

# **WHEN WAS JESUS BORN?**

**Some years ago, the Lord told me to study Jesus' life and how He fulfills all the Jewish feasts with His life, and to show the big change from the old covenant to the new covenant.**

**John the Baptist represents the end of the Old Covenant with carnal circumcision and repentance baptism.**

**Jesus came as the last scapegoat and circumcision on the heart with the baptism of the Holy Spirit with power and fire.**

**Today I will speak about the date of Jesus' birth.**

**Most of the world celebrates the birthday of Jesus Christ on 24/25 of December**

**But we can find the real birthday of Jesus to be determined and proven with the Bible.**

**This question we will examine in detail and will give a result that is quite interesting.**

**The first point we will consider begins with:**

**The father of John the Baptist**

**Luke 1:5**

**5** In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah.

And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth

### **Luke 1:8**

**8** Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty,

**9** according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense

### **Lukas 1:23-25**

**23** And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

**24** After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying,

**25** "Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

**The facts given here are that Zechariah was of Abijah's department/service team.**

## **The 24 Branches of Temple Service**

King David, according to God's instruction (1 Cor. Chronicles. 28:11-13) had divided Aaron's sons into 24 groups (1 Corinthians 28:11-13).

Chronicles. 24:1-4) to set up a shift schedule so that in the Lord's Temple there would be priests according to order.

After the 24 groups of priests were established, lots were drawn to determine the order of service for each group in the Temple.

**This order is as follows;**

<b>1. Jojarib</b>	<b>2. Jedaja</b>
<b>3. Harim</b>	<b>4. Seorim</b>
<b>5. Malkia</b>	<b>6. Mijamin</b>
<b>7. Hakkos</b>	<b>8. Abia</b>
<b>9. Jesjua</b>	<b>10. Sjekanja</b>
<b>11. Eljasjib</b>	<b>12. Jakim</b>
<b>13. Huppa</b>	<b>14. Jesjebab</b>
<b>15. Bilga</b>	<b>16. Immer</b>

<b>17. Hesir</b>	<b>18. Happisses</b>
<b>19. Petakja</b>	<b>20. Jehskel</b>
<b>21. Jakin</b>	<b>22. Gamul</b>
<b>23. Delaja</b>	<b>24. Ma'saja</b>

### **1.Chronicles. 24:19**

These had as their appointed duty in their service to come into the house of the LORD according to the procedure established for them by Aaron their father, as the LORD God of Israel had commanded him.

**Each of the 24 divisions of priests was to begin and end their ministry in the Temple on the Sabbath, and a change of service lasted for a week.**

**(2 Chronicles 23:8, 1 Chron. 9:25).**

**Only three times in one year were all the people of Israel to go to Jerusalem for the Lord's feasts.**

**At these events, it was necessary for all the priests to be present to care for the crowd of people.**

**These three festivals were Passover/ Easter (the festival of unleavened bread), Pentecost (the festival of weeks) and the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot).**

**Deuteronomy 16:16**

## **The Annual Cycle of Temple Work**

The Jewish calendar begins in the spring of the month of Nissan (March-April).

The first change of priests would then be of Jehoiarib's division, which would then serve for seven days.

The second week would be Jedajas's department responsibility.

**The third week would be the "Feast of Unleavened Bread";**

**Passover and all the priests would be in ministry.**

After the Passover, Harim's department would be on duty.

This rotation would then cover 51 weeks or 357 days, enough for the Jewish lunar calendar (354 days).

For a period of one year, each group of priests would serve in the Temple twice according to their own shift schedule, in addition to the three major holidays.

In total, each unit would then serve five weeks.

# The conception of John the Baptist.

## Back to Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist.

**Luke 1.23-24:**

And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

24After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived

	<b>The first month</b>	<b>Second month</b>	<b>Third month</b>
	<b>Abib – Nisan (March - April)</b>	<b>Zif – Lijar (April – May)</b>	<b>Sivan (May – June)</b>
<b>First week</b>	<b>Jojarib (1)</b>	<b>Seorim (4)</b>	<b>All Priests (Pentecost)</b>

<b>Second week</b>	<b>Jedaja (2)</b>	<b>Malkia (5)</b>	<b>Abia (8)</b>
<b>Third week</b>	<b>All priests Passover</b>	<b>Mijamin (6)</b>	<b>Jesjua (9)</b>
<b>Fourth week</b>	<b>Harim (3)</b>	<b>Hakkos (7)</b>	<b>Sjekanja (10)</b>

When we begin with the **first month, Nisan**, in the spring (**March-April**), the priestly ministry will result in Zechariah serving in the tenth week.

This was because he was a member of Abijah (Abijah), the eighth shift, and both Passover and Pentecost would be over before he would be served.

This places Zechariah's ministry in the temple until the beginning of the second Sabbath of the third month of Sivan (May-June).

After completing his service in the temple on the third Sabbath of the month of Sivan, Zechariah returned home, and John was conceived shortly after the third Sabbath of the month of Sivan.

## **The Conception of Jesus Christ**

The reason why the information about John the Baptist is so important is that according to the evangelist Luke, Jesus was conceived in the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy.

**Luke 1:24-27:**

**26** In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, **27** to a virgin betrothed<sup>b</sup> to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

**28** And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"<sup>c</sup>

**29** But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

**30** And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

**31** And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

**32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,

**33** and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Note that verse 26 refers to the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy and not to the month of Elul (August–September) in the Hebrew calendar.

This is made clear in the context of verse 24 and again in verse 36; and behold, your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age.



And she who was called barren is now in the sixth month.

If we work from the information about the conception of John the Baptist late in the third month of Sivan (May-June) and advance six months, we arrive late in the ninth month of Kislev (November – December) for the time of Jesus' conception.

It is worth noting that the first day of the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah (Festival of Lights) is celebrated on the 25th of August. Kislev and Jesus are called "the light of the world" John 8:12 ; 9:5 ; 12:46).

It seems that this is not a pure coincidence. In the Gospel of John, Hanukkah is called the "feast of dedication." John 10:22 The feast of the commemoration of the dedication of the temple was now held in Jerusalem, and it was winter.

**Hanukkah** is an 8-day feast celebrating the lighting of the Menorah in the dedicated Temple.

According to history, the Menorah miraculously stayed lit for eight days on a day's oil ration.

## **The Birth of John the Baptist**

Based on the conception shortly after the third Sabbath of the month of Sivan (May-June), we move forward to an

average pregnancy of 9 months or 40 weeks and arrive at the month of Nisan (March-April).

John the Baptist appears to have been born in the middle of the month, which will coincide with the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

It is interesting to note that even in our day it is customary for the Jews to set out a drinking vessel of wine during the Passover meal in anticipation of the arrival in Elijah this week.

This custom is based on a prophecy by Malachi.

### **Malachi 4:5:**

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and awe-inspiring day of the Lord

## **Jesus identifies John as the "Elijah" the Jews were waiting for.**

### **Matthew 17:10-12:**

And His disciples asked Him, saying: "Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

Jesus answered and said to them, "Truly, Elijah is coming first, and he will restore all things.

But I say to you that Elijah has already come, and they did not know him, but did with him as they pleased.

In the same way, the Son of man will suffer at their hands."

**The angel appearing to Zechariah in the temple also indicated that John would be the expected Elijah.**

Luke 1:17: He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to prepare a prepared people for the Lord.

## **The Feast of Unleavened Bread, Passover,**

begins on the 25th day of the first month of Nisan (March-April) and this is a most likely date for the birth of John the Baptist, the "expected Elijah"

## **The Birth of Jesus Christ**

Since Jesus was conceived six months after John the Baptist, and we have established a very likely date for John's birth, we only need to go six months ahead in the Jewish calendar to arrive at a most likely date for Jesus' birth.

From the 15th day of the first month of Nisan (March-April) and six months onwards, we come to the 15th day of the 7th month of Tishri (September-October).

## **What will we find on this date?**

The tabernacle festival of Sukkot! On the 15th day of Tishri, the third and last of the festivals of the year begins when all priests were to gather in Jerusalem for Temple service.

## **Immanuel**

Isaiah 7:14: Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin will conceive and bear a Son, and she will call His name Immanuel

**Immanuel means "God with us".**

The Son of God had come to live with our "tabernacle" here on earth with his people.

### **John 1:14:**

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, the glory of the Only Begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The word in Hebrew for "took abode" is sukkah and the name of the Tabernacle feast/festival in Hebrew is Sukkot, a festival/festival of joy and celebration/rejoicing.

### **Luke 2:7-11:**

And she gave birth to her Son, the Firstborn, she wrapped Him in linen, and laid Him in a manger, since there was no room for them in a house

Now there were shepherds in that place who stayed in the fields and kept watch over their flocks at night.

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were exceedingly afraid.

Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I declare to you a great joy that will be shared with all the people.

For today a Savior has been born to you in the city of David, who is Christ the Lord.

Why was there no room available in the hostel?

Bethlehem is just outside Jerusalem and all the people of Israel had also come to participate in the Tabernacle feast – Sukkot as they were required by the Mosaic Law.

Every room for miles around Jerusalem would already be occupied by pilgrims.

All Mary and Joseph could find was a stable.

## Just few days before Sukkot it's a very important day

**One of the holiest days in the Jewish calendar, Rosh Hashanah is the new year festival usually held on the first day of Tishri which is the seventh month in the Jewish calendar.**

It is marked at the start by the blowing of the *shofar* (a ram's horn trumpet) and signaling the start of the ten days of penitence, prayer and introspection culminating in Yom Kippur.

The date of Rosh Hashanah changes each year but is 163 days after the first day of the Passover and is usually (but not always) determined by the new moon closest to the autumnal equinox.

The earliest date on which it can fall is 5 September and the latest is 5 October.

**This year it will be marked from sundown on the evening of Wednesday 2 October ending on nightfall**

Leviticus 23

*The Day of Atonement, "The last day in the year,"*

26 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

27 "Now on the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. It shall be for you a time of holy

convocation, and you shall afflict yourselves<sup>d</sup> and present a food offering to the LORD.

**28** And you shall not do any work on that very day, for it is a Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God.

**29** For whoever is not afflicted<sup>e</sup> on that very day shall be cut off from his people.

**30** And whoever does any work on that very day, that person I will destroy from among his people.

**31** You shall not do any work. It is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwelling places.

**32** It shall be to you a Sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict yourselves. On the ninth day of the month beginning at evening, from evening to evening shall you keep your Sabbath.”

In the old biblical time, they put all their sins they had been doing on a ram and chased the Ram into the desert.

Therefore, we have become the name “Scapegoat”.

Jesus came as the last lamb to carry the sins away for us.

**Jesus fulfilled the feast of Atonement with His birth**

**Luke 2:21-32**

And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

## **Jesus Presented at the Temple**

**22**And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord

**23**(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”)

**24**and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”

**25**Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

**26**And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.

**27**And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law,

**28**he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,



**29**“Lord, now you are letting your servant<sup>e</sup> depart in peace, according to your word;  
**30** for my eyes have seen your salvation  
**31** that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
**32** a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

## **Jesus was circumcised on the first day of Sukkot.**

Sukkot, also known as the Feast of Tabernacles or Feast of Booths, is a Torah-commanded holiday celebrated for seven days, beginning on the 15th day of the month of Tishrei.

It is one of the Three Pilgrimage Festivals on which Israelites were commanded to make a pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem.

Originally a harvest festival celebrating the autumn harvest, Sukkot’s modern observance is characterized by festive meals in a sukkah, a temporary wood-covered hut, celebrating the Exodus from Egypt.

## **Jesus was the first living tabernacles/temple**

And today we are the living Tabernacles / temple, and we are circumcised on our heart and not on the manhood.

Every fleshly thing that is represented by the manhood is today cut away.

## **Colossians 2: 9-15**

**9** For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,  
**10** and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

**11** In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,

**12** having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

**13** And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,

**14** by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

**15** He disarmed the rulers and authorities<sup>b</sup> and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.<sup>c</sup>

