

March 15, 2008

Response to the claim that the biblical year is a normal one instead of intercalated.

Once again we have the doctrinal pot being stirred, and as usual it is with a non-biblical spoon. Just when we think we have a year of peace on the biblical calendar start date we find Satan at work once again. He is our adversary and our accuser and he is running about trying to inflict the body of Christ with another virus. The only defense we have against such things is the spirit of God working in us so we can discern right from wrong as laid out in the Holy Scriptures. Please let there be no doubt who is the author of this confusion. He is the prince of the power of the air and can insert a thought into our minds unless we resist him so he flee's from us.

The apostle Paul gives us some very sobering instruction throughout his writings as to this point. He tells us about the many deceptions the body of Christ would be subjected to. Just one such warning can be found in his instruction to Timothy.

2 Timothy 3:13, "But evil men and imposters will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived."

Brethren, this has come full circle in this day and age. The writings of these deceivers and deceived are found all over the Internet as well as in print. Many of them are put forth as historical experts, some as theological experts, some as expert interpreters of the bible. There is no end to their ramblings. Unfortunately some get caught up in them and stumble thinking all along what they are doing as a result is biblical. This has come full circle in this day and age.

Paul continues with his instruction to Timothy and to us in verses 14-15,

"But as for you, continue in the things you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whence you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the holy scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

Now why didn't Paul tell Timothy to study the tenants of Judaism and follow the traditions of the elders as so many insist on doing today? He made it clear that Timothy and in turn ourselves were to use the Holy

Scriptures [that's not the Talmud or Mishnaic Traditions] to make ourselves wise unto salvation through the faith of Jesus Christ.

Lets be mindful of why he was saying these things to Timothy. Those who claimed religious superiority and dominance over others at that time were the Pharisee's. They did not use the Holy Scriptures for their doctrine but the traditions of the elders. They are the foundation of Judaism not the bible. They used them to bind heavy burdens on others but not themselves. They are and were hypocrites. Judaism is not the religion of Moses but of these muckity-mucks.

Do you remember how Christ ridiculed them and their teachings throughout the second covenant scriptures.

Mark 7 is just one of the many instances. Verses 6-9, "He answered and said to them, well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: This people honors Me with their lips but their heart is far from Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandments of God, you hold the traditions of men, the washing of pitchers and cups, and many such things you do.

And He said to them, All too well you reject the commandments of God, that you may keep your traditions."

Paul knew and understood this all to well. He was raised up in Judaism and used its tenants to persecute the church before he was converted by Christ Himself. Yes, Paul completely rejected it. That is why he warned Timothy to only use the Holy Scriptures as the source of knowledge and wisdom for salvation through the faith, which is in Christ Jesus.

Paul sums this part of his instruction up in verses 16-17.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

I happen to believe that with my whole heart. The bible is the source of all our spiritual knowledge, which will make us pleasing to God if we follow it. We do not have any other inspired source in spiritual matters. We do not use the tenants of Judaism or its writings, or its scholars, present or past. We do not use

historians who were trapped in its rambling. They are tainted by it so likewise are their versions of history. Both Christ and Paul rejected them and so should we! They are the tools of “evil men and imposters.” Today the chief tool used by them is the Talmudic ramblings. I refer to it as the alternate bible, because of the place of honor it has been given by gullible people.

It is very important in all this to remember that it is not just enough to have the Holy Scriptures as our sole source of wisdom and knowledge unto salvation. That is one part. The other is the faith of Jesus Christ and what that entails. To have that, we need to be led by the spirit of God. Jesus promised He would send us a helper and He did. If we are of His body we receive that help. Without it we cannot understand the things of God.

Paul clearly teaches this in 1 Corinthians 2:9-12,

“But as it is written: Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. But God has revealed them unto us through His spirit. For the spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him. Even so no one knows the things of God except the spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit, which is from God, that we might know the things, which have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”

Yes, we are instructed to use the bible as our foundation of truth. We are not to mix it with the deceitful teachings and rambling of men. The bible is our sole filter for truth, which is pleasing unto the Father. We can only do that after we are called by the Father unto His Son, then repent and are baptized into Jesus Christ and have hands laid on us by others who have the spirit residing in them. Then we receive the spirit of God to help us in our walk unto salvation. Without the faith of Jesus the scriptures would be indiscernible to us and we too would walk in confusion. We are to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ not Judaism or any other such

thing.

The apostle John tells us in 1 John 2:22-23,

“Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ! He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.”

It is made abundantly clear that in pursuing the things of God we are not to rely on any who deny Jesus as the Son of God. That means every one of them period whether present or past for their perspective is warped and not of God. All too often today we see those whom would be our teachers mixing scriptures with Mishnaic teachings and babblings. They reference the sages and historical records of the purveyors of such falsehoods and fables, both present and past.

Paul warned Timothy about what would happen in this regard. He said they would,

“have a form of godliness but deny its power.”

In 2 Timothy 3:4. He also boldly tells us,

“From such people turn away!”

Many today in these perilous times have itching ears. They are looking for teachers who will teach them strange things. They are always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth as Paul puts it. 2 Timothy 4:3-4,

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine [that found in the holy scriptures] but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from truth, and be turned aside to fables.”

What type of fables? Jewish fables!

We are in a spiritual war. Without Christ’s help we would fail miserably. He is our source of understanding and truth. He helps us through His scriptures to discern right from wrong. It certainly isn’t enough to have just the Holy Scriptures for Satan has them also. He is very cunning, the master of camouflage, and much smarter than you or I. He is called, “the angel of light” by Paul. He and his surrogates put themselves forward as messengers of enlightenment.

Look at one example of his ability to use scripture but please notice how he does so out of context and what the end result would be. Matt. 4:5-6,

“Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: He shall give His angels charge concerning you; and in their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.”

Here we see Satan reciting Psalm 91: 11-12. But, he completely took it out of context, he twisted it. Read it for yourselves in context. If Christ had have listened to him and used this challenge as a proof of His Sonship of the Father we would have had no Savior. For upon throwing Himself down He would have committed the sin of self-murder. Satan and his surrogates are constantly twisting scriptures and adding to them and taking away from them to get us to sin as well. Have you ever heard the phrase, “the devil is in the details.” We had all better be alert to it for it is a daily fact in all our lives. We need the power of the Holy Spirit to help us through it all. So to sum it up we need both the Holy Scriptures and the spirit of God for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness.

I felt it very necessary to preface what I was going to say about the teachings and proclamations of others who search out and inspect the barley. They by the way are not all who do so. I will focus on two entities. There is a claim circulating out there in cyber space that the biblical year started with the new moon of March 8. As we all know the moon was not seen on the 8th and that being the evening of the 29th day so we defer it to the next evening for that would still only be the 30th. Both group 1 and group 2 seem to deny this fact and actually called the 29th day the new moon day and start of the 13th and 1st months respectively as to their individual proclamations.. That is not biblical and could have ramifications as to the start of the first month for the first actual visibility will occur on the 29th day of the cycle in April. If it is cloudy and cannot be seen, there still is an additional day in the month. Oh well!

It is an unfortunate thing that this false report of Aviv is being circulated for there are some out there who are

not mature enough in such things to withstand the obvious falsehood of it. They are the intended targets of Satan.

We have seen that scripture tells us we need only the bible and the spirit to form our doctrines. You can take all the Jewish historians and scholars, and teachers of Judaism and Mishnaic traditions and babblings and bundle them up and throw them into the fire. They are full of corruption and deceit. We don't need their perspective on anything spiritual or otherwise. We are told to turn away from them! Unfortunately some do not understand that, and insist on mixing these fables with the word of God. That is what both groups do we are discussing.

The doctrine of the calendar of God is one, which is found throughout the bible, as most of us are aware of. It is something that many of us have studied over the years before we came to a biblical understanding of it. There was a time when we too may have used other sources in our quest for the truth of it but eventually saw them for what they were and rejected them. We have come to the understanding that God teaches us through patterns flowing through the scriptures. Isaiah 28:9-10 makes this very clear.

“Whom will He teach knowledge? And whom will He make to understand the message? Those weaned from milk! Those drawn from the breast!”

That's right, not babes, but those who are able to eat solid food.

“For precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little.”

If it is a doctrine of God we will find it clearly established throughout the bible. It will be repeated often, over and over again. But all will not be able to comprehend it because they need to be led by the Holy Spirit. Holy scriptures and Holy Spirit = understanding and wisdom, and the ability to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We as well as others have written accurately about this calendar. Many of their articles are available on line as are ours. We do not push our understanding on anyone but make it available to anyone who would like to

review them. That's it, no hidden agenda's, no search for accolades.

So let's examine some of the happenings of this year's searches at the end of the 12th month.

We have a group led by Nehemia Gordon who most are familiar with. We will call them group 1. They have reported that the New Year will not start until the new moon of April thus adding an intercalated lunar month to the present biblical year. That sounds simple on the surface but it is not as we will discuss later. Members of this group have inadvertently given members of group 2 a sense of authority and validation on two very critical non-biblical criteria used in their search for Aviv and the start of the New Year.

The second group which we will call group 2 consists of a husband and wife team from what I can gather. Their name is Fehr if I have it right. They claim that Aviv is actually going to be available by the wave sheaf day of this current lunar cycle.

Now please understand we are all to seek out our own salvation with trembling and fear. So what someone else does in their relationship with God does not affect us in our personal relationship with Christ. But what is good for the goose is not always good for the gander. We all have personal decisions to make.

It should come as no surprise that the source of this year's confusion is centered around the infamous location of Ein Mab'ua which came into play and prominence in 2005. Both group 1 and 2 use Ein Mab'ua as an acceptable area to use in the determination to start the first month of the year as well as the biblical harvest of barley and the seven week count to Pentecost. As most of you know I do not accept this area as such. I base that on many biblical principles as I have enumerated in the past and which can be found on the web site.

Ein Mab'ua is a rocky grotto located in a ravine at the bottom of a very difficult descent. It would take the better part of a day to climb down and out again if not for the road twisting and turning down the hillsides and by it. It is an area which is used by Bedouins for grazing their sheep and goats. Even at that, it is a last resort for it is a treacherous place to get to. Group

number 2 states it is located in the Jordan Valley. This can give one the false impression it is located near the valley floor where agriculture is practiced. That is not the case. It is located part way down from the summit of the Judean hills. That is the very dry eastern slopes of the Judean hills. The only vegetation that grows on it is located near the upper reaches. At that it is only around for a short time of the year because it withers from the heat and lack of moisture in the soil. Ein Mab'ua however is the location of the magic water pool. There are some trees and shrubs growing out of the rocky soil around the water's edge. The pool empties and then fills again from a cleft in the rock. It is the location for which pagan activities have taken place in the past. It is not an area that has been or will be used at any time for farming unless God changes its entire characteristics.

In 2005 group 1 designated it as an "ancient barley growing area". They even tried to convince us it has ancient agricultural terraces. The pictures we have furnished to any and all have made it clear this is a fraudulent claim. However group 2 claims the same now. How convenient.

Scripture tells us that wheat is planted in rows and barley is sown. These were very valuable crops as we follow them through the bible as to their uses and where they were planted and harvested. You will not find any location mentioned on the eastern side of the Judean hills, for that area is basically desert and what isn't is used for grazing sheep and goats for a short period of time each year. It is far too steep and treacherous to graze cows or horses in.

Group 1 floated this false categorization to support their erroneous claim as to the start of the year in the past. They wanted to separate their year from that of the Rabbinical calendar year so bad that they threw out all the established rules and protocols we had established during the 3 previous years of doing inspections together.

Now we have group 2 picking up this Ein Mab'ua mantle and wearing it to the dismay of group 1. Group 1 says the barley in Ein Mab'ua does not qualify to be used for the wave sheaf offering of Lev 23:10-11 but group 2 says it does. Ouch!!!

Both groups 1 and 2 employ double standards in coming to their respective and different decisions this year. They are not the same however. Imagine that. They also employ crop experts as well.

Let me try and explain as simply as I can.

Group 1 states there are 2 levels or standards of Aviv. They state that one standard is applied to what they call the individual farmer first fruit grain offering, and a second standard for Aviv applies to a national offering. They state that Lev. 23:10-11 is a national first fruits grain offering and is not subject to all the rules listed in Lev. 2 or for that matter Lev. 6: 14-23. These are the 2 biblical locations for the rules associated with grain offerings. They say that the standards set for the minimal maturity level in Lev. 2:14 only apply to the individual offerings. The national offering as they call it is supposed to be Aviv completely on its own while standing in the field which in essence would place it weeks later than if it would be roasted in fire and dried out so it could be ground into flour. They claim this even though we find clear scripture to the contrary in Lev 23. In verses 10-16 we have a continuous context on the instruction of this wave sheaf offering. It tells us how we are to offer it, count the days of the harvest from it unto Pentecost, when it is to start and finish. It is one context. In verse 14 we read the following pertaining to this event.

“And you shall not eat bread and roasted grain [7039 Qaliy; parched grain] and fresh ears [3759 Karmel; garden land, fresh fruit, garden growth] until this self-same day, until you have brought the offering of your God, it is a never ending statute throughout your generations in all your dwellings.”

Too bad for group 1 that this biblical scripture is located here. That is very definitive to me. It is making it clear that the wave sheaf here in Lev 23:10-11 encompasses every form of consumable barley. That which is made into bread, that which can be roasted by fire, and that which is fresh ears. We are instructed in Duet 16:9 that we do not start the harvest of barley [with all its ordinances and timetables] until we put the sickle to the grain. Then the seven weeks of harvest are started. Well look at that! “Precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little there a little.” That is the same time frames and pattern as spoken of in Lev 23. No

double standard in any of that. What about Lev 2? Lets see.

Here we have the laws of the grain offering delineated, as most of us know. They are also found in 6:14-23. Lev 2 talks about the various forms it may be offered in, such as fine flour mixed with oil and frankincense, baked cakes in an oven, baked in a pan, and in a covered pan. All these forms are brought to the priest. Because these are offerings made by fire they cannot contain leaven or honey and must be offered with salt. Now we come to verse 14, from the Interlinear,

“And if you bring near a food offering of first fruits to Yehovah, fresh ears [24 abib] roasted [7033 Qalah; scorched partially or slowly dried] by fire, kernels [1643 Geres; to husk a kernel or a young ear having been parched by fire] from a garden [3759 Karmel; once again, garden land, not some rock strewn ravine] you shall bring near your first fruits for a food offering.”

Look at that, not one thing here that tells us there is a double standard for the first fruit grain offering, and once again we see the 3 different types of it as found in Lev 23. The same is found in Lev 6.

Leviticus 23 and Duet 16 tell us the barley harvest and any form of its consumption cannot start until the sickle has been put to the grain. It is then a seven-week harvest. All this has tremendous significance to one who is led by the spirit. We talk about this in great length on the web site. Any first fruit grain offering has the same rules applied to it. There are not any double standards or any 2-tier system. It must be at the minimum state of maturity where it can be removed from the husk by beating it out or threshing it. Green ears cannot do this. The husk sticks to them. They need to be peeled like an orange to get to the fruit. You do not roast the kernels in the husks. This is very important to remember when applying the minimum standard of Lev 2:14. Unless the kernel is Aviv it cannot be separated from its wrap by threshing or beating. This state does not exist while there is any green color left in it. The kernel and husk at best will break off together. We address this in our booklet on how to determine the state of Aviv in the barley crop growing in Israel. We show pictures, which demonstrate what it will look like. The booklet called

Growth and Development Guide for Spring Barley has been used and referenced by all groups. Group 2 makes a point of stressing that the plant can actually be green and as such still be in the stage of physiological maturity and thus qualify to be used as a first fruit offering. That is contrary to what we have found in the field over the years as well as what the source material used by all states about it. I quote,

“Finally, as the kernel approaches maturity and begins losing water rapidly, its consistency becomes more solid, termed ‘hard dough’. This is when the kernel also loses its green color. When kernel moisture has decreased to about 30 to 40 percent, it has reached physiological maturity and will not accumulate additional dry matter. The final yield potential has been established at this time. An easy identified field indicator of physiological maturity is 100 percent loss of green color from the glumes and peduncle.”

That is exactly what we have found to be true. Even when it has completely changed color there is still moisture in the kernel for some time. It can be dried out by applying heat or it can stand in the field and dry on its own.

So with these things understood how can group 1 claim a two tier system of Aviv and how can group 2 claim the barley will be ready for harvest by the wave sheaf day of March 23 or whatever day they may pick during the 15-21 of the first month if it is to be March. There is no biblical basis for a double standard for Aviv and the start of the first month. From what I have read group 2 correctly does not use this double standard.

However they have erred on applying several other factors. One is the stage of growth of the barley, the composition of a first fruit wave sheaf cut from a field, in fact they believe a first fruit wave sheaf offering of grain can be selectively picked, by using Ein mab’ua to do so, and then there is the real crux of the issue, the equinox. These assertions of theirs and the 2-tier system are not biblical but have their origin in Mishnaic traditions and pagan mythology. There are many accounts of two types of first fruits and equinox worship found in the ramblings of the scholars of Judaism’s tenants.

Look what the insertion of these tenants and ramblings have done.

Apparently this year the grain expert from group 1 has stated that the barley in Ein Mab’ua will be ready for a first fruit offering during this lunar cycle. But because of the 2-tier system it cannot be used to declare the New Year. Group 2 has referenced this in an e-mail. Group 2 is using this as a statement of fact to help substantiate their claim of an early declaration. And shore up their expert’s opinion.

I can tell you categorically that when we conducted inspections with group 1 during 2002, 2003, and 2004 there was no 2-tier system. It is interesting that the year we did not work together this system surfaced. I have been told that group 1 actually talked about it prior to our participation. It must have been put in storage during our combined efforts for the years mentioned. It becomes apparent that the scriptures mixed with tenants and writings from Judaism produce a bad crop of fruit.

Now lets move back to group 2.

They claim that only a sheaf, enough barley capable of making an omer of flour, needs to be ready to declare the start of the year in spite of the condition of all the barley found in the country. Keep in mind both group 1 and ourselves have stated that this is the youngest we have ever seen the barley crop in the years we have been inspecting. That is very important.

Group 2 believes that the barley found in Ein Mab’ua can be used for this purpose so lets look at it from the perspective it is an acceptable location. Lets just use common sense associated with agricultural principles used throughout the world.

The barley found in Ein Mab’ua is anemic at best. It does not take an expert to figure this out as one walks around in it. This is caused by the very poor soil conditions and the lack of good weather conditions. Could we harvest barley here as we would in an agriculturally acceptable field? No we could not. Not even by ancient standards. It is strewn with rocks and for the most part has steep inclines. If we were to try and harvest this area as a field we would ruin our sickles. When cut with a sickle the stalks are cut low to the ground to be able to utilize as much of the plant as

possible. These are valuable commodities. With the long stalks bound together in sheaves they are set upright in the field for later collection and further processing. Too many obstacles in this location to do that effectively. As well the barley found here is very short in the stalk.

Problem number two. Because of the way the barley grows here we could not gather a wave sheaf unless we randomly picked here and there. It grows in clumps here, scattered all over wherever they can find any depth of soil to germinate. Because of the rocky soil and poor weather conditions and the rapid rise in temperature it is a race to survive. When examining the barley clumps one finds many stalks at many different stages of growth attached to the same root ball. Some are in the boot, some with heads partially emerged, some in the flowering stage, and some in early milk. That was the conditions we observed this year just 16 days before a wave sheaf would be offered if this were the first month. Do the math. There is no magic in it. Now as to the point I was on. In order to acquire enough barley stalks to make a wave sheaf from this location one would have to selectively pick stalks here and there. Individual stalks would need to be removed from many, many clumps for the other stalks they are growing with are always at a much earlier stage and no where near ready. That is if any of them actually would be. Does this methodology constitute the start of the harvest of a field let alone an entire countries crop? You decide.

Harvesting a field is not tip toeing through the daisies collecting a bouquet of flowers. But that is the state in Ein Mab'ua.

We did visit it this year for one of our members had never been there before. We thought it appropriate to do so for him to make his own conclusions about it. We do not force ours on anyone else. We do have lots of pictures, which maybe some of the more computer savvy folks can put together and make available for not only this location but many, many others. The evidence as to the early growth stage is very telling and obvious. Some of the stalks, which were in the initial milk stage, were already showing signs of environmental stress on their awns. They were actually withering not losing color due to aging.

Group 2 has shown some pictures, which tell the same story. A close up of the plants can reveal the multi-stage growth of the clumps. Their display of a peeled kernel is also very informative. If that kernel were not peeled you could squeeze it and it would shoot out of the husk. That is what is referred to as the worm stage by many of the inspectors for it displays the characteristics of some worms. They had to look around to find a kernel in this state of growth. It is very limp. It is my understanding that they claim seeds like this will be Aviv by the wave sheaf day in this lunar cycle. They may be able to find a few that might meet the minimum requirements but they certainly could not put the sickle to the standing grain to do so. Any attempt to do so will be as I described earlier. This once again is only hypothetical for this area is not even acceptable to take a first fruit offering from which represents Christ. He is not from anemic ground, He is complete and perfect, Tamin.

Do these methods make any agricultural sense? No they do not. They are not scriptural either. The patterns through the bible tell us a completely different thing. Be mindful these harvests are used of God to reveal much about the plan of salvation.

But this is all a smoke screen for group 2. Actually it can be better put as a slight of hand. I say this because their primary rule for intercalation is what they call, "The rule of the equinox." That's right folks, that old equinox theory again. We have proven to ourselves often in the past that the equinox is not used by God in any biblical doctrine. Some try and twist the scriptures to say it is in there but it is not. It is however found throughout pagan mythology and Talmudic rantings and Jewish fables. Satan tries very hard to insert it in the bible to confuse us but it does not work with those who have come of age by reason of use who utilize the spirit of God in them.

In short, if I am correct, group 2 feels the closest new moon to the Vernal equinox is the start of the New Year. So I ask myself why didn't God tell us this very simple method in scripture? Why go through all the efforts of inspections? Of course these are rhetorical questions on my part. The answers are obvious to us all I believe. Once again there is not one mention of it as such let alone a pattern so as to establish a biblical doctrine. Group 2 has a lot of contradictions in their

doctrine which all can read for themselves. They are too numerous for me to go through. As well I have no desire to do so. I will point out however that in an e-mail I received they stated they were out inspecting barley on the Sabbath. To me this is no different than looking for wood for the fire.

Aviv barley is the only biblical criteria to be used for the start of the New Year. Jewish fables tell us otherwise, as do pagan practices. They are mesmerized by the signs in the heavens of which most are invisible. But we reject them for what they are; false teachings from the evil men and imposters Christ and Paul warned us about. God tells us He controls the weather in Israel to clearly show us the timing of the New Year. We can read that as we often have in Duet 11:11-12. It is not determined by an imaginary, magical, line in the sky, which by the way is the baseline for the Zodiac and all its trappings. The moon is used to determine the length of a month. The sun is used to determine the length of a day as well as a creation week of 7 days ending with the Sabbath. The barley harvest is used to determine how many lunar cycles are in a lunar year. That is the biblical pattern. The first fruit barley wave sheaf is representative of Jesus Christ and His body. That is why it takes place during the days of Unleavened Bread. That is why it continues on for 7 full creation weeks or complete or perfect weeks, starting with the first day of the week and ending on the Sabbath, which is day 7. It takes us to the feast of Weeks, which is also called Pentecost and First fruits. I think you all know the symbolism involved here. These are things not

understood by the spirit in man unless it is united with the spirit of God.

Do not be deceived. We must not look to unhealthy barley from unhealthy ground to represent our Savior who is without blemish. He is our wave sheaf offering of humble grain. He is tamin, complete and perfect. No anemic barley and no anemic soil!

He employs one standard for Aviv barley not two. The harvest He is looking for, those who are of His body will also come from good ground. He makes this very clear in many parables but the most important one is found in Matt 13:4-9. It could not be any clearer or appropriate.

“And as He sowed, some fell by the wayside [no roadside barley] and the birds came and devoured them.

Some fell on stony places [Ein Mab’ua and similar places] where they did not have much earth; and they immediately spring up because they had no depth of earth. But when the sun was up they were scorched and because they had no root they withered away.

And some fell among the thorns and the thorns sprang up and choked them.

But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Our peace we give to you,

Brian