the head of the Sanhedrin and the foremost Torah authority of his generation; he is also the "sweet singer of Israel" who composed the Book of Psalms that for 28 centuries has embodied the joys, sorrows and yearnings of the Jewish people. King David passed away on the 6th of Sivan of the year 837 BCE, age 70.

Cologne Jews Martyred (1096) During the first crusade the Jews of Cologne, Germany chose to be killed rather than convert to Christianity. This was the case, during the first crusades, for many of the Jews who were given the choice between being killed or being baptized. Most of those who converted continued to practice Judaism in secrecy and, one year later, were permitted by Henry IV to openly return to Judaism.

Ger Tzedek of Vilna Burned at the Stake (1749) Avraham ben Avraham, the famed "Ger Tzedek" (Righteous Convert) of Vilna, was born as Valentin Potozki, the son of Count Potocki, one of the richest landowners in Poland. As a student in Vilna he discovered Judaism and decided to convert -- a capital offense in most countries in Christian Europe at the time. He fled to Amsterdam where he secretly converted to Judaism, assuming the name Avraham ben Avraham ("Abraham the son of Abraham"). Years later he returned to Vilna, where he was eventually recognized as the missing son of Count Potocki and arrested by the church. He refused to renounce his faith and was sentenced to death. He was burned at the stake in Vilna on the 2nd day of Shavuot of 1749.

Rabbi Escapes Crusaders (1147) Rabbi Yaakov ben Meir Tam, known as the "Rabbenu Tam," was one of Rashi's illustrious grandsons. During the Second Crusade, on the second day of the holiday of Shavuot, the Crusaders entered his hometown of Rameru, and pillaged and massacred many Jews. They broke into Rabbenu Tam's house, plundered all his wealth, and seriously wounded Rabbenu Tam. On the next day, the 8th of Sivan, Rabbenu Tam escaped Rameru and the clutches of the Crusaders. Two years later he completed his famous treatise on Jewish ritual and ethics, Sefer Hayashar.

Wolf Wissotzky (1904) Klonimus Wolf Wissotzky, the son of poor parents, established The Wissotzky Tea company in 1849 and became known as the "King of Russian Tea." He was a great Jewish philanthropist and called for the settlement of Jews in Israel, which initiated the move of Jews to Lod, Nablus and Gaza. In his will he left over a million rubles to charity. In 1936, Wissotzky Tea became the very first tea company in Palestine and has since been the leading tea company in Israel.

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