



GATEWAY EQUIP

Tisha B'Av: The Saddest Day? Or the Day of Redemption? June 23, 2018

Notes

Numbers 13:1-3, 21-33 (NKJV)

¹ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² **“Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel; from each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a leader among them.”**

³ So Moses sent them from the Wilderness of Paran according to the command of the LORD, all of them men who *were* heads of the children of Israel.

²¹ So they went up and spied out the land ... ²³ Then they came to the Valley of Eshcol, and there cut down a branch with one cluster of grapes; they carried it between two of them on a pole. *They also brought* some of the pomegranates and figs. ²⁴ The place was called the Valley of Eshcol, because of the cluster which the men of Israel cut down there. ²⁵ **And they returned from spying out the land after forty days.**

²⁶ Now they departed and came back to Moses and Aaron and all the congregation of the children of Israel in the Wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. ²⁷ Then they told him, and said: “We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this *is* its fruit. ²⁸ Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land *are* strong; the cities *are* fortified *and* very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there. ²⁹ The Amalekites dwell in the land of the South; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan.”

³⁰ Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.”

³¹ But the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they *are* stronger than we.” ³² And

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they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies *is* a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it *are* men of *great* stature. ³³ There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."

Israel Refuses to Enter Canaan

Numbers 14:1-38 (NKJV)

¹ So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. ² And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, "If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness! ³ Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?" ⁴ So they said to one another, "Let us select a leader and return to Egypt."

⁵ Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

⁶ But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, *who were* among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; ⁷ and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: "The land we passed through to spy out *is* an exceedingly good land. ⁸ If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.' ⁹ Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they *are* our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD *is* with us. Do not fear them."

¹⁰ And all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Now the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.

Moses Intercedes for the People

¹¹ Then the LORD said to Moses: "How long will these people reject Me? And how long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them? ¹² I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they."

¹³ And Moses said to the LORD: "Then the Egyptians will hear *it*, for by Your might You brought these people up from among them, ¹⁴ and they will tell *it* to the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that You, LORD, *are* among these people; that You, LORD, are seen face to face and Your cloud stands above them, and You go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night. ¹⁵ Now *if*

You kill these people as one man, then the nations which have heard of Your fame will speak, saying, ¹⁶ ‘Because the LORD was not able to bring this people to the land which He swore to give them, therefore He killed them in the wilderness.’ ¹⁷ And now, I pray, let the power of my LORD be great, just as You have spoken, saying, ¹⁸ ‘The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He by no means clears the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation.’ ¹⁹ Pardon the iniquity of this people, I pray, according to the greatness of Your mercy, just as You have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.”

²⁰ Then the LORD said: “I have pardoned, according to your word; ²¹ but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD—²² because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, ²³ they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it. ²⁴ But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it. ²⁵ Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwell in the valley; tomorrow turn and move out into the wilderness by the Way of the Red Sea.”

Death Sentence on the Rebels

²⁶ And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, ²⁷ “How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me. ²⁸ Say to them, ‘As I live,’ says the LORD, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: ²⁹ The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. ³⁰ Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in. ³¹ But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised. ³² But as for you, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness. ³³ And your sons shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years, and bear the brunt of your infidelity, until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness.

³⁴ According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely forty years, and you shall know My rejection. ³⁵ |

the LORD have spoken this. I will surely do so to all this evil congregation who are gathered together against Me. In this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.’ ”

³⁶ Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, ³⁷ those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the LORD. ³⁸ But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.

1. The Ongoing Migraine Headache.

- 586 B.C. – Temple Destroyed by Babylonians
- A.D. 70 – Rome destroys 2nd Temple.
- A.D. 135 – Second Jewish War, Bar Kokhba’s fortress (Betar) was destroyed.
- A.D. 136 – Rome plowed Temple Mount.
- A.D. 1242 – 20,000 handwritten Jewish manuscripts.
- A.D. 1290 – the Expulsion of the Jews from England.
- A.D. 1492 – Spanish Inquisition.
- A.D. 1942 – Deportations from Warsaw to Treblinka.
- A.D. 1914 – World War 1.

2. Who selected the spies? (Num. 13:1-2).

The Jewish Publication Society Commentary on Numbers –
send Hebrew *shelah-lekha*, literally “**send for yourself**” ... an idiom that forms the basis for the following **midrash**. “A rich man possessed a vineyard. Whenever he saw that the wine was good he would say to his men: ‘Bring the wine into *my* house,’ but when he saw that the wine had turned to vinegar, he would say: ‘Bring the wine into *your* houses.’ It was the same with the Holy One, Blessed Be He. When he saw the elders and how worthy their deeds were, He called them His own; as it says, ‘Gather for *Me* seventy of Israel’s elders’ (Num. 11:16). But when He saw the scouts and how they would later sin, He ascribed them to Moses, saying, *shelah-lekha*, ‘Send men for *yourself*.’ ”

This idiom, as described by the midrash, reveals an important insight. **In contrast to the chieftains who were chosen by God** (e.g., to **conduct the census**, 1:4–17, **and to parcel the land**, 34:16–29), **the chieftains sent to scout the land were to be chosen by Moses—an indication that the Lord disapproved of the project from the start**. Ramban also notes that no lot was used to select the scouts (cf. 1:5–15; 34:19–28), a further indication of the Lord’s

displeasure with the idea of sending scouts. Therefore, God, as it were, told Moses: If you want them, you must pick them.

3. Moses' First Argument: Is God impotent? (Num. 14:16).

4. Moses' Second Argument: Is God merciful? (Num. 14:17-19).

- **Num. 14:17-18 gave an abridged version of God's attributes.**

- **The full formula of God's attributes is in Exo 34:6-7.**

Exodus 34:6-7 – ⁶And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, **merciful** and gracious, **longsuffering**, and abounding in goodness and truth, ⁷keeping mercy for thousands, **forgiving iniquity and transgression** and sin, **by no means clearing *the guilty*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation.**"

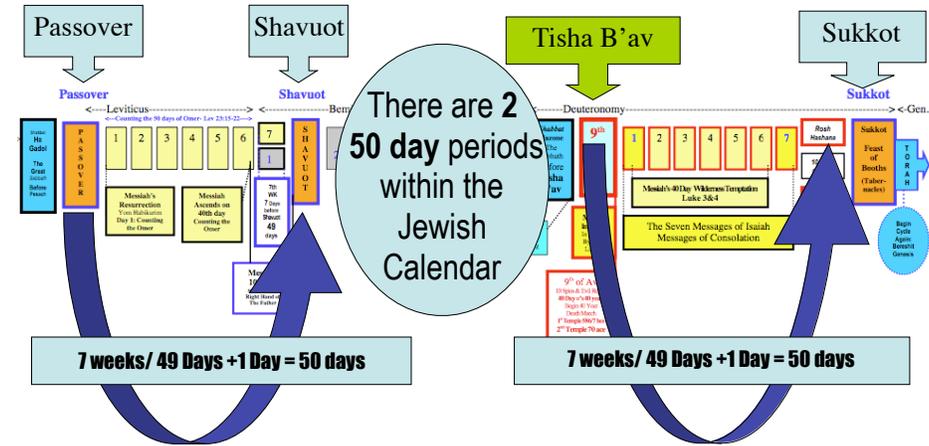
Apparently, Numbers 14:18 only mentions the attributes that apply in this situation. With that in mind, can you see these attributes in Num. 13-14?

- Longsuffering?
- Forgiving iniquity and transgression
- Not Clearing the guilty
- Visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation.

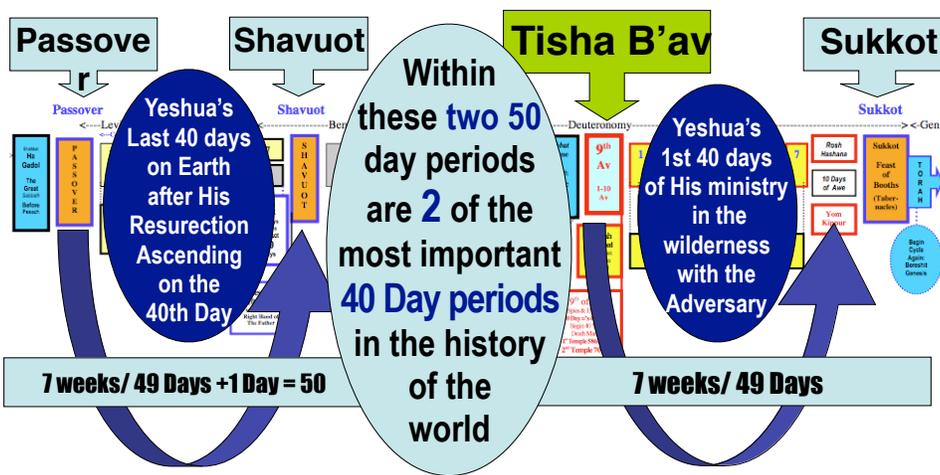
5. If God really knows, how early can we see redemption?

Tisha B'Av is 50 days before Rosh Hashanah.

The next 3 charts are from Rabbi David Rosenberg. He serves in Shuvah Yisrael Messianic Synagogue in Plainview, New York You know his son – the Happy Rabbi, Matthew Rosenberg. Here is his website – <http://shuvah.com>



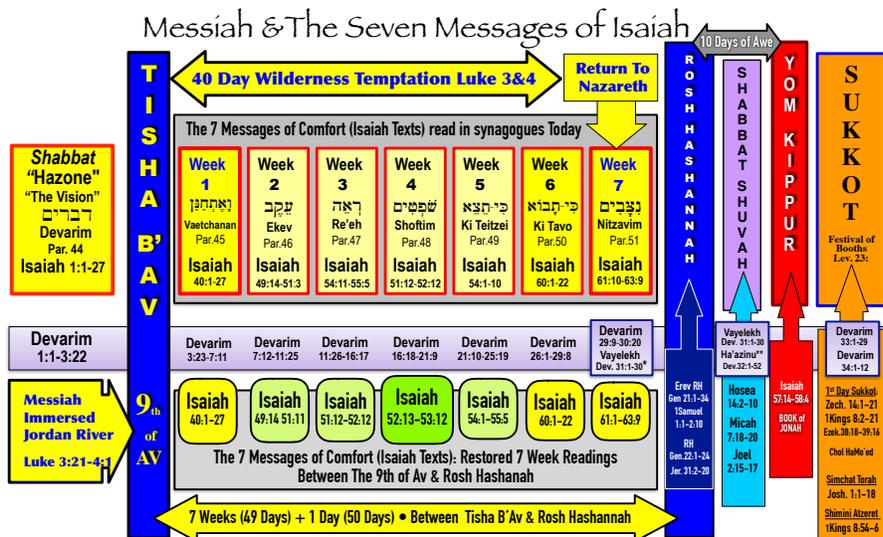
The Linear Overview of the Jewish Calendar Year



The Linear Overview of the Jewish Calendar Year & The Babylonian Torah Haftarah Cycle



Is there any evidence that Yeshua may have been baptized on Tisha B'Av? Consider the Haftarah.



- The Haftarah that is read the Sabbath after Tisha B' Av is Isaiah 40:1-27.

Consider the preaching of John the Baptist at Jesus' Baptism.
Luke 3:3-9 (NKJV)

³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying:

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the LORD;

Make His paths straight.

⁵ *Every valley shall be filled*

And every mountain and hill brought low;

The crooked places shall be made straight

And the rough ways smooth;

⁶ *And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”*

⁷Then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, “**Brood of vipers!** Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

⁸Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as *our* father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. ⁹And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

- **The Haftarah that is read the Sabbath before Tisha B' Av is Isaiah 1:1-27.**

Isaiah 1:4 (NKJV)

Alas, sinful nation,

A people laden with iniquity,

A brood of evildoers,

Children who are corrupters!

They have forsaken the LORD,

They have provoked to anger

The Holy One of Israel,

They have turned away backward.

There is no way that the all-knowing God did not know that the spies would reject the Promised Land exactly 50 days before Rosh Hashanah.

Conclusion: God wants to make your saddest day, your gladdest memory.

Mark your calendars.

- Jul 21, Tisha B'Av starts at sunset. Come hear report from **Holocaust Survivors** Team.
- Aug 25 @ 2 p, **Shofar Training**. At Ministry Building (540 S Nolen). Please bring a shofar. Space is limited, so you must sign up.
- Aug 25, **Prayer Meeting**; 5:45 pm.
- Sep 15, **Havdalah starts up again**; Turning to God on the Sabbath; It's *Shabbat Shuvah*, Num. 15:32-36.
- Sep 22 @ Noon, **Shofar Training**. At Ministry Building (540 S Nolen). Please bring a shofar. Space is limited, so you must sign up.
- Sep 23, **Rangers Game**, Sun, Sep 23 @ 2:05 pm – Just a fun time together.