



The Thirteenth Month

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

By Larry & June Acheson

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Thus saith Yahweh, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar, Yahweh of hosts is His name! — Jeremiah 31:35



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By Larry and June Acheson

The Scriptural calendar is a topic frequently discussed among believers, especially at the time of Yahweh's festivals. Since Yahweh's feasts are determined by a calendar, it is incumbent upon us to do all we can to ensure we are going by **HIS calendar**, and not someone else's! This act, however, is much easier said than done! There are a variety of interpretations over which calendar is "Scriptural," as opposed to the others, which are not. **Why is there such discord among the believers with regard to our Heavenly Father's calendar?** Quite frankly, the reason is this: Yahweh never gave us a clear-cut, step-by-step set of instructions for how to begin and end the year. Arriving at the correct conclusion, then, will require some "reading between the lines."

We know that Yahweh's year begins in the spring, as evidenced by the events surrounding the ten plagues of Egypt. The plague of hail, as recorded in Exodus 9:31-32, ruined Egypt's flax and barley crops, which had matured, but had not seriously affected the wheat and rye, which "were not grown up." Shortly afterwards, in chapter 12:2, we read that this same month was to be their first month of the year:

This month *shall be* unto you the beginning of months: it *shall be* the first month of the year to you.

Thus, the first month of the year was observed right around the time of the maturing barley crop. But with no further information to guide us, a controversy emerges. Shall we use the maturing barley crop to be our measuring stick in setting the first month of the year? If so, what about those who live in different areas of the world? Barley can mature sooner in Egypt than it does up in Israel. Here in Texas, most crops mature at least a month before they do in the northern states. The question, then, is this: Do we require that the barley crop in one location of the world determine when the rest of the world begins its new year, or do we allow different localities to set their own new year based upon their own maturing barley crop? As you can see, this issue can become extremely complicated! Controversy abounds among those of opposing persuasions. Many sincere individuals eagerly await news that the barley is in the "green ear" in Jerusalem before they begin their first month of the year. Indeed, the first month of the year is termed "Abib," which means "*green*, i.e. a young ear of grain" according to *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance* (word #24). Those who question the requirement that Jerusalem be the determining location of the maturing barley crop are quick to point out that, not so long ago, residents of different regions of the world would not have had the means to have known when the Jerusalem barley crop was maturing, as our modern communication system is only of recent invention. How would Americans have learned of Jerusalem's maturing barley crop 100 years ago?

Thus, there are individuals who rely on the maturing barley crop of their own local area to determine when to start the first month of the new year. Of course, this method, too, has its problems. As many of us are aware, one of the purposes behind the observance of Yahweh's festivals is to bring the believers together, in one place. When individuals or individual groups rely on their local maturing barley crop to set their first month of the year, the end result is that there will often be discrepancies, meaning that a group down south may observe Passover in March, whereas a group up north may observe it in April. Certainly, our desire should be that each of us be in *unity* ... that we come to a mutual understanding of Yahweh's calendar that will keep us all "on the same page," so to

speak.¹ Our purpose in this study is not to make suggestions for how *you* should set the new year. Nevertheless, in these calendar discussions a parallel topic frequently surfaces — that of whether Yahweh’s calendar is a *solar calendar* or a *luni-solar calendar*, and we are occasionally asked to explain why we believe as we do. We hope this study helps to clarify our rationale!

Those who promote a solar calendar base their year on the period of time it takes the earth to make one complete revolution around the sun, which is approximately 365 days. Some sources list the solar calendar as having 364 days. Thus, a solar year can never be shorter than 364 days, nor longer than 366 days (in a leap year). Those who promote a *luni-solar calendar* rely on the observance of the first visible crescent moon after sunset to start each month. In ancient Israel, both the vernal equinox and agricultural conditions were used to determine when the first month of the year began.² As we mentioned earlier, the first month of the Israelites’ year was called *Abib*, meaning “green, i.e., a young ear of grain.” This greening of barley occurs in spring, at the time of the vernal equinox. Once the barley was observed having “green ears,” the next visible new moon automatically set the start of the month of *Abib*. The chief characteristic of this *luni-solar calendar* is that it can contain thirteen months in certain years, whereas the solar calendar is pre-set with twelve months. The year marked by a solar calendar exceeds the lunar calendar by about 11 days.

Without involving ourselves in the controversy that surrounds the calendars promoted by the opposing sides, we will simply turn to Scripture in an attempt to discern whether or not any solutions to the dilemma are presented. Yahweh does not tell us in His Word to set our year by a solar calendar of 365 days, nor does He insist that we abide by a luni-solar calendar that will occasionally have years consisting of 13 months. Had such instructions been inspired to have been included in our Bibles, this controversy would never have surfaced. Since those instructions are missing, it is up to us to search out any Scriptural evidence that can clue us in to the calendar used by Yahweh’s people.

As the title of this study implies, there *is* a passage of Scripture that provides strong evidence that a *luni-solar calendar* was used by the people of Yahweh. In the book of Ezekiel we are given a month-by-month account of Ezekiel carrying out Yahweh’s instructions pertaining to his bearing the iniquity of both the house of Israel and the house of Judah. He was told to lie on his left side for 390 days to bear the iniquity of the house of Israel, and then on his right side for 40 days to bear the iniquity of the house of Judah (Ez. 4:4-6). We are given a time frame in Ezekiel demonstrating that the year in which he did this **had to contain thirteen months**.

To begin our investigation of the above claim, we need to start at the beginning of the book of Ezekiel. In chapter one, Ezekiel receives a vision from Yahweh. Let’s read the first three verses of that chapter:

¹Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the **fourth month**, in the **fifth day of the month**, as I *was* among the captives by the river of Chebar, *that* the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of the Almighty.

²In the **fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin’s captivity**,

¹ June and I have devoted considerable time and effort researching Yahweh’s calendar, and the result is our study entitled *Balancing the Calendar*, which is available online by accessing the following URL:

<http://www.ponderscripture.org/PDF%20Files/Balancing%20the%20Calendar%202.pdf>

² Cf., *The Code of Maimonides*, Vol. XI, Book Three, Treatise Eight, “Sanctification of the New Moon,” translated from the Hebrew by Solomon Gandz, Yale University Press, New Haven, CT, pp. 16-17, 1956. Also see *The Babylonian Talmud*, Tractate Sanhedrin 11b. Both of the above references are quoted in our study *Balancing the Calendar*.

³The word of Yahweh came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of Yahweh was there upon him.

In the above passage, we are told that the “word of Yahweh” came to him “in the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin’s captivity.” We know from verse one of this chapter that this was during the fourth month. This is a good starting point for us. The key time frame at this point is that it is **year five** of King Jehoiachin’s captivity. After receiving this vision, Yahweh commissions Ezekiel to go to the children of Israel to warn them of the consequences of their rebellion. This commission occurs in chapter 2:

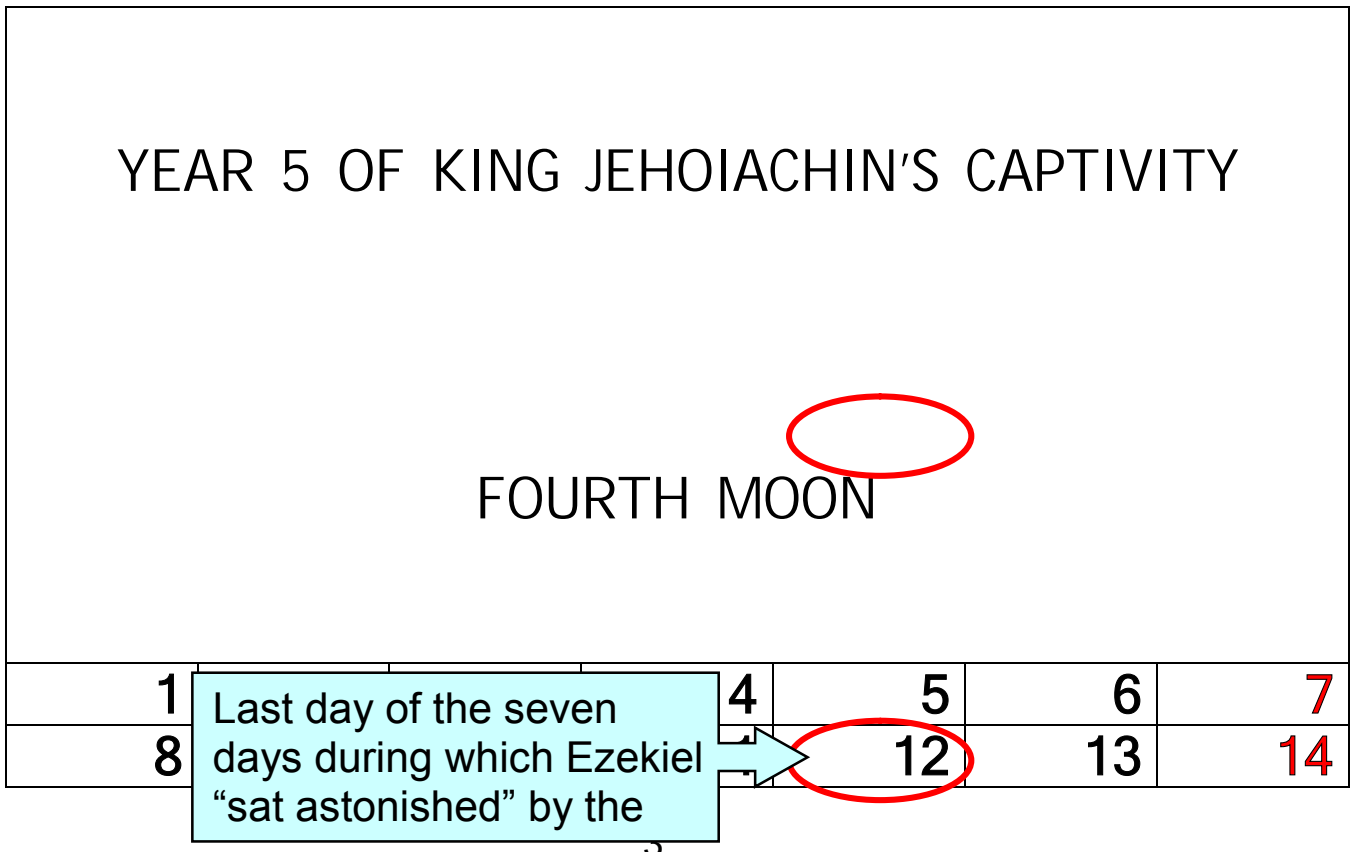
⁷And thou shalt speak My words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they *are* most rebellious. (Ez. 2:7)

Thus having been commissioned, we read on in chapter three that Ezekiel visited his fellow brethren of the captivity at Telabib:

¹⁵Then I came to them of the captivity at Telabib, that dwelt by the river Chebar, and I sat there astonished among them seven days.” (Ez. 3:15)

Ezekiel was clearly overwhelmed by the vision that he had seen, coupled with the virtually hopeless mission to which he had just been assigned — a mission to bring Yahweh’s people back to the Faith. The key words in the above verse, though, for purposes of this discussion, are “seven days.” He remained in Telabib for seven days, according to the above verse.

Ezekiel’s vision came to him on the fifth day of the fourth month during the fifth year of King Jehoiachin’s captivity. If we were to draw up a calendar to depict this time frame, it would look something like this:



15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

As displayed above, you will notice we have circled two dates on this calendar, the 5th and the 12th. We circled the 5th because that is the date on which Ezekiel received his vision from Yahweh. We circled the 12th because this marks the end of the seven days that he “remained there astonished” among his brethren of the captivity.

At the end of those seven days (the 12th day of the fourth month of year five), the word of Yahweh came to him again. It was during this event that Ezekiel was given an astounding directive. He was told to lie upon his left side for 390 days, followed by 40 days on his right side. He was also given specific instructions as to what he was to eat and how he was to cook his food during this time frame. Keep in mind that during this entire period he was not to turn from one side to another (Ez. 4:8). Let’s read this amazing set of instructions given to Ezekiel as found in Ezekiel 4:1-11:

- 1 ¶ Thou also, son of man, take thee a tile, and lay it before thee, and portray upon it the city, even Jerusalem:
- 2 And lay siege against it, and build a fort against it, and cast a mount against it; set the camp also against it, and set battering rams against it round about.
- 3 Moreover take thou unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and the city: and set thy face against it, and it shall be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the house of Israel.
- 4 Lie thou also upon thy left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it: according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon it thou shalt bear their iniquity.
- 5 For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days: so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the house of Israel.
- 6 And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year.
- 7 Therefore thou shalt set thy face toward the siege of Jerusalem, and thine arm shall be uncovered, and thou shalt prophesy against it.
- 8 And, behold, I will lay bands upon thee, and thou shalt not turn thee from one side to another, till thou hast ended the days of thy siege.
- 9 ¶ Take thou also unto thee wheat, and barley, and beans, and lentils, and millet, and fitches, and put them in one vessel, and make thee bread thereof, according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon thy side, three hundred and ninety days shalt thou eat thereof.
- 10 And thy meat which thou shalt eat shall be by weight, twenty shekels a day: from time to time shalt thou eat it.
- 11 Thou shalt drink also water by measure, the sixth part of an hin: from time to time shalt thou drink.

Repeating what we have already outlined in our comments above, this passage clearly presents the seemingly bizarre instructions that were given to Ezekiel. He was ordered to conduct a “mimic siege” against Jerusalem as a sign against the iniquity of the house of Israel and the house of Judah. Furthermore, he was told to lie upon his left side for 390 days, followed by 40 days on his right side. Again, remember that during this entire period Ezekiel was not to turn from one side to another (Ez. 4:8). We do not read of any further time reference until we arrive at the eighth chapter of Ezekiel.

In Ezekiel chapter eight, we learn that the time frame has advanced from being the fifth year to the sixth year. By this time, Ezekiel had completed his act of obedience to our Heavenly Father. He had by now lain on his left side for 390 days, followed by his right side for another 40 days — a total of 430 days of “lying around.” We read of this time frame in Ezekiel 8:1:

1 ¶ And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I sat in mine house, and the elders of Judah sat before me, that the hand of Yahweh Almighty fell there upon me.

Notice that Ezekiel was sitting in his house with the elders of Judah on the fifth day of the sixth month. Clearly, as an obedient servant of Yahweh, he had completed the days he was commanded to lie on his left and right side. The question we are left to answer is this: Given the premise that Ezekiel observed a solar calendar, could he have *possibly* completed the “days of lying around” by the fifth day of the sixth month of the sixth year of King Jehoiachin’s captivity? To best answer this question, we are displaying a solar calendar in which we use the dates given in Ezekiel, as displayed below. Since the 12th day of the fourth month was the last day of the seven days during which Ezekiel “sat astonished,” we will present a calendar depicting him wasting no time in following through on Yahweh’s directive to “lie down.” Thus, as shown on the following sample solar calendar, “day 1” falls on the very next day, the 13th day of the fourth month:

5th Year of Jehoiachin's Captivity (Solar Calendar)

ABIB (1 st month)						

ZIV (2 nd month)						

SIVAN (3 rd month)						

TAMMUZ (4 th month)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	1	2
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Tammuz 12 is the final day of the seven days that Ezekiel "sat astonished." The very next day, at the earliest, he began the 430-day "Lie-Down Venture," c.f., Ez. 1:1-2; Ez. 3:15) </div>						

AB (5 th month)						
		1 ¹⁹	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37
38	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> One month has passed by (30 days) </div>					
45	46	47	30 ⁴⁸			

ELUL (6 th month)						
				1 ⁴⁹	50	51
52	53	54	55	56	57	58
59	12 ⁶⁰	61	62	63	64	65
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Two months have elapsed (60 days) </div>						

ETHANIM (7 th month)						
						1 ⁷⁹
80	81	82	83	84	85	86
87	88	89	12 ⁹⁰	91	92	93
94	95	96	97	98	99	100
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Three months have elapsed (90 days) </div>						
30 ¹⁰⁸						

BUL (8 th month)						
	1 ¹⁰⁹	110	111	112	113	114
115	116	117	118	119	12	121
122	123	124	125	126	127	128
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Four months have elapsed (120 days) </div>						
136	137	30 ¹³⁸				

CASLEU (9 th month)						
			1 ¹³⁹	140	141	142
143	144	145	146	147	148	149
12 ¹⁵⁰	151	152	153	154	155	156
157	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Five months have elapsed (150 days) </div>					
164	165	166	167	30 ¹⁶⁸		

TEBETH (10 th month)						
					1 ¹⁶⁹	170
171	172	173	174	175	176	177
178	179	12 ¹⁸⁰	181	182	183	184
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Six months have elapsed (180 days) </div>						
						30 ¹⁹⁸

SHEBAT (11 th month)						
1 ¹⁹⁹	200	201	202	203	204	205
206	207	208	209	12 ²¹⁰	211	212
213	214	215	216	217	218	219
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Seven months have elapsed (210 days) </div>						
227	30 ²²⁸					

ADAR (12 th month)						
		1 ²²⁹	230	231	232	233
234	235	236	237	238	239	12 ²⁴⁰
241	242	243	244	245	246	247
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Eight months have elapsed (240 days) </div>						
255	256	257	30 ²⁵⁸			

6th Year of Jehoiachin's Captivity -- Solar Calendar (continued)

ABIB (1 st month)						
Nine months have elapsed (270 days)						261
						268
269	12 ²⁷⁰	271	272	273	274	275
276	277	278	279	280	281	282
283	284	285	286	287	30	

ZIV (2 nd month)						
Ten months have elapsed (300 days)						289
						296
297	298	299	12 ³⁰⁰	301	302	303
304	305	306	307	308	309	310
311	312	313	314	315	316	317
30						

SIVAN (3 rd month)						
	1 ³¹⁹	320	321	322	323	324
325	326	327	328	329	12 ³³⁰	331
Eleven months have elapsed (330 days)						338
						345
346	347	30				

TAMMUZ (4 th month)						
			1 ³⁴⁹	350	351	352
353	354	355	356	357	358	359
12 ³⁶⁰	361	362	363	364	365	366
Twelve months have elapsed (360 days)						373
						380
				30		

AB (5 th month)						
					1 ³⁷⁹	380
381	382	383	384	385	386	387
388	389	12 ³⁹⁰	391	392	393	394
Thirteen months have elapsed (390 days)						398

ELUL (6 th month)						
1 ⁴⁰⁹	410	411	412	5 ⁴¹³	414	415
416	417	418	419	12 ⁴²⁰	421	422
423	424	425	426	427	428	429
430	Fourteen months (420 days) have elapsed! Note: The count ended on the fifth day of the 6 th month (Ez. 8:1). Only 413 days had passed by when Ezekiel was sitting in his house! He was supposed to be lying down for 430 days!					

If the ancient calendar used by Ezekiel only consisted of 30-day months, the above scenario, at the very least, serves to demonstrate that *something* was lacking. It would have Ezekiel sitting in his house on day number 413. He was charged to lie on his side for 430 total days, so he was at least 17 days shy of reaching the goal ... *if that's the calendar he used.*

But lest we ignore all of our options, we should remember that with a solar calendar, there must be **365 days in the year**, whereas we only allowed 360 days for the above calendar. Nevertheless, if we were to generously add *seven extra days* to the 412 days we gave Ezekiel, this would only give him a total of 419 days of “lying around” ... still far short of the 430 days he was allotted. Moreover, even if each month during that twelve-month time frame were to have had *31 days*, Ezekiel would *still* have arisen too soon! We realize this is an impossible scenario, but for illustration purposes ... in order to give skeptics the “benefit of the doubt,” ... if each month were to have contained 31 days, Ezekiel would have been “sitting around” on day #427 -- three days shy of his required completion date.³

Not only do we believe the above calendar is unrealistic due to its not allowing Ezekiel to complete the commanded 430-day *lying mitzvah*, but we also believe it is very unlikely that each month contained thirty days. A lunation consists of 29½ days (29.53059 days, to be more precise). This is why some months, when you go by the lunar cycle, consist of 29 days, whereas other months have 30 days. Some are persuaded that, in ancient times, the months *always* consisted of thirty days, and they cite the Genesis flood account as evidence validating their claim.⁴ Regardless of whether or not this claim has any merit, by the time of Ezekiel, the current lunar cycle was in place, as verified by ancient sources, including an ancient Greek calendar known as the “Attic Calendar,” which was in place during the fourth and fifth centuries BCE.⁵ The preponderance of evidence supports believing that the ancients, including those of Ezekiel's day, did *not* recognize a calendar that contained only 30-day months. The following information is taken from *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*:

a. The lunar month. There is no direct evidence that the ancient Hebrews ever observed any but a lunar month—i.e., a month of 29½ days, requiring alternation of 30-day months with 29-day months for practical purposes. Speculations concerning a purely solar reckoning, according to which the year was mathematically divided into twelve 30-day months without reference to the lunar phases, fail to explain why there should be months at all and do not take into sufficient account the widespread popularity of lunar calendars in very ancient times. It is true that 30 days are generally reckoned as a month's length (Gen. 7:11; 8:3-4; Num. 20:29; Deut. 21:13; 34:8; Esth. 4:11; Dan. 6:7; 12—A 6:8, 13) and that the year contained twelve months (I Kings 4:7; I Chr. 27:1-15) apart from intercalation. This formula is, however, only a practical way of reckoning and leaves undecided the precise calculation of the calendar. Arguments for a year of seven 50-day periods (the so-called pentecontad calendar) are even more precarious.⁶

³ For those who, like me, need a visual aid to validate this computation, please request our paper entitled “An Ezekiel Calendar ... If Months Had Contained 31 Days.”

⁴ See “Appendix: Did the 150 Days During the Great Flood Consist of Five 30-Day Months?”

⁵ More information on this ancient calendar may be easily found online. For example, the *Opentopia Encyclopedia*, in its article “Attic Calendar,” offers the following information: “The months were either 29 or 30 days in length, loosely in alternation, since the moon orbits the earth in roughly 29.5 days. However, rather than following a set scheme (along the lines of ‘Thirty days has September...’), the duration of each month was declared just before month's end in an attempt to latch the first of the following month onto the upcoming new moon. The short months of 29 days were known as ‘hollow’ and those with 30 days as ‘full.’” The article may be read in its entirety by accessing the following URL:

http://encycl.opentopia.com/term/Attic_calendar

⁶ From *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Vol. 1, Abingdon Press, New York, 1962, p. 485.

We concur with *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible* that the ancient Hebrews' calendar consisted of months containing both 29 and 30-day months. This raises the question as to how such a calendar, known as a "Luni-solar calendar," could have worked out for Ezekiel ... presuming that the year only contained *twelve months*. The following calendar demonstrates that he would have fared even worse than he would have with the "30-Day Month Only" calendar:

5th Year of Jehoiachin's Captivity (12-Month Luni-Solar Calendar)

ABIB (1st month)						

ZIV (2 nd month)						

SIVAN (3 rd month)						

TAMMUZ (4 th month)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37
38	39	40	41	42	43	44
45	46	47	48	49	50	51
52	53	54	55	56	57	58
59	60	61	62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78	79
80	81	82	83	84	85	86
87	88	89	90	91	92	93
94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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108	109	110	111	112	113	114
115	116	117	118	119	120	121
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472	473	474	475	476	477	478
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486	487	488	489	490	491	492
493	494	495	496	497	498	499
500	501	502	503	504	505	506
507	508	509	510	511	512	513
514	515	516	517	518	519	520
521	522	523	524	525	526	527
528	529	530	531	532	533	534
535	536	537	538	539	540	541
542	543	544	545	546	547	548
549	550	551	552	553	554	555
556	557	558	559	560	561	562
563	564	565	566	567	568	569
570	571	572	573	574	575	576
577	578	579	580	581	582	583
584	585	586	587	588	589	590
591	592	593	594	595	596	597
598	599	600	601	602	603	604
605	606	607	608	609	610	611
612	613	614	615	616	617	618
619	620	621	622	623	624	625
626	627	628	629	630	631	632
633	634	635	636	637	638	639
640	641	642	643	644	645	646
647	648	649	650	651	652	653
654	655	656	657	658	659	660
661	662	663	664	665	666	667
668	669	670	671	672	673	674
675	676	677	678	679	680	681
682	683	684	685	686	687	688
689	690	691	692	693	694	695
696	697	698	699	700	701	702
703	704	705	706	707	708	709
710	711	712	713	714	715	716
717	718	719	720	721	722	723
724	725	726	727	728	729	730
731	732	733	734	735	736	737
738	739	740	741	742	743	744
745	746	747	748	749	750	751
752	753	754	755	756	757	758
759	760	761	762	763	764	765
766	767	768	769	770	771	772
773	774	775	776	777	778	779
780	781	782	783	784	785	786
787	788	789	790	791	792	793
794	795	796	797	798	799	800
801	802	803	804	805	806	807
808	809	810	811	812	813	814
815	816	817	818	819	820	821
822	823	824	825	826	827	828
829	830	831	832	833	834	835
836	837	838	839	840	841	842
843	844	845	846	847	848	849
850	851	852	853	854	855	856
857	858	859	860	861	862	863
864	865	866	867	868	869	870
871	872	873	874	875	876	877
878	879	880	881	882	883	884
885	886	887	888	889	890	891
892	893	894	895	896	897	898
899	900	901	902	903	904	905
906	907	908	909	910	911	912
913	914	915	916	917	918	919
920	921	922	923	924	925	926
927	928	929	930	931	932	933
934	935	936	937	938	939	940
941	942	943	944	945	946	947
948	949	950	951	952	953	954
955	956	957	958	959	960	961
962	963	964	965	966	967	968
969	970	971	972	973	974	975
976	977	978	979	980	981	982
983	984	985	986	987	988	989
990	991	992	993	994	995	996
997	998	999	1000	1001	1002	1003
1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009	1010
1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017
1018	1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024
1025	1026	1027	1028	1029	1030	1031
1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038
1039	1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045
1046	1047	1048	1049	1050	1051	1052
1053	1054	1055	1056	1057	1058	1059
1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065	1066
1067	1068	1069	1070	1071	1072	1073
1074	1075	1076	1077	1078	1079	1080
1081	1082	1083	1084	1085	1086	1087
1088	1089	1090	1091	1092	1093	1094
1095	1096	1097	1098	1099	1100	1101
1102	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107	1108
1109	1110	1111	1112	1113	1114	1115
1116	1117	1118	1119	1120	1121	1122
1123	1124	1125	1126	1127	1128	1129
1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136
1137	1138	1139	1140	1141	1142	1143
1144	1145	1146	1147	1148	1149	1150
1151	1152	1153	1154	1155	1156	1157
1158	1159	1160	1161	1162	1163	1164
1165	1166	1167	1168	1169	1170	1171
1172	1173	1174	1175	1176	1177	1178
1179	1180	1181	1182	1183	1184	1185
1186	1187	1188	1189	1190	1191	1192
1193	1194	1195	1196	1197	1198	1199
1200	1201	1202	1203	1204	1205	1206
1207	1208	1209	1210	1211	1212	1213
1214	1215	1216	1217	1218	1219	1220
1221	1222	1223	1224	1225	1226	1227
1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234
1235	1236	1237	1238	1239	1240	1241
1242	1243	1244	1245	1246	1247	1248
1249	1250	1251	1252	1253	125	

6th Year of Jehoiachin's Captivity -- 12-Month Luni-solar Calendar (continued)

ABIB (1 st month)						
1 ²⁵⁵	256	257	258	259	260	261
262	263	264	265	266	267	268
269	16 ²⁷⁰	271	272	273	274	275
276	277	278	279	280	281	282
29	Nine months have elapsed (270 days)					

ZIV (2 nd month)						
	1 ²⁸⁴	285	286	287	288	289
290	291	292	293	294	295	296
297	298	299	17 ³⁰⁰	301	302	303
						310
	Ten months have elapsed (300 days)					
		30				

SIVAN (3 rd month)						
			1 ³¹⁴	315	316	317
318	319	320	321	322	323	324
325	326	327	328	329	17 ³³⁰	331
						338
	Eleven months have elapsed (330 days)					
			29			

TAMMUZ (4 th month)						
				1 ³⁴³	344	345
346	347	348	349	350	351	352
353	354	355	356	357	358	359
						367
18 ³⁶⁰	Twelve months have elapsed (360 days)					
					30	

AB (5 th month)						
						1 ³⁷³
374	375	376	377	378	379	380
381	382	383	384	385	386	387
388	389	18 ³⁹⁰	391	392	393	394
395						
30	Thirteen months have elapsed (390 days)					
						402

ELUL (6 th month)						
	1 ⁴⁰³	404	405	406	5 ⁴⁰⁷	408
409	410	411	412	413	414	415
416	417	418	419	18 ⁴²⁰	421	422
423	424	425	426	427	428	429
430		30				

Fourteen months (420 days) have elapsed! Note: The count ended on the fifth day of the 6th month (Ez. 8:1). Only 407 days had passed by when Ezekiel was sitting in his house! He was supposed to be lying down for 430 days!

As shown by the preceding twelve-month luni-solar calendar, Ezekiel *prematurely ended* his 430-day ordeal, i.e., he disobeyed the instructions given to him by Yahweh! He should have been “lying around” on the fifth day of the sixth month, not “sitting around”!

Keep in mind also that we have already given Ezekiel a “bare bones” amount of time during which he had to prepare for this period of adversity. As you may recall, he was told to prepare a certain amount of food and water for his adventure. Without a doubt, it would have taken some considerable amount of time and effort for Ezekiel to have made all the necessary arrangements for his siege. Note how Adam Clarke in *Clarke’s Commentary* explains Ezekiel 4:9-10:

9. *Take thou also unto thee wheat.* In times of scarcity, it is customary in all countries to mix several kinds of coarser grain with the finer, to make it last the longer. This which the prophet is commanded to take, of wheat, barley, beans, lentils, millet, and fitches, was intended to show how scarce the necessaries of life should be during the siege.

10. *Twenty shekels a day.* The whole of the above grain, being ground, was to be formed into one mass, out of which he was to make 390 loaves, one loaf for each day; and this loaf was to be of 20 shekels in weight. Now a shekel, being in weight about half an ounce, this would be 10 ounces of bread for each day; and with this water to the amount of one-sixth part of a hin, which is about a pint and a half of our measure. All this shows that so reduced should provisions be during the siege that they should be obliged to eat the meanest sort of aliment, and that by weight, and their water by measure.⁷

Somehow Ezekiel had to come up with enough grain and water to last for 430 days’ worth of baking bread. For us to presume he was able to come up with the necessary provisions on the same day he was granted his vision from Yahweh, this would make for a very lenient ... and unrealistic ... time frame. Nevertheless, for the sake of our friends who insist that a strictly 12-month calendar was in use during the days of Ezekiel’s siege, we produced the above sample calendars to illustrate that the only way either calendar could have been in use would have been if Ezekiel was disobedient to Yahweh. Realistically, he needed some extra days to have prepared for his ordeal, which means he should have begun lying on his left side *later* than on the 13th day of the 4th month of the 5th year. Had we taken this factor into account, then by the 5th day of the sixth month of the sixth year he would have clearly spent even *less* time on his right and left side. The difficulties in reconciling those 430 days with a solar calendar or even a 12-month luni-solar calendar are just too overwhelming.

As mentioned earlier, it is possible for a luni-solar calendar to have *thirteen months* in the space of a year. Most years will only contain twelve months, just like a solar calendar, but occasionally a year of thirteen “moons” is necessary to keep the seasons balanced with the months. For example, during the time of the wave sheaf offering for the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the omer offering consisted of the firstfruits of the barley harvest. In order to be able to produce those grains necessary for the offering, the barley crop had to be in the “green ear” by the time of the sighting of the first new moon of the year. Fourteen days later, it was ready to harvest, making the wave sheaf offering a reality. That same cycle continues year after year. But what if, twelve months later, at the sighting of the new moon that should have marked the first month of the new year, the barley was only half-grown, not even having any “heads,” let alone “green ears”? The Israelites knew that they could not have proceeded with the count to the Passover, for there would certainly not have been any barley firstfruits available for the wave sheaf offering! They had but one option: Declare that new month to be the **thirteenth month** of the year. Abib, the name of the first month of the following year, would have to wait a few more weeks!

⁷ Adam Clarke, *Clarke’s Commentary on the Bible*, 1985, Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City, MO, p. 663.

Is there Scriptural evidence that Israel used a luni-solar calendar consisting of thirteen months? Well, we have just examined Ezekiel's "mimic siege" using both a solar calendar and a twelve-month luni-solar calendar, and have discerned that *neither calendar* could have been used, unless Ezekiel broke the commandment of Yahweh by getting up too early from lying on both his left and right sides. Let's examine the time frame of Ezekiel's adventure one more time, this time reconciling the 430 days with a ***luni-solar calendar consisting of thirteen months*** in order to determine if this is the calendar that was regularly employed by Ezekiel.

5th Year of Jehoiachin's Captivity (A Thirteen-Month Luni-solar Calendar)

ABIB (1st month)						

ZIV (2 nd month)						

SIVAN (3 rd month)						

TAMMUZ (4 th month)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	1	2
3	Tammuz 12 is the final day of the seven days that Ezekiel "sat astonished." The very next day, at the earliest, he began the 430-day "Lie-Down Venture," c.f., Ez. 1:1-2; Ez. 3:15					
10						
29						

AB (5 th month)						
	1 ¹⁸	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	13
31	32	33	34	35	36	37
One month has passed by (30 days)						
45	46	30 ⁴⁷				

ELUL (6 th month)						
			1 ⁴⁸	49	50	51
52	53	54	55	56	57	58
59	13 ⁶⁰	61	62	63	64	65
Two months have elapsed (60 days)						
			30			

ETHANIM (7 th month)						
					1 ⁷⁸	79
80	81	82	83	84	85	86
87	88	89	13 ⁸⁰	91	92	93
94	95	96	97	98	99	100
Three months have elapsed (90 days)						
						30 ¹⁰⁷

BUL (8 th month)						
1 ¹⁰⁸	109	110	111	112	113	114
115	116	117	118	119	13	121
122	123	124	125	126	127	128
Four months have elapsed (120 days)						
136	30 ¹³⁷					

CASLEU (9 th month)						
		1 ¹³⁸	139	140	141	142
143	144	145	146	147	148	149
13	150	151	152	153	154	156
Five months have elapsed (150 days)						
		29				

TEBETH (10 th month)						
			1 ¹⁶⁷	168	169	170
171	172	173	174	175	176	177
178	179	14 ¹⁸⁰	181	182	183	184
Six months have elapsed (180 days)						
			29			

SHEBAT (11 th month)						
				1 ¹⁹⁶	197	198
199	200	201	202	203	204	205
206	207	208	209	15 ²¹⁰	211	212
Seven months have elapsed (210 days)						
						30

ADAR (12 th month)						
					1 ²²⁶	226
227	228	229	230	231	232	233
234	235	236	237	238	239	15 ²⁴⁰
Eight months have elapsed (240 days)						
248	249	250	251	252	253	29 ²⁵⁴

ADAR SHENI (13 th month)						
1	255	256	257	258	259	260
261	262	263	264	265	266	267
268	269	16	271	272	273	274
275	276	277	278	279	280	281
282	Nine months have elapsed (270 days)					

TAMMUZ (4 th month)						
1	374	375	376	377	378	379
380	381	382	383	384	385	386
387	388	389	17	391	392	393
394	395	396	397	398	399	400
401	29	Thirteen months have passed (390 days)				

ABIB (1 st month)						
1	285	286	287	288	289	290
291	292	293	294	295	296	297
298	299	16	301	302	303	304
Ten months have elapsed (300 days)						

AB (5 th month)						
Fourteen months have elapsed (420 days)						
40	416	417	418	18	421	422
423	424	425	426	427	428	429
28	30	Last day of "lying around"!				

ZIV (2 nd month)						
1	315	316	317	318	319	320
321	322	323	324	325	326	327
328	329	16	331	332	333	334
335	336	337	338	339	340	341
Eleven months have elapsed (330 days)						

ELUL (6 th month)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
On this date, according to Ez. 8:1, Ezekiel was sitting in his house visiting with the elders of Judah. He had completed lying on both sides one week earlier!						

SIVAN (3 rd month)						
1	344	345	346	347	348	349
350	351	352	353	354	355	356
357	358	359	360	361	362	363
364	365	366	367	368	369	370
371	372	373	374	375	376	377
378	379	380	381	382	383	384
385	386	387	388	389	390	391
392	393	394	395	396	397	398
399	400	401	402	403	404	405
406	407	408	409	410	411	412
413	414	415	416	417	418	419
420	421	422	423	424	425	426
427	428	429	430	431	432	433
434	435	436	437	438	439	440
441	442	443	444	445	446	447
448	449	450	451	452	453	454
455	456	457	458	459	460	461
462	463	464	465	466	467	468
469	470	471	472	473	474	475
476	477	478	479	480	481	482
483	484	485	486	487	488	489
490	491	492	493	494	495	496
497	498	499	500	501	502	503
504	505	506	507	508	509	510
511	512	513	514	515	516	517
518	519	520	521	522	523	524
525	526	527	528	529	530	531
532	533	534	535	536	537	538
539	540	541	542	543	544	545
546	547	548	549	550	551	552
553	554	555	556	557	558	559
560	561	562	563	564	565	566
567	568	569	570	571	572	573
574	575	576	577	578	579	580
581	582	583	584	585	586	587
588	589	590	591	592	593	594
595	596	597	598	599	600	601
602	603	604	605	606	607	608
609	610	611	612	613	614	615
616	617	618	619	620	621	622
623	624	625	626	627	628	629
630	631	632	633	634	635	636
637	638	639	640	641	642	643
644	645	646	647	648	649	650
651	652	653	654	655	656	657
658	659	660	661	662	663	664
665	666	667	668	669	670	671
672	673	674	675	676	677	678
679	680	681	682	683	684	685
686	687	688	689	690	691	692
693	694	695	696	697	698	699
700	701	702	703	704	705	706
707	708	709	710	711	712	713
714	715	716	717	718	719	720
721	722	723	724	725	726	727
728	729	730	731	732	733	734
735	736	737	738	739	740	741
742	743	744	745	746	747	748
749	750	751	752	753	754	755
756	757	758	759	760	761	762
763	764	765	766	767	768	769
770	771	772	773	774	775	776
777	778	779	780	781	782	783
784	785	786	787	788	789	790
791	792	793	794	795	796	797
798	799	800	801	802	803	804
805	806	807	808	809	810	811
812	813	814	815	816	817	818
819	820	821	822	823	824	825
826	827	828	829	830	831	832
833	834	835	836	837	838	839
840	841	842	843	844	845	846
847	848	849	850	851	852	853
854	855	856	857	858	859	860
861	862	863	864	865	866	867
868	869	870	871	872	873	874
875	876	877	878	879	880	881
882	883	884	885	886	887	888
889	890	891	892	893	894	895
896	897	898	899	900	901	902
903	904	905	906	907	908	909
910	911	912	913	914	915	916
917	918	919	920	921	922	923
924	925	926	927	928	929	930
931	932	933	934	935	936	937
938	939	940	941	942	943	944
945	946	947	948	949	950	951
952	953	954	955	956	957	958
959	960	961	962	963	964	965
966	967	968	969	970	971	972
973	974	975	976	977	978	979
980	981	982	983	984	985	986
987	988	989	990	991	992	993
994	995	996	997	998	999	1000

As indicated on the preceding pages, this 13-month *luni-solar calendar* would have given Ezekiel the necessary time to complete lying on both his left and right sides in time to be found in his house sitting with the elders of Judah on the fifth day of the sixth month. Based on this evidence, Ezekiel could *not* have observed a solar calendar. He definitely *could have* reckoned time with a luni-solar calendar, however.

Although many are of the mind that Yahweh intends for us to use the solar calendar, i.e., the sun, to determine our years, and hence the seasons of the years, there are some verses of Scripture that indicate otherwise. Shown below is Psalms 104:19:

¹⁹He appointed the **moon for seasons**: the sun knoweth his going down.

In the scheme of things, those who seek the truth of Yahweh's will are going to find plenty of topics on which to disagree. The issue of which calendar He intends for us to employ is at or near the top of the list. It seems that for every conclusion one reaches, there is someone ready to point out its error. This controversy, as we indicated earlier, traces back to the fact that there are no clear-cut, concise, to-the-point passages of Scripture to which we can refer for an absolute solution to this enigma that has puzzled believers for centuries, even eons. We can all rejoice in knowing that there are many believers who care enough about what the Creator wants us to do that they are willing to study into this matter. May Yahweh bless our study of this subject as we seek to gain understanding of His will for us!

Comparison Charts Illustrating the Three Calendars Represented in This Study

Solar Option (A 12-month calendar)

Month	# of "Lying Days" in the Month	Running Total	Comments
Tammuz (4 th)	18	18 days	He began lying down on Tammuz 13 (Tammuz 13 to Tammuz 30 = 18 days).
Ab (5 th)	30	48 days	
Elul (6 th)	30	78 days	
Ethanim (7 th)	30	108 days	
Bul (8 th)	30	138 days	
Casleu (9 th)	30	168 days	
Tebeth (10 th)	30	198 days	
Shebat (11 th)	30	228 days	
Adar (12 th)	30	258 days	
Abib (1 st)	30	288 days	
Ziv (2 nd)	30	318 days	
Sivan (3 rd)	30	348 days	
Tammuz (4 th)	30	378 days	
Ab (5 th)	30	408 days	
Elul (6 th)	4	412 days	Ezekiel was 18 days short of his 430-day goal (430 - 412 = 18).

Luni-Solar Option (A 12-month calendar)

Month	# of "Lying Days" in the Month	Running Total	Comments
Tammuz (4 th)	17	17 days	Ezekiel began lying down on Tammuz 13 (Tammuz 13 to Tammuz 29 = 17 days).
Ab (5 th)	30	47 days	
Elul (6 th)	30	77 days	
Ethanim (7 th)	30	107 days	
Bul (8 th)	30	137 days	Four consecutive 30-day months is uncommon, but it occurred this year (2007).
Casleu (9 th)	29	166 days	
Tebeth (10 th)	29	195 days	
Shebat (11 th)	29	224 days	Three consecutive 29-day months is unusual, but it occurred in both 2005 & 2007.
Adar (12 th)	30	254 days	
Abib (1 st)	29	283 days	
Ziv (2 nd)	30	313 days	
Sivan (3 rd)	29	342 days	
Tammuz (4 th)	30	372 days	
Ab (5 th)	30	402 days	
Elul (6 th)	4	406 days	Ezekiel was 24 days short of his 430-day goal (430 - 406 = 24 days).

Luni-Solar Option (A 13-month calendar)

Month	# of “Lying Days” in the Month	Running Total	Comments
Tammuz (4 th)	17	17 days	Ezekiel began lying down on Tammuz 13 (Tammuz 13 to Tammuz 29 = 17 days).
Ab (5 th)	30	47 days	
Elul (6 th)	30	77 days	
Ethanim (7 th)	30	107 days	
Bul (8 th)	30	137 days	Four consecutive 30-day months is uncommon, but it occurred this year (2007).
Casleu (9 th)	29	166 days	
Tebeth (10 th)	29	195 days	
Shebat (11 th)	30	225 days	
Adar	29	254 days	
Adar Sheni (13th month)	30	284 days	In a 13-month year, the 13th month is referred to as “Adar Sheni.”
Abib (1 st)	30	314 days	
Ziv (2 nd)	29	343 days	
Sivan (3 rd)	30	373 days	
Tammuz (4 th)	29	402 days	
Ab (5 th)	28	430 days	Ezekiel stopped “lying around” at the end of the 28 th day of the month with time to spare.
Elul (6 th)	N/A	N/A	By Elul 5, Ezekiel had been freely “running around” for six days.

Appendix: Did the 150 Days During the Great Flood Consist of Five 30-Day Months?

The Great Flood of Genesis has caused quite a stir among those interested in learning what calendar was used by Noah. Several years ago, when the dates provided in Genesis chapters seven and eight were explained to us, we were shown that the only way for such a calendar to work would have been for the months to have contained, without exception, thirty days. This, of course, is in stark contrast to the luni-solar calendar as understood today, with months consisting of either 29 or 30 days. This variance occurs because a lunation is comprised of exactly 29.53059 days (roughly 29½ days). As the calendar used during the Great Flood was explained to us, each month had to contain 30 days because the flood waters began to fall on the 17th day of the second month, and the waters prevailed for 150 days. Then, on the 17th day of the seventh month, the ark came to rest upon the mountains of Ararat. The only way this seems to work is for each of those five months to contain 30 days (30 x 5 = 150).

Later, we were shown an opposing view in which the author explained that, no, *one* of those months had to contain 29 days. The explanation as given in his two-page treatise was impressive and persuasive. It behooves us to examine each view to see which one really aligns with the Scriptural account. Before we look at the opposing calendars, let's review the pertinent verses in the Genesis account of the Flood:

Genesis 7:11 – “In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.”

Genesis 7:24 – “And the waters prevailed upon the earth **an hundred and fifty days.**”

Genesis 8:3-4 – “And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and **after the end of the hundred and fifty days** the waters were abated. And the ark rested **in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month**, upon the mountains of Ararat.”

The first potential calendar I would like for us to review is the one in which *one* of the months contained 29 days. As we review it, we need to bear in mind that the waters were not abated (diminished) until after the end of 150 days. Then, on the 17th day of the seventh month, the ark came to rest upon the mountains of Ararat:

The “Four Months of 30, One Month of 29” Scenario

Year 600 of Noah, 2 nd Month						
FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 ¹				21 ⁵	22 ⁶	23 ⁷
24 ⁸	25	26	27	28 ¹²	29 ¹³	30 ¹⁴

This is “day 1” – when the “windows of heaven” were opened.

Year 600 of Noah, 3 rd Month						
FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
1 ¹⁵	2 ¹⁶	3 ¹⁷	4 ¹⁸	6 ¹⁹	6 ²⁰	7 ²¹
8 ²²	9 ²³	10 ²⁴	11 ²⁵	12 ²⁶	13 ²⁷	14 ²⁸
15 ²⁹	16 ³⁰	17 ³¹	18 ³²	19 ³³	20 ³⁴	21 ³⁵
22 ³⁶	23 ³⁷	24 ³⁸	25 ³⁹	26 ⁴⁰	27 ⁴¹	28 ⁴²
29 ⁴³	30 ⁴⁴					

Year 600 of Noah, 4th Month

FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
		45	46	47	48	49
		1	2	3	4	5
50	51	52	53	54	55	56
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
57	58	59	60	61	62	63
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
64	65	66	67	68	69	70
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
71	72	73	74			
27	28	29	30			

Year 600 of Noah, 5th Month

FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
				75	76	77
				1	2	3
78	79	80	81	82	83	84
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
85	86	87	88	89	90	91
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
92	93	94	95	96	97	98
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
99	This month only had 29 days!			102	103	
25			29			

Year 600 of Noah, 6th Month

FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
					1 ¹⁰⁴	2 ¹⁰⁵
3 ¹⁰⁶	4 ¹⁰⁷	5 ¹⁰⁸	6 ¹⁰⁹	7 ¹¹⁰	8 ¹¹¹	9 ¹¹²
10 ¹¹³	11 ¹¹⁴	12 ¹¹⁵	13 ¹¹⁶	14 ¹¹⁷	15 ¹¹⁸	16 ¹¹⁹
17 ¹²⁰	18 ¹²¹	19 ¹²²	20 ¹²³	21 ¹²⁴	22 ¹²⁵	23 ¹²⁶
24 ¹²⁷	25 ¹²⁸	26 ¹²⁹	27 ¹³⁰	28 ¹³¹	29 ¹³²	30 ¹³³

Year 600 of Noah, 7th Month

FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
1 ¹³⁴	2 ¹³⁵	3 ¹³⁶	4 ¹³⁷	5 ¹³⁸	6 ¹³⁹	7 ¹⁴⁰
8 ¹⁴¹	9 ¹⁴²	10 ¹⁴³	11 ¹⁴⁴	12 ¹⁴⁵	13 ¹⁴⁶	14 ¹⁴⁷
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> It was AFTER this day (the 150th day) that the waters were abated. </div>		17 ¹⁵⁰	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> This is also when the ark came to rest upon the mountains of Ararat. </div>		20	21
		22			23	24
29						

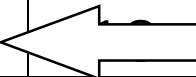
The most obvious question raised by the above scenario is, “If the waters weren’t abated until *after* the 150th day, then how is it the ark ‘came to rest’ upon the mountains of Ararat on that same 150th day?” The calendar proposed by those who insist that one of those months contained 29 days requires believing that the ark “came to rest” *before* the waters were abated. In order to explain the apparent discrepancy, we can presume lots of things, including the possibility that the Genesis account only gives us approximate dates; however, if we go strictly by the information provided ... **and** if we presume that one of those five months contained 29 days, then we have to address the question of how the ark came to rest upon the mountains of Ararat **before** the flood waters had abated. This is a concern that, to this point, we have yet to see satisfactorily explained by those who promote this type of scenario.

This brings us to the “Thirty-Day Month Only” calendar scenario. Does it fit the Genesis account? Let’s take a look at it:

The “Thirty-Day Month Only” Calendar Scenario

Year 600 of Noah, 2 nd Month						
FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 ¹	18 ²	19 ³	20 ⁴	21 ⁵	22 ⁶	23 ⁷
24 ⁸	25 ⁹	26 ¹⁰	27 ¹¹	28 ¹²	29 ¹³	30 ¹⁴

This is “day 1” – when the “windows of heaven” were opened.



Year 600 of Noah, 3 rd Month						
FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
1 ¹⁵	2 ¹⁶	3 ¹⁷	4 ¹⁸	6 ¹⁹	6 ²⁰	7 ²¹
8 ²²	9 ²³	10 ²⁴	11 ²⁵	12 ²⁶	13 ²⁷	14 ²⁸
15 ²⁹	16 ³⁰	17 ³¹	18 ³²	19 ³³	20 ³⁴	21 ³⁵
22 ³⁶	23 ³⁷	24 ³⁸	25 ³⁹	26 ⁴⁰	27 ⁴¹	28 ⁴²
29 ⁴³	30 ⁴⁴					

Year 600 of Noah, 4th Month

FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
		45	46	47	48	49
		1	2	3	4	5
50	51	52	53	54	55	56
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
57	58	59	60	61	62	63
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
64	65	66	67	68	69	70
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
71	72	73	74			
27	28	29	30			

Year 600 of Noah, 5th Month

FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
				75	76	77
				1	2	3
78	79	80	81	82	83	84
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
85	86	87	88	89	90	91
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
92	93	94	95	96	97	98
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
99	100	101	102	103	104	
25	26	27	28	29	30	

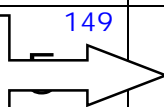
Year 600 of Noah, 6th Month

FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Year 600 of Noah, 7th Month

FIRST DAY	SECOND DAY	THIRD DAY	FOURTH DAY	FIFTH DAY	PREPARATION	SABBATH
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		16	17			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

It was **AFTER** this day (the 150th day) that the waters were abated.



This day, **AFTER** the waters had abated, is when the ark came to rest upon the mountains of Ararat.



As this calendar illustrates, by day 150 the waters had not yet completely abated *and* the ark was still afloat. It wasn't until *after* this day that the waters were abated, and that is when the ark came to rest in the mountains of Ararat ... the 17th day of the seventh month (i.e., day #151). This is the scenario that best fits the account as described in the book of Genesis. We are left to believe that during the days leading up to the Great Flood, each month contained 30 days. Did the cataclysmic shakeup of the earth caused by the Flood affect the lunar cycle, causing it to be what it is today? Many have reached this conclusion, which I thought seemed fairly reasonable, until I read the explanation offered by fellow truth seeker Joseph F. Dumond:

When I explain the 30 days of Noah I remind people that the moon must be sighted in order to declare it New Moon day. Noah was locked inside the Ark for this length of time. It was also raining and overcast for much of the time. If we do not see the moon on the 29th day then it is automatically New Moon day on the 30th day. As you know there is no 31 days. Noah was not able to see the New Moon during this time inside the Ark. It would not be until he took off the window and was able to see the sky in order to send off the birds; then and only then could Noah sight the New Moon. But inside the Ark all he could do was count 30 days each month.⁸

As explained by Mr. Dumond, whenever it is overcast on the 29th day of the month, thus obscuring the sighting of the new moon that evening, by default we declare the next day to be “day 30.” We cannot be so presumptuous as to declare the day following day #29 to be “New Moon Day” without having sighted the new moon crescent. Certainly, during the time of the Great Flood, Noah would have experienced his share of cloudy days, which in turn would have compelled him to declare five consecutive 30-day months. For us to build a doctrine around the belief that the months of antiquity all contained thirty days, we need to build it around something more tangible than the account of the Great Flood.

If we could be shown something more persuasive than the five months of Noah as he and his family endured the Great Flood, we might be persuaded that, once upon a time, each month literally contained thirty days. Nevertheless, our concern for now is, did such a calendar exist during the days of the prophet Ezekiel? We believe the evidence bears out that it did not. By the time of Ezekiel, the lunar cycle was the same as it is for us today, resulting in months of either 29 or 30 days. Either way, as we have seen, the year consisted of either 12 or 13 months. During the year of Ezekiel’s mock siege, the year could only have contained thirteen months.

⁸ Excerpt from an e-mail we received from Joseph F. Dumond on 10/28/2007. You can visit his web site by accessing the following URL: www.sightedmoon.com).