

CALENDAR

Calendar — God’s calendar is much different than the calendar that most people use today. It incorporates both the sun AND the moon in its calculations (Genesis 1:14).

The start of a new year is determined each year by the appearance of the first new moon in the sky *after* the spring equinox (which normally occurs on March 20th). This first new moon of the spring appears in the western sky as a very thin visible crescent shortly after sunset. This day is then considered the 1st day of the 1st month—the New Year. The 1st month lasts until the next new moon appears (about 29 or 30 days later), then the 2nd month begins. Each successive month is then determined in the same manner (by the appearance of a new moon). Once the spring equinox returns (12 or 13 months later) the cycle is started all over again, and a new year begins.

In God’s calendar, each day starts at sunset, and therefore extends from sunset to sunset (Leviticus 23:32; Genesis 1:5). For example, once the sun sets on Saturday evening, a new day begins—the 1st day of the week. So the 1st day of the week goes from sunset Saturday evening until sunset Sunday evening. And then the 2nd day of the week begins at sunset Sunday evening and lasts until sunset Monday evening. This pattern then repeats itself for every day of the week until we come to the 7th and final day of the week—the Sabbath—which occurs from sunset Friday evening until sunset Saturday evening. Then at sunset Saturday evening the weekly cycle begins all over again with the 1st day of the week.

Genesis 1:5 — God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the *evening and the morning* were the first day.

Genesis 1:14 — Then God said, “Let there be lights in the

firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and *let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years.*”

Leviticus 23:32 — It shall be to you a Sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict your souls; on the ninth day of the month at evening, *from evening to evening*, you shall celebrate your Sabbath.