

When was the LORD born?

It is important.

Luke 1:5-38; 56-58

-V.5: Herod the Great. Was an Idumean, which were forced converts to Judaism. Herod began reigning after Rome took control of the Hasmonean Empire around the year 37 BC. He died in 4 BC.

Division of Abijah—1 Chronicles 24:10. Rotation began at the first Sabbath of the first month (Nisan). He was of the eight division, but would have worked on the 10th week because of Passover and Pentecost. This would be sometime in June.

Zechariah—"The LORD remembers" and Elizabeth (Elisheva)—"The oath of God"→Luke 1:72-73

-V.10-17: Amidah—Means "Standing." This was a liturgical prayer. The basic construct of the Amidah is in three sections: Praise, petitions, and thanks.

From Sefaria: "In the 5th century B.C.E., the 120 men of the Great Assembly composed the basic text of the Amidah. The exact form and order of the blessings were codified after the destruction of the Second Temple in the first century C.E."

From Hebrews4Christians.com: "Some scholars surmise that the LORD's prayer of Jesus is a concise restatement of the Amidah."

Matthew 6:5-13. Notice the construct: Praise, petitions, and thanks. A concise restatement of the Amidah. Your Kingdom come would have been a cry for the Messiah to come—Malachi 4:4-6. This has a dual fulfillment.

Prayer 15 of the Amidah—"May the Seed of David Thy servant flourish speedily and may You exalt your salvation (בְּיִשׁוּעַתְּךָ). For in your salvation (לְיִשׁוּעַתְּךָ) do we hope all the day. Blessed are You, Lord, Who brings forth the Horn of our salvation (יְשׁוּעָה)."

-V.21: Why did they marvel? The prayers were scripted, and he should have been out by that point.

-V.24: "After those days"—Days of purification. She conceived after that time, which would have been toward the end of June. She hid herself five months, which puts us at around the end of November.

-V.26: "In the sixth month", of Elizabeth's pregnancy, that is—v.36. This puts us around the end of December, near the time of Hanukkah, or the Feast of Lights→John 8:12-This is not at Hanukkah, but He refers to Himself as the "light of the world."

-V.31: Matthew 1:21

-V.56: Mary remained three months, which would put us around the end of March. This also around the time of Passover.

Luke 2:1-21

-V.2: This census ran from 8 B.C. to 6 A.D.

-V.7: Messianicspokane.com concerning "The Coming of Messiah"—"These sukkahs were constructed with some basic supplies and enough food for the eight days. One of the customs was to include a stall or a crib for storage purposes in the tabernacle. The King James Bible calls this food or storage crib a "manger". [...] It is also interesting to contemplate that Yeshua was placed in a "manger" or a food storage crib, symbolically pointing to him as the Bread of Life."

-V.8-12: Shepherds were Levitical priests watching flocks for Temple sacrifice at Migdal Eder (Micah 4:8; 5:2, 4). In other words, these sheep were born to be sacrificed.

Dr. Frank Thacker—According to the Mishnah, these lambs were immediately wrapped in "swaddling cloths" after their births to protect them from injury, since baby lambs tend to thrash about and harm themselves in their first couple of hours of their lives."

Mishnah→ "Cattle found all the way from Jerusalem to Migdal Eder, and in the same vicinity in all directions, are considered, if male, as whole-offerings, and if female as peace-offerings."

-V.10 and V.14: According to many sources, this echoes ancient Sukkot liturgy, especially with the focus on "great joy" and "goodwill".

-V.21: This would have taken place on the 8th day of tabernacles. Same day He proclaimed to be the "Light of the World"—John 8:12
Circumcision → indicates you are in covenant with God and will keep His commandments → you have to be circumcised of heart to be in the eternal kingdom. Matthew 2:1-23 → Revelation 22:5

-V.7: Yeshua was still in Bethlehem at this point, not in Nazareth.

-V.11: Gifts are presented at the circumcision. The house would have been a synagogue because circumcisions happen at the synagogue.

-V.14-15: This happened shortly after the circumcision and before Yeshua was presented in the Temple at 40 days old. They would have been to Egypt and back in a span of roughly a month.

-V.16: Because Yeshua would have only been in Bethlehem around eight days, he couldn't have been two years old when the wise men came.

-V.19-23: Joseph, Mary, and Yeshua go to Nazareth after He is 40 days old → Luke 2:22-24 (refer to Leviticus 12:1-4) and Luke 2:39-40.

Luke 4:1-2

-Most scholars believe Yeshua's ministry lasted 3 ½ years. If Yeshua died at Passover, subtract 3 ½ years and you are back at the time of Tabernacles. If Yeshua, who was about to turn 30, was tempted in the wilderness in the Tabernacles season, subtract 30 years and he was born at Tabernacles.

More connections with Yeshua and Sukkot

The triumphal entry—John 12:12-13

Allusions to Tabernacles—Palm branches (one of the four things listed in Leviticus 23:40) and Hosanna (Heb: "Hoshiah na"—Save, please → John 7:37—Yeshua claimed to be Messiah on Hoshannah

Raba. During the simchat beit ha'shoyvah ceremony, priests would pour out the water and the people waved palm branches and sang Psalm 118:25-26.)

He will tabernacle with His people—Revelation 21:1-3

V.1-Time period—New heavens and new earth

V.3—Tabernacle-Skene (skay'-nay) G4633—Greek equivalent of "sukkah"

"He will ***dwelt*** (tabernacle) with them"—Skenoo (skay-nah'-oh) G4637→same word used in John 1:14. Just as the Lord tabernacle with us at his first coming, He will tabernacle with us at His second coming.

"God Himself will be with them..."—Isaiah 7:14 and Matthew 1:23→"Immanuel", God with us.

Fallen Sukkah of David—From Non-Messianic Jewish Liturgy

"[...] In Jewish liturgy, the Temple is often referred to as a 'sukkah of peace', and in the grace after meals, a request is included to reestablish the 'fallen Sukkah of David', an allusion to the Temple in Jerusalem. Thus our act of building a sukka would reenact the building of the Tabernacle following Yom Kippur."—*Sukkot- The Celebration of Reconciliation* from jewishmiami.org

Conclusion

Messianicspokane.com concerning "The Coming of Messiah"—"This (Sukkot) is the time when we can recognize the birth of our Messiah Yeshua, instead of observing the man-made date of Dec. 25. Why would we want to rejoice in a lie? As followers of Messiah, shouldn't we rejoice in the truth?"