

Notes: March 21, 2015

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Jeri's Drash
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: Addressing the Four Blood Moons...Again

We are approaching Passover, which is identified by the full moon of the first month.

There has been much talk about the coming tetrad of four blood moons over a period of the next two years.

Just how rare is a tetrad of lunar eclipses and how significant are they in relation to Israel?

Is this something we should be paying attention to?

What are others saying about it?

I will try to answer all these questions and hopefully provide you with more.

First, a definition:

What is a sign?

It is an object, quality, or event whose presence or occurrence indicates the probable presence or occurrence of something else.

This all started back in 2008 when Pastor Mark Biltz got the ball rolling when he began investigating the notion of lunar eclipses (blood moons) in association with the feasts Adonai gave to Israel.

He researched the occurrence of blood moons from NASA's web site that had recorded past happenings.

What were his findings?

What gets emphasized are the three primary occurrences that are related to Israel's history.

The scripture used as a basis for all of this is Joel 2:31 and the associated quote by Kefa in Acts 2:16 - 20

Joe 2:31 (3:4) The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the coming of the great and terrible Day of Adonai."

Act 2:17 'Adonai says: "In the Last Days, I will pour out from my Spirit upon everyone. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

Act 2:18 Even on my slaves, both men and women, will I pour out from my Spirit in those days; and they will prophesy.

Act 2:19 I will perform miracles in the sky above and signs on the earth below — blood, fire and thick smoke.

Act 2:20 The sun will become dark and the moon blood before the great and fearful Day of Adonai comes.

Act 2:21 And then, whoever calls on the name of Adonai will be saved." '

Kefa is saying to those here, that the Messianic age, the time of Messiah has begun and will culminate in the Day of Adonai, the day of judgment.

Mark Biltz found a tetrad...four lunar eclipses in a two year period occur...

from 1493 to 1494:

Passover April 2, 1493

Sukkot September 25 1493

Passover March 22 1494

Sukkot September 15 1494

He associated this tetrad with the Spanish Inquisition of 1492 and the royal decree of expulsion of the Jewish people from Spain. The Spanish Inquisition went from 1478 to 1834

The royal decree of expulsion of the Jewish people from Spain occurred in 1492 , on March 30, The expulsion decree was ordered to take effect in precisely four months., prior to this tetrad appearing.

On July 30 of that year, the entire Jewish community, some 200,000 people, were expelled from [Spain](#).

The next tetrad he identified as significant was...

from 1949 to 1950

Passover April 13 1949

Sukkot October 7 1949

Passover Apr 2 1950

Sukkot September 26 1950

Biltz associated this tetrad with Israel becoming a nation on May 14 1948, prior to this tetrad appearing.

The third tetrad he identified as significant was..

from 1967 to 1968

Passover April 24 1967

Sukkot October 28 1967

Passover April 13 1968

Sukkot October 6 1968

Biltz associated this tetrad with the Six Day war in which Jerusalem was restored to Jewish hands. June 7 1967. The

majority of this tetrad appeared after June 7th.

There are several gaps / problems in this premise of applying warning to lunar eclipses.

First...

In order for something to be a sign or a warning, shouldn't it precede the event?

In each case, the tetrads occurred after the event.

A sign from Adonai does not point back, but looks forward. We will look at Matthew 24 as an example later.

Second...

What was not emphasized was that there were other tetrads that cannot be related to Israel or the Jewish people.

There were four other tetrads that occurred since 1CE, as calculated by NASA, that have no identifiable relevance to Israel and the Jewish people.

162/163 CE
795/796 CE
842/843 CE
860/861 CE

Third...

The idea of a lunar eclipse / blood moon occurring on a feast is not that rare.

Considering that two of the feast always happen when the moon is full increases the probability of it happening.

Passover and Sukkot always fall on a full moon, based on Adonai's calendar, which is based on the moon, new moon marks the beginning of each month. A lunar cycle is between 29 and 30 days. So midway through the month when Israel is instructed to celebrate Passover and Sukkot, it is a full moon.

In the 20th century alone, there have been a total of 230 blood moons of which 39 were either on Passover or Sukkot. This is 17% of the total of lunar eclipses of the 20th century.

Fourth...

Lunar eclipses and solar eclipses are not visible by the entire planet. Their viewing range is rather limited because of the angles between the earth sun and moon.

Based on the use of Joel 2:31, it is impossible for a lunar eclipse and solar eclipse to happen at the same time. This would indicate that Joel 2:31 is a significant sign. Not something as common as a lunar eclipse by itself.

Any prophetic significance of this occurrence should be viewable from Jerusalem. Considering that scripture is based on Adonai's relationship with the Jewish people. To apply celestial occurrences outside of the context of who and where the people associated with the prophecy will only lead to error in understanding and interpretation.

So, when Joel 2:31 is attached to this celestial occurrence..

Joe 2:31 (3:4) The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the coming of the great and

terrible Day of Adonai."

and a famous pastor writes a book about it, the whole thing mushrooms into something bigger than it should be.

Does the name Edger C. Wisenant ring a bell with anyone?

How about Harold Camping?

Wisenant wrote the book "88 Reasons Why the Rapture Will Be In 1988"

He was wrong and revised his book for 1989

Harold Camping had made several predictions of Messiah's return first on May 21, 2011. later revising it to October 21 2011

Does anyone remember the attention paid to the end of the Mayan calendar – December 21, 2012

What is my point...

Biltz and others who are using this predicted tetrad and its rarity, in combination with the most recent tetrads that are very "loosely" attached to Israel and the Jewish people, to go far enough, yet not set a date of the coming of Messiah have missed the mark. They have erred in their understanding of the scriptures they are using to support their position.

One would ask, if this is significant and we need to pay attention to this as a sign from Adonai...

Why was there no sign for...

The destruction of the Temple

Expulsion from Rome

The Holocaust

Second, the manner in which these tetrads are identified in relation to Israel and the Jewish people shows Adonai to be sloppy.

When the one who created all things and with such finite detail, down to the DNA, would not haphazardly provide us with His signs in such an inaccurate manner, would He?

Joe 2:32 (3:5) At that time, whoever calls on the name of Adonai will be saved. For in Mount Tziyon and Yerushalayim there will be those who escape, as Adonai has promised; among the survivors will be those whom Adonai has called.

Additional information regarding the intricacies of lunar eclipses is provided through the link below. In addition to understanding the formation of blood moons, Dr. Danny Faulkner provides additional information in response to Pastor Biltz's findings.

<http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/2013/07/12/lunar-eclipses-cause-blood-moons>

(Dr. Danny Faulkner – Stellar Astronomy)

Let's look at how Yeshua instructed His talmadim regarding His return...

Mat 24:3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the talmidim came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that you are coming, and that the `olam hazeh is ending?"

They were with Him when He was at the Temple when Yeshua conveyed the 7 woes to the Pharisees...and culminated

with the following...

Mat 23:36 Yes! I tell you that all this will fall on this generation!

Mat 23:37 "Yerushalayim! Yerushalayim! You kill the prophets! You stone those who are sent to you! How often I wanted to gather your children, just as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, but you refused!

Mat 23:38 Look! God is abandoning your house to you, leaving it desolate.

Mat 23:39 For I tell you, from now on, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of Adonai.' "

Which prompted them to question him regarding...

1. When will all these things happen
2. What will be the sign of your coming
3. This age is ending

Mat 24:14 And this Good News about the Kingdom will be announced throughout the whole world as a witness to all the Goyim. It is then that the end will come.

Mat 24:15 "So when you see the abomination that causes desolation spoken about through the prophet Dani'el standing in the Holy Place" (let the reader understand the allusion),

Mat 24:29 "But immediately following the trouble of those times, the sun will grow dark, the moon will stop shining, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in heaven will be shaken.

Mat 24:30 "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, all the tribes of the Land will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with tremendous power and glory.

When we look at sections of Joel chapter 2, we see that what Adonai revealed to him is something extremely significant. So significant, that what will be seen and felt, is unlike anything ever witnessed. Ask yourselves, can a lunar eclipse / blood moon or even a tetrad of blood moons satisfy the scripture provided below?

Joe 2:1 "Blow the shofar in Tziyon! Sound an alarm on my holy mountain!" Let all living in the land tremble, for the Day of Adonai is coming! It's upon us! —

Joe 2:2 a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick fog; a great and mighty horde is spreading like blackness over the mountains. There has never been anything like it, nor will there ever be again, not even after the years of many generations.

Joe 2:10 At their advance the earth quakes, and the sky shakes, the sun and moon turn black, and the stars stop shining.

Joe 2:11 Adonai shouts orders to his forces — his army is immense, mighty, and it does what he says. For great is the Day of Adonai, fearsome, terrifying! Who can endure it?

We are talking about signs that are uncommon and unmakeable, whereby the combination cannot be replicated, as mentioned earlier.

Joe 2:13 Tear your heart, not your garments; and turn to Adonai your God. For he is merciful and compassionate, slow to anger, rich in grace, and willing to change his mind about disaster.

Signs that come from Adonai are warnings.

Through the Prophets, He provided warning prior to judgment.

Yeshua provided warning prior to His return.

Mat 24:25 There! I have told you in advance!

You know what will happen, and how it will happen, but you don't know when it will happen.

The question is, do you understand the warning in the context it has been given?

This in lies the problem for many believers. They don't.

Rev 6:12 Then I watched as he broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake, the sun turned black as sackcloth worn in mourning, and the full moon became blood-red.

Rev 6:13 The stars fell from heaven to earth just as a fig tree drops its figs when shaken by a strong wind.

Rev 6:14 The sky receded like a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved from its place.

When you see these things, it will be too late because He is coming and Judgment is with him.

Consider the speed trap...

An officer, sheriff or trooper is using his radar gun to clock speeders

When you see the car and slow down it is too late, because they saw you first.

Rev 6:15 Then the earth's kings, the rulers, the generals, the rich and the mighty — indeed, everyone, slave and free — hid himself in caves and among the rocks in the mountains,

Rev 6:16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us, and hide us from the face of the One sitting on the throne and from the fury of the Lamb!

Rev 6:17 For the Great Day of their fury has come, and who can stand?"

Consider the primary purpose of the sun and the moon.

Psa 104:19 You made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to set.

When they both go dark at the same time and the stars lose their light or fall from the sky, this will mark a true sign of something significant happening.

If anything were to happen during this coming predicted tetrad, it would need to be either a treaty or the rebuilding of the Temple. How or in what order, I do not know.

In my opinion, Messiah to return, there must be a Temple based on Matthew 24:15.

Some will say that this occurred during 70 AD and Titus, which is true. Who's to say that it isn't meant to happen again, prior to Messiah's return?

The point is to pay attention to the signs that Yeshua has provided. In the verse prior, He says that the Gospel will reach the entire world. That certainly didn't happen in 70 AD.

It is important to filter what I call noise, or distractions. Scripture talks about there being many false prophets and false messiahs. As believers, we need to filter out what distracts us from our goal and destination.

From Jonathan Cahn's book – *The Mystery of the Shemitah*

“I have warned of a coming judgment, but I have cautioned against putting the workings of God in a box with regard to the timing of that judgment. God doesn't have to act in the same way or according to the same timing as He has in the past. Prophetic signs do not generally happen routinely or according to a schedule. There are Shemitah years that dramatically manifest the mystery and others that do not. Nothing has to happen in the next Shemitah.”

“Having said that, I must also give a second caution: God can work as He has in the past and can bring judgment at the time of the Shemitah.”

It is interesting to note what is to happen after this year's Shemitah...it will be a Jubilee Year.

It will be 50 years since the recapture of Jerusalem on June 7, 1967.

It will be 100 years since the signing of the Balfour Declaration on November 2, 1917 – states the following:

“His Majesty's government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.”

So, what happens in a Jubilee year?

Lev 25:8 " You are to count seven Shabbats of years, seven times seven years, that is, forty-nine years.

Lev 25:9 Then, on the tenth day of the seventh month, on Yom-Kippur, you are to sound a blast on the shofar; you are to sound the shofar all through your land;

Lev 25:10 and you are to consecrate the fiftieth year, proclaiming freedom throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It will be a yovel for you; you will return everyone to the land he owns, and everyone is to return to his family.

Lev 25:11 That fiftieth year will be a yovel for you; in that year you are not to sow, harvest what grows by itself or gather the grapes of untended vines;

Lev 25:12 because it is a yovel. It will be holy for you; whatever the fields produce will be food for all of you.

Lev 25:13 In this year of yovel, every one of you is to return to the land he owns.

But the challenge with all of this stems from determining the starting point.

Prophecy is extremely difficult to predict, yet after the fact, when fully revealed it is much easier to understand, yet even after the fact, some people can still misunderstand or confuse the message of the fulfilled prophecy.

We are in the year 5775.

Is this year correct? Some believe it is off by as much as 200 years, if not more.

It stems from determining the beginning of time, whether that is prior to our fall or before our fall is still debated.

It is calculated from taking the ages of Adam and the others listed in Genesis 5 and subtracting the overlapping years, taking us to Noach.

So, is 5775 based on the creation of the world, or the beginning of time?

Is Adam's age from the time he left the garden or from being formed, prior to the fall?

How do we know if this is the correct starting point to count?

Does this date even matter?

Does the starting point of God's counting regarding the Shemitah begin when Israel enters the land? At the beginning of this passage in Leviticus it states:

Lev 25:2 "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'When you enter the land I am giving you, the land itself is to observe a Shabbat rest for Adonai.

So, does it all start when they enter the land?

What about when Israel is absent from the land?

Does the calendar of years for Shemittah and Yovel still progress, or is it only when Israel is in the land?

Lev 25:24 Therefore, when you sell your property, you must include the right of redemption.

Currently, the Yovel has not been recognized for centuries.

Some state Yovel only applies when the Jewish people live in the land of Israel according to their tribes. Thus, with the exile of the tribes of [Reuben](#), [Gad](#), and [Menashe](#) (about 600 BCE) Jubilee has not been applicable.

What am I trying to point out here?

The tetrad that has received so much attention over the last two years may or may not be a sign.

I would consider the reclaiming of Jerusalem in 1967 to be a significant event in relation to anything prophetic that will occur.

How the Yovel will be impacted two years from now, I cannot say. Yet, it is something that we need to pay attention to.

It all comes down to your starting point. When does Adonai start counting is important, now when we start counting.

Is the Yovel the time when Yeshua will return? A lot has to happen in the next two years for that to happen, yet anything is possible. We have seen time appear to speed up in relation to the transmission of information. With the increase of knowledge transmitted in a blink of the eye, we no longer have to wait for it to reach us via the more conventional methods...word of mouth, written letter.

Yovel means the blast of a shofar

Through the Yovel, freedom is proclaimed.

Lev 25:10 and you are to consecrate the fiftieth year, proclaiming freedom throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It will be a yovel for you; you will return everyone to the land he owns, and everyone is to return to his family.

Mat 24:29 "But immediately following the trouble of those times, the sun will grow dark, the moon will stop shining, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in heaven will be shaken.

Mat 24:30 "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, all the tribes of the Land will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with tremendous power and glory.

Mat 24:31 He will send out his angels with a great shofar; and they will gather together his chosen people from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Rev 11:15 The seventh angel sounded his shofar; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the Kingdom of our Lord and his Messiah, and he will rule forever and ever!"

1917 began something, because 50 years later, Jerusalem was restored to the Jewish people.

2017 will be 50 years from 1967 and is only 2 years from now.

If anything is to happen, I would look towards 2017, not this year.

As always, keep your eyes and attention focused on Jerusalem, Israel and the Jewish people.