

## ~ETHANIM (244)

(Eth'a-nim) [probably, Enduring Streams, Everflowing Streams]

.. Start Of Agricultural Year

.. Festival Month

.. Events Occurring In Ethanim

- This was the seventh lunar month of the sacred calendar of the Israelites, but the first of the secular calendar.
- So all the men of Israel congregated themselves to King Solomon in the lunar month of **Ethanim** in the festival, that is, the seventh month. (1 Kings 8:2)
- It corresponded to part of September and part of October. Following the Babylonian exile it was called Tishri, a name that does not appear in the Bible record but that is found in postexilic writings.
- In speaking of the festival that began on the 15th day of this month, or around the first part of October, the historian Josephus writes; On the fifteenth of this same month, at which the turning-point to the winter season is now reached, Moses bids each family to fix up tents, apprehensive of the cold and as a protection against the years inclemency. [Jewish Antiquities, III, 244 [x, 4]

.. Start Of Agricultural Year

- Whereas Abib or Nisan, became the first month of the year in the sacred Jewish calendar following the Exodus from Egypt, **Ethanim** continued to be viewed as the first month in a secular or agricultural sense.
- With this month, almost all the harvesting had been completed, marking the conclusion of the agricultural year. The early rains that thereafter fell softened the ground for the plowing that would follow and that would denote the initiation of new agricultural operations.
- Yehowah referred to **Ethanim** as the turning point of the year when speaking of the festival of ingathering as being at the outgoing of the year and at the turn of the year.
- Also, the festival of harvest of the first ripe fruits of your labors, of what you sow in the field, and the festival of ingathering at

the outgoing of the year, when you gather in your labors from the field. (**Exodus 23:16**)

- And you will carry on your festival of weeks with the first ripe fruits of the wheat harvest, and the festival of ingathering at the turn of the year. (**Exodus 34:22**)
- It is also notable that it was not in the month of Abib but in this month of **Ethanim** that the Jubilee year began.
- And you must count for yourself seven Sabbaths of years, seven times seven years, and the days of the seven Sabbaths of years must amount to forty-nine years for you. (**Leviticus 25:8**)
- And you must cause the horn of loud tone to sound in the seventh month on the tenth of the month, on the day of atonement you people should cause the horn to sound in all your land. (**Leviticus 25:9**)
- And you must sanctify the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty in the land to all its inhabitants. It will become a Jubilee for you, and you must return each one to his possession and you should return each one to his family. (**Leviticus 25:10**)
- A Jubilee is what that fiftieth year will become for you. You must not sow seed nor reap the lands growth from spilled kernels nor gather the grapes of its unpruned vines. (**Leviticus 25:11**)
- For it is a Jubilee. It should become something holy to you. From the field you may eat what the land produces. (**Leviticus 25:12**)
- The later name applied to the month, Tishri, means Beginning of the Year, and Tishri 1 is still observed by the Jews as their New Years Day or Rosh Hashanah, Head of the Year.

## •• Festival Month

- **Ethanim** was also a month of festivals. The first day was the day of the trumpet blast.
- Speak to the sons of Israel, saying; In the seventh month, on the first of the month, there should occur for you a complete rest, a memorial by the trumpet blast, a holy convention. (**Leviticus**

## **23:24)**

- **And in the seventh month, on the first of the month, you should hold a holy convention. No sort of laborious work must you do. It should prove to be a day of the trumpet blast for you. (Numbers 29:1)**
- **Since each new moon was normally announced with a trumpet blast, this day likely was one of additional or extensive trumpeting.**
- **And in the day of your rejoicing and in your festal seasons and at the commencements of your months, you must blow on the trumpets over your burnt offerings and your communion sacrifices, and their use must serve as a memorial for you before your God. I am Yehowah your God. (Numbers 10:10)**
- **On the 10th of **Ethanim** the annual Day of Atonement was observed.**
- **And it must serve as a statute to time indefinite for you people: In the seventh month on the tenth of the month you should afflict your souls, and you must not do any work, either the native or the alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst. (Leviticus 16:29)**
- **For on this day atonement will be made for you to pronounce you clean. You will be clean from all your sins before Yehowah. (Leviticus 16:30)**
- **However, on the tenth of this seventh month is the day of atonement. A holy convention should take place for you, and you must afflict your souls and present an offering made by fire to Yehowah. (Leviticus 23:27)**
- **And on the tenth of this seventh month you should hold a holy convention, and you must afflict your souls. No sort of work must you do. (Numbers 29:7)**
- **From the 15th to the 21st occurred the Festival of Booths, or Festival of Ingathering, followed on the 22nd day by a solemn assembly.**
- **Speak to the sons of Israel, saying; On the fifteenth day of this seventh month is the festival of booths for seven days to**

**Yehowah. (Leviticus 23:34)**

- **On the first day is a holy convention. No sort of laborious work may you do. (Leviticus 23:35)**
- **Seven days you should present an offering made by fire to Yehowah. On the eighth day there should occur a holy convention for you, and you must present an offering made by fire to Yehowah. It is a solemn assembly. No sort of laborious work may you do. (Leviticus 23:36)**
- **Thus, a large part of the month of **Ethanim** was taken up by these festival seasons.**

#### **•• Events Occurring In Ethanim**

- **Since the Bible, from its first book onward, presents chronological data, and since the first mention of years of life is in connection with the life of Adam, it would seem that the ancient use of the month called **Ethanim** as the initial month of the year would give some basis for believing that Adam's start of life was in this month.**
- **This is the book of Adam's history. In the day of God's creating Adam he made him in the likeness of God. (Genesis 5:1)**
- **Male and female he created them. After that he blessed them and called their name Man in the day of their being created. (Genesis 5:2)**
- **And Adam lived on for a hundred and thirty years. Then he became father to a son in his likeness, in his image, and called his name Seth. (Genesis 5:3)**
- **And the days of Adam after his fathering Seth came to be eight hundred years. Meanwhile he became father to sons and daughters. (Genesis 5:4)**
- **So all the days of Adam that he lived amounted to nine hundred and thirty years and he died. (Genesis 5:5)**
- **It was on the first day of the first month, later called **Ethanim**, that Noah, after having already spent over ten months within the ark, removed the ark's covering and observed that the floodwaters had drained off the ground.**

- Now in the six hundred and first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, it came about that the waters had drained from off the earth, and Noah proceeded to remove the covering of the ark and to look, and here the surface of the ground had drained dry. (**Genesis 8:13**)
- Over 1,300 years later Solomon inaugurated the completed temple at Jerusalem in **Ethanim**.
- So all the men of Israel congregated themselves to King Solomon in the lunar month of **Ethanim** in the festival, that is, the seventh month. (**1 Kings 8:2**)
- So all the men of Israel congregated themselves to the king at the festival, that of the seventh month. (**2 Chronicles 5:3**)
- After Jerusalem's destruction in **607 B.C.E**, the killing of Governor Gedaliah and the subsequent flight to Egypt of the remaining Israelites in the month of **Ethanim** marked the full desolation of Judah.
- And it came about in the seventh month that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah the son of Elishama of the royal offspring came, and also ten men with him, and they got to strike down Gedaliah, so that he died, and also the Jews and the Chaldeans that happened to be with him in Mizpah. (**2 Kings 25:25**)
- After that all the people, from small to great, and the chiefs of the military forces rose up and came into Egypt, for they had become afraid because of the Chaldeans. (**2 Kings 25:26**)
- So it came about in the **seventh month** that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah the son of Elishama of the royal offspring and of the principal men of the king and ten other men with him came to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam at Mizpah. And there they began to eat bread together in Mizpah. (**Jeremiah 41:1**)
- Then Ishmael the son of Nethaniah and the ten men that happened to be with him rose up and struck down Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan with the sword. So he put to death the one whom the king of Babylon had commissioned over the land. (**Jeremiah 41:2**)

- These events were involved in the reasons for the fast of the seventh month mentioned at,
- This is what Yehowah of armies has said; The fast of the fourth month, and the fast of the fifth month, and the fast of the seventh month, and the fast of the tenth month will become for the house of Judah an exultation and a rejoicing and good festal seasons. So love truth and peace. (**Zechariah 8:19**)
- Seventy years later, by this very same month, the released Israelite exiles had returned from Babylon to begin the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem. (**Ezra 3:1,6**)
- The evidence also indicates that Jesus birth, as well as his baptism and anointing, took place during this month.

**See Also JESUS CHRIST**