

WOC INTERNATIONAL

2022 New Moon 09 - Nov 25, 2022

Rosh Chodesh Kislev (5783)

New Moon Review

A key to walking in Yahweh's blessings, is to walk with an understanding of His calendar
Time is Yahweh's way of keeping everything from happening at once
His calendar helps us prosper by keeping us in step with Him as we move through time
Yahweh's calendar was established when He created the sun, moon, and stars
His heavenly signs were to mark season and days and years and appointed times
To ensure men lived "in sync" with His timing and His prophetic seasons

Introduction

Walking in Yahweh's new times and seasons of seen and unseen requires new memories
This demands we comprehend what memory is and how it operates in our brains as well as
Discern new experiences from "RRR" experiences, legitimate memories from false ones
Ziad K. Abdelnour says - People hold onto memories (good or bad, true or false)
For they are the only things that don't change, even when everyone else does
What is memory? - It's the sum of what we remember regarding info, experiences, and people
It works by encoding information, storing it, and retrieving it later
Enabling us to learn and _____ from past encounters and to build relationships
A Journal of Personality and Social Psychology study found we don't store info verbatim
They store snippets of info about our experiences and when we try to recall it
It merges stored bits of related info and makes a best guess about what happened
Memory Reality - Anxiety and fear cause people to _____ memories more than normal
Rom 8:15 "For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to bring you back again into fear; on the contrary, you received the Spirit, who makes us sons and by whose power we cry out, "Abba!" (that is, "Dear Father!)." CJB
Our personalities can interfere with _____ memory recording and recall
Making us more likely to get facts wrong & misjudge felt emotional states of others

What is important to remember about Kislev today?

Kislev is the 3rd Fall month, 9th ecclesiastical month, and 3rd civil month
Kislev's name derives from the Hebrew word *kesel* (כֶּסֶל), which means either security or trust
Denoting the 2 states of trust that manifest this month, active and passive
Kislev is also the month of one of Israel's greatest non-festival events, Hanukkah
Because the Winter Solstice generally occurs during the last week of Kislev
The week of Hanukkah generally contains the longest night of the year
Letting the deepest darkness set the stage for the greatest revelation of light

Notes

What is important to remember about Benjamin today?

Benjamin was the _____ child of Jacob and one of the smallest tribes of Israel

His mother Rachael was Jacob's favored wife, but she died after birthing him

Rachel named him Ben-Oni (בן-אֹנִי), son of my sorrow as she died giving birth

But Jacob renamed him Benjamin (בְּנַיִמִין), son of the right hand – or good luck

Gen 35:17-18 "While she was undergoing this hard labor, the midwife said to her, "Don't worry, this is also a son for you." 18 But she died in childbirth. As she was dying she named her son Ben-Oni [son of my grief], but his father called him Binyamin [son of the right hand, son of the south]." CJB

Thus, Benjamin is typically seen as both a blessing and a curse

He went on to have 10 sons of his own who became the tribe of Benjamin

Benjamin was the only son of Jacob _____ in the land of Israel

And the Temple in Jerusalem was built in the part of the Land belonging to his offspring

Benjamin's life _____ radically once Jacob believed Joseph was dead

All the intention once focused on Joseph, now was on him as Joseph's only full brother

Gen 42:37-38 "Re'uven said to his father, "If I don't bring him back to you, you can kill my own two sons! Put him in my care; I will return him to you." 38 But he replied, "My son will not go down with you. His brother is dead, and he alone is left. If anything were to happen to him while traveling with you, you would bring my gray hair down to Sh'ol with grief." CJB

What is important to remember about the tribe of Benjamin?

They were appointed to stand on Mt Gerizim to _____ Israel of the blessings of obedience

And they encamped on the west side of the community with Ephraim and Benjamin

While the tribe of Benjamin was known as incredibly skilled warriors, and a bit ruthless

They were still _____ & protected when they marched through the wilderness

They marched in the 3rd group with Ephraim & Manasseh in the most protected position

Because the tribe of Benjamin was always coddled and protected like their forefather

They never gained _____ to drive out the Jebusites out of the Land

And they never developed a close relationship with Yahweh

It was not Yahweh's plan for Benjamin to be coddled and over-protected because

Their ability to accurately throw left-handed made Israel's enemies vulnerable

As the enemies expected the danger to come from the right hand and not the left

Judg 20:15-16 "On that day there were 26,000 men from Binyamin armed with swords, besides the inhabitants of Giv'ah, who numbered 700 specially chosen men. 16 All of these 700 specially picked men were left-handed, and every one could sling a stone at a hair and not miss." CJB

Notes

It was His plan for them to conquer in His name and protect His temple in their Lot

Which is why they were prophetically compared to a wolf, savage & fearless in battle

Why is knowing "New Times & Seasons Require New Memories" important to me now?

Yahweh wanted Israel to recall past events that can be re-experienced in the _____

So, the Spirit could give them _____ of new things and new truths each year

Yahweh wants me to understand certain inconsistencies about Benjamin apply to me

On one hand, they were gifted warriors trained to "Hit The Mark"

Thus, if I am to experience a fresh start, I must "hit the mark" this month too

On the other hand, they refused to punish some of its tribal members for rape

Judg 20:4-5 "The Levi, the husband of the murdered woman, answered, "I came to Giv'ah, which belongs to Binyamin, I and my concubine, to stay the night; 5 and the men in Giv'ah attacked me and surrounded the house I was staying in at night. They wanted to kill me, but instead they raped my concubine to death." CJB

Thus, without Kislev and a fresh start, I would forever be known by my sins!

Yahweh wants me to know how they overcame this via Jonathan's covenant with David

When he saw David's courage and character, he grew tired of being fearful and protected

So, he cut covenant with David, _____ to lay down his life to defend him

1 Sam 18:1-4 "By the time David had finished speaking to Sha'ul, Y'honatan found himself inwardly drawn by David's character, so that Y'honatan loved him as he did himself. 2 That day, Sha'ul took David into his service and would not let him go home to his father's house any more. 3 Y'honatan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as he did himself." CJB

Conclusion - What does all this have to do with me?

Just as the tribe of Benjamin lost direction and then shifted to fulfill their destiny, so can I

When the northern tribes formed the northern kingdom, Benjamin stood with Judah

They took part in the revivals under Asa and Josiah & repaired the temple under Josiah

They assisted in rebuilding the temple & Jerusalem's wall during Ezra & Nehemiah

If I am to shift to fulfill my destiny and create new memories along the way, what must I do?

1 - I must let the Spirit lead me to face new _____ that spawn new memories

Memories based on fresh truths that lead me to establish purposeful memorials

History - To keep me and my future generations from forgetting my Story

The Story behind the memorial is worth telling and should not be forgotten!

Gratitude - To keep me thankful for drinking out of wells I did not dig!

Motivation - To inspire me to live a God-fearing, honorable life to fulfill my duty

Notes

- 2 - I must refrain from being _____ and accepting of my life's worst mistakes**
Kislev reminds me circumstances sometimes brand me with an identity He didn't choose
And the way I view myself is rarely the way He views me
While I might not ever be able to erase a bad memory burned in my mind
I can replace/cover a bad memory with a new one based on eternal thoughts
I can make the memory less prominent and lessen its effect on me
I can change the way the memory makes me feel when I recall it
- 3 - I must experience a change in _____ like Benjamin**
He went from Benoni - "son of my sorrow" to "son of my right hand"
He went from always needing protection to being one of the protectors
- 4 - I must let my personal _____ memorialize my more mature trust by**
Not restricting my memorials to only Yahweh's ordained festivals (e.g., Hanukkah)
Recalling miracles that broke me free from death habits and old ways of thinking
Because now is the time to reaffirm my miracles, be set free, and set my memorial

Notes