

~FESTIVAL OF NEW MOON (195)

- **God's command to Israel was that at each new moon, which marked the beginning of the lunar months of the Jewish calendar, trumpets were to be blown over their burnt offerings and communion sacrifices.**
- **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)**
- **Special sacrifices were to be offered on these days besides the continual daily sacrifice. The new-moon offering was to consist of a burnt offering of two bulls, one ram, and seven year-old male lambs, with corresponding grain and wine offerings, as well as one kid of the goats for a sin offering.**
- **And at the commencements of your months you people will present as a burnt offering to Yehowah two young bulls and one ram, seven sound male lambs each a year old. (Numbers 28:11)**
- **And three tenth measures of fine flour as a grain offering moistened with oil for each bull and two tenth measures of fine flour as a grain offering moistened with oil for the one ram. (Numbers 28:12)**
- **And a tenth measure of fine flour respectively as a grain offering moistened with oil for each male lamb, as a burnt offering, a restful odor, an offering made by fire to Yehowah. (Numbers 28:13)**
- **And as their drink offerings there should go half a hin of wine for a bull and a third of a hin for the ram and a fourth of a hin for a male lamb. This is the monthly burnt offering in its month for the months of the year. (Numbers 28:14)**
- **Also, one kid of the goats should be rendered up as a sin offering to Yehowah in addition to the constant burnt offering together with its drink offering. (Numbers 28:15)**

- This is all that was commanded concerning its observance in the Pentateuch, but the new-moon observance grew in time to become an important national **festival**.
- Stop bringing in any more valueless grain offerings. Incense, it is something detestable to me. New moon and Sabbath, the calling of a convention, I cannot put up with the use of uncanny power along with the **solemn assembly**. (**Isaiah 1:13**)
- Your new moons and your **festal seasons** my soul has hated. To me they have become a burden. I have become tired of bearing them. (**Isaiah 1:14**)
- It is placed alongside Sabbaths and **festal seasons**. In the time of the later prophets, at least, on new-moon days the people did not engage in commercial enterprise, as is indicated at
- Saying; How long will it be before the new moon passes and we may sell cereals? Also, the Sabbath, and we may offer grain for sale, in order to make the ephah small and to make the shekel great and to falsify the scales of deception. (**Amos 8:5**)
- This was more than the Scriptures required for new-moon days. Even so, as the last two cited scriptures show, the Jews observance of the new moon had by that time become a mere formalism, hated in Yehowah's eyes.
- The day of the new moon was a day specially regarded for gathering together and feasting. This is seen from Saul's reasoning when David did not appear at Saul's table on the day of the new moon. Saul said to himself; Something has happened so that he is not clean, for he has not been cleansed.
- At this David said to Jonathan; Look! Tomorrow is new moon, and I myself ought, without fail, to be sitting with the king to eat, and you must send me away, and I must conceal myself in the field until the evening on the third day. (**1 Samuel 20:5**)
- And Jonathan went on to say to him; Tomorrow is new moon, and you will certainly be missed, because your seat will be vacant. (**1 Samuel 20:18**)
- And David proceeded to conceal himself in the field. And it came to be new moon, and the king took his seat at the meal to eat. (**1**

Samuel 20:24)

- **And Saul did not say anything at all on that day, for he said to himself; Something has happened so that he is not clean, for he has not been cleansed. (1 Samuel 20:26)**
- **While certain forms of work could be done on this day that could not be done on the Sabbath, it was viewed as a day for the consideration of spiritual matters. The people would gather in convention.**
- **Stop bringing in any more valueless grain offerings. Incense, it is something detestable to me. New moon and Sabbath, the calling of a convention, I cannot put up with the use of uncanny power along with the solemn assembly. (Isaiah 1:13)**
- **And it will certainly occur that from new moon to new moon and from Sabbath to Sabbath all flesh will come in to bow down before me, Yehowah has said. (Isaiah 66:23)**
- **On the new moon, blow the horn, on the full moon, for the day of our festival. (Psalms 81:3)**
- **And the people of the land must bow down at the entrance of that gate on the Sabbaths and on the new moons, before Yehowah. (Ezekiel 46:3)**
- **Or visit the prophets or men of God.**
- **But he said; Why are you going to him today? It is not a new moon nor a Sabbath. However, she said; It is all right. (2 Kings 4:23)**
- **The observance of the day of the new moon did not involve worship of the moon, as was practiced by some pagan nations, nor did it have any connection with astrology.**
- **So Zebah and Zalmunna said; Get up yourself and assault us, for as a man is, so is his mightiness. Accordingly Gideon got up and killed Zebah and Zalmunna and took the moon-shaped ornaments that were on the necks of their camels. (Judges 8:21)**
- **And he put out of business the foreign-god priests, whom the kings of Judah had put in that they might make sacrificial smoke**

- on the high places in the cities of Judah and the surroundings of Jerusalem, and also those making sacrificial smoke to Baal, to the sun and to the moon and to the constellations of the zodiac and to all the army of the heavens. ([2 Kings 23:5](#))
- If I used to see the light when it would flash forth, or the precious moon walking along. ([Job 31:26](#))
 - And my heart began to be enticed in secrecy and my hand proceeded to kiss my mouth. ([Job 31:27](#))
 - That too would be an error for attention by the justices, for I should have denied the true God above. ([Job 31:28](#))
 - Isaiah wrote about a future time when all flesh would gather to bow down before Yehowah on new-moon days.
 - And it will certainly occur that from new moon to new moon and from Sabbath to Sabbath all flesh will come in to bow down before me, Yehowah has said. ([Isaiah 66:23](#))
 - In Ezekiel's prophecy, during the time of exile in Babylon, when he was given a vision of a temple, Yehowah said to him; As regards the gate of the inner courtyard that is facing east, it should continue shut for the six workdays, and on the Sabbath day it should be opened, and on the day of the new moon it should be opened.
 - And the people of the land must bow down at the entrance of that gate on the Sabbaths and on the new moons, before Yehowah.
 - This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; As regards the gate of the inner courtyard that is facing east, it should continue shut for the six workdays, and on the Sabbath day it should be opened, and on the day of the new moon it should be opened. ([Ezekiel 46:1](#))
 - And the people of the land must bow down at the entrance of that gate on the Sabbaths and on the new moons, before Yehowah. ([Ezekiel 46:3](#))
 - The Jews today celebrate the new moon with many detailed ceremonies and give it much importance. Christians, however, are shown that they are under no obligation to observe a new moon or a

Sabbath, which are only part of a shadow of the things to come, the reality being found in Jesus Christ.

- **The **festivals** of natural Israel have a symbolic significance and a fulfillment in many blessings through God's Son.**
- **Therefore let no man judge you in eating and drinking or in respect of a **festival** or of an observance of the new moon or of a Sabbath. (**Colossians 2:16**)**
- **For those things are a shadow of the things to come, but the reality belongs to the Christ. (**Colossians 2:17**)**