

# Is the New Moon the full moon?

## Another Look.

This is a more thorough response to the full moon as New Moon doctrine. Friends, when ANY new truth comes to our attention, the one bringing it should either present the evidence supporting their find from Scripture or at least use the tenor of truth. If they do, please respectfully listen (assuming they are friends or family), then take it home and examine the evidence as we have been instructed. If what they have shared is sustained by Scripture and/or nature, then join them. If not, if they cannot provide Scriptural support or present the tenor of truth, tell the one bringing the “false” doctrine why you cannot join them, and give them the Scripture or facts of nature that opposes what they have found. Here is just such an example.

I don't have a study available to me that supposedly “proves” the full moon is the New Moon, and even if I did, I would hesitate to share it because someone may misunderstand why I am sharing it. I cannot openly present error with good conscience (even for investigation), nor can I ask you to examine for yourselves something that lacks Scriptural (or natural) support.

For those of you who are not Seventh-day Adventists, forgive the Adventist quotes I will use from time to time (as there are some former SDA's promoting this false doctrine at this time). Let me say for the record that I am 100% opposed to the idea that the full moon is the New Moon for the following reasons. In no particular order...

1. **A**--There are three phases of the moon (one a subset of another) and three categories of day (one a subset of another).

- 1--There is the dark phase, and the illuminated phases, of which there are 4 quarter phases (the 4 quarter phases are a subset of the illuminated phases).

- 2--There are New Moon days, week (work) days and Sabbaths (the Sabbaths a subset of the week days).

**B**--There are 2 dark days and 28 days showing an illuminated moon in each whole (30 day) month. Correspondingly, there are 2 days of New Moon celebration in a 30 day month, and 28 week days (4 seven day weeks each month for a total of 28 days.)

**C**--The illuminated days of the lunar cycle (28 days) announce the days of the four work weeks (28 days), the 4 quarter phases announcing all 4 Sabbaths. That leaves the 1-2 dark days after the last Sabbath each month as New Moon days. It ain't rocket science.

Full moon as New Moon proponents cannot produce this hand-in-glove model for the three categories of day. [For them there is no rhyme or reason for the three categories of day in conjunction with the three differing phases of the moon.] If they can, I am asking them in the Name YHWH to produce their calendar model that lines up with the facts of nature. Nature is the first gospel. All nature screams the majesty of YHWH. It's as easy as **A – B – C**.

“Never does nature say one thing and wisdom another.” *Juvenal*

“The beauties of nature have a tongue that speaks to our senses without ceasing. The open heart can be impressed with the love and glory of God as seen in the works of His hand. The listening ear can hear and understand the communications of God through the works of nature. There is a lesson in the sunbeam and in the various objects in nature that God has presented to our view. The green fields, the lofty trees, the buds and flowers, the passing cloud, the falling rain, the babbling brook, **the sun, moon, and stars** in the heavens, all invite our attention and meditation, and bid us become acquainted with God, who made them all. The lessons to be learned from the various objects of the natural world are these: **They are obedient to the will of their Creator; they never deny God**, never refuse obedience to any intimation of His will. ...” *Testimonies to the Church, Vol. 3, p. 333.*

2. The sun tells us that a new day has begun; the moon tells us which day it is. So the lights in the heavens will announce each day for what it is. There ARE sometimes two days of New Moon celebration, this occurs for every 30 day lunar month. But even in 30 day months, there is only ONE full moon. If a 30 day month is beginning, there are TWO dark days [dark days meaning no visible moon day or night] after the last Sabbath of the month corresponding with these two days of New Moon celebration. Still, there is ALWAYS only ONE full moon each month. If the full moon announces the first day of the new month, what phase of the moon announces the second day of New Moon celebration? Can this be proven in nature?
3. Again, the sun tells us that a new day has begun; the moon tells us which day it is. So the lights in the heavens will announce each day for what it is. IF THE FULL MOON IS NEW MOON, and there is only ONE day of New Moon, the quarter phases of the moon will announce the Sabbaths for the first two weeks of the month, but they will not announce the last two Sabbaths of the month because the dark day interrupts, pushing the quarter phases ONE day out of sync with the last two Sabbaths of the month.

The idea that the full moon is the New Moon forces the quarter phases of the moon to NOT announce each Sabbath of the month. For the more visually oriented, please see the example of this in the other study available with the same title.

4. Last time: the sun tells us that a new day has begun; the moon tells us which day it is. So the lights in the heavens will announce each day for what it is. IF THE FULL MOON IS NEW MOON, and there are TWO days of New Moon, the quarter phases of the moon will announce the Sabbaths for the first two weeks of the month, but they will not announce the last two Sabbaths of the month because the two dark day interrupt, pushing the quarter phases TWO days out of sync with the last two Sabbaths of the month.

Again, the idea that the full moon is the New Moon forces the quarter phases of the moon to NOT announce each Sabbath of the month. For the more visually oriented, please see the example of this in the other study available with the same title.

5. Philo lived in the 1<sup>st</sup> century observing the SAME lunar-solar calendar that Yeshua observed. Philo was a delegate chosen to represent Israel before the Vicar of Rome. Do you think they would have chosen a man who observed a calendar that differed from Israel's?

Speaking of “lunar” intervals, in **Special Laws I, 35 (178), p. 550** Philo writes...

*“...there is one principle of reason by which the moon waxes and wanes in equal intervals, both as it increases and diminishes in illumination; the seven lambs because it receives the perfect shapes in periods of seven days—the half-moon in the first seven day period **after its conjunction with the sun, full moon in the second**; and when it makes its return again, the first is to half-moon, then it ceases at its conjunction with the sun.”* [All emphasis supplied by me.]

The half-moon (first quarter moon) announces the first Sabbath of the month. The full moon rising at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the month announces the 15<sup>th</sup> as the second Sabbath of the month. Philo describes the quarter phases as *the moon as it perfects in its own configurations on each seventh day*.

Philo gives a second witness in **On Mating with the Preliminary Studies, XIX, (102), p. 313...**

*“For it is said in the Scripture: On the tenth day of this month let each of them take a sheep according to his house; in order that from the tenth, there may be consecrated to the tenth, that is to Elohim, the sacrifices which have been preserved in the soul, which is illuminated in two portions out of the three, until it is entirely changed in every part, and becomes a heavenly brilliancy **like a full moon, at the height of its increase at the end of the second week**”.*

So far, Philo says that the full moon is in the middle of the month at the end of the second week. A third witness from Philo, **Special Laws I, 35, (189), p. 551** is VERY specific about when the full moon takes place in the month, actually giving a date, and it is not the first day of the month...

*“On the fifteenth day, at full moon, the feast which is called “the feast of booths” is celebrated...”*

And in the following quotes, Philo offers a sequence for the lunar cycle that is impossible to ignore or misunderstand...

**SPECIAL LAWS IV, XLII (233-234)**, *“Nature, therefore, has marked out those periods in every year, which are called the equinoxes, from the state of things which exists at that time, namely, the spring and the autumnal equinox, with such distinctness, that even the most illiterate persons are aware of the equality which then exists between the extent of the days and of the nights. (234) Again, are not the periods of the moon, as she advances and retraces her course, from a crescent to a full circle, and again, from a complete orb to a crescent, also measured by an equality of distances?”*

The lunar cycle is from waxing crescent to waning crescent, not full moon to full moon. Here is further evidence from the writings of Philo:

**ON THE CREATION XXXIV (101)** *Among the things then which are perceptible only by intellect, the number seven is proved to be the only thing free from motion and accident; but among things perceptible by the external senses, it displays a great and comprehensive power, contributing to the improvement of all terrestrial things, and affecting even the periodical changes of the moon. And in what manner it does this, we must consider. The number seven when compounded of numbers beginning with the unit, makes eight-and-twenty, a perfect number, and one equalised in its parts. And the number so produced, is calculated to reproduce the revolutions of the moon, bringing her back to the point from which she first began to increase in a manner perceptible by the external senses, and to which she returns by waning. For she increases from her first crescent-shaped figure, to that of a half circle in seven days; and in seven more, she becomes a full orb; and then again she turns back, retracing the same path, like a runner of the diaulos, {6} {this refers to the Greek games. "The straight race was called stadion or dromos. In the diaulos dromos the runners turned round the goal, and came back to the starting place."—Smith in v. Stadium.} receding from an orb full of light, to a half circle again in seven days, and lastly, in an equal number she diminishes from a half circle to the form of a crescent; and thus the number before mentioned is completed.*

To make matters worse for our Full Moon adherents, Philo also makes an especially damning statement regarding the possibility that the dark phase would be in the middle of the month rather than at the beginning...

*“And this feast is begun on the fifteenth day of the month, in the middle of the month, on the day on which the moon is full of light, in consequence on the providence of Elohim taking care that there shall be no darkness on that day.”* **Special Laws II, The Fifth Festival, Section XXVIII (155)**

Philo flat out states that there would be no darkness on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, the sun would set, but the FULL MOON would then take over, enlightening the earth. I don't think there can possibly be a clearer statement than this from the annals of history to refute the misguided attempts of our full moon brethren.

6. New Moon is translated from the Hebrew word, Chodesh (H2320), which comes from a root word (H2318) that means to rebuild. From the full moon phase, the moon is torn down, not rebuilt. I have a hard time believing that the Father would tear down (figuratively) the moon then try to tell Israel that it was in reality being rebuilt.
7. All who promote the full moon as the New Moon use **Psalms 81:3** as Scriptural proof. But when an unprejudiced eye examines the evidence, this verse proves far from anything of the sort. Any time you are doing an “in depth” study, one must include all the evidence available, not take a single verse as evidence.

In **Hosea 5:8** (below), the Hebrew words shofar (H7782) and trumpet (H2689) are used in similar fashion, perhaps are synonymous or used interchangeably. Evidence of this is, H2689, used nearly 30 times in the Old Testament (OT), is always translated as trumpet, and H7782, found over 70 times in the OT, is also, save for 4 times translated as coronet.

**Hosea 5:8** Blow<sup>H8628</sup> ye the **cornet**<sup>H7782</sup> in Gibeah,<sup>H1390</sup> and the **trumpet**<sup>H2689</sup> in Ramah:<sup>H7414</sup> cry aloud<sup>H7321</sup> at Bethaven,<sup>H1007</sup> after<sup>H310</sup> thee, O Benjamin.<sup>H1144</sup>

A trumpet that sounded was a warning or an announcement to assemble...

**Numbers 10:10** Also in the day<sup>H3117</sup> of your gladness,<sup>H8057</sup> and in your solemn days,<sup>H4150</sup> and in the beginnings<sup>H7218</sup> of your months,<sup>H2320</sup> ye shall blow<sup>H8628</sup> with the **trumpets**<sup>H2689</sup> over<sup>H5921</sup> your burnt offerings,<sup>H5930</sup> and over<sup>H5921</sup> the sacrifices<sup>H2077</sup> of your peace offerings;<sup>H8002</sup> that they may be<sup>H1961</sup> to you for a memorial<sup>H2146</sup> before<sup>H6440</sup> your God:<sup>H430</sup> I<sup>H589</sup> *am* the LORD<sup>H3068</sup> your God.<sup>H430</sup>

**Leviticus 25:9** Then shalt thou cause the **trumpet**<sup>H7782</sup> of the jubile<sup>H8643</sup> to sound<sup>H5674</sup> on the tenth<sup>H6218</sup> *day* of the seventh<sup>H7637</sup> month,<sup>H2320</sup> in the day<sup>H3117</sup> of atonement<sup>H3725</sup> shall ye make the **trumpet**<sup>H7782</sup> sound<sup>H5674</sup> throughout all<sup>H3605</sup> your land.<sup>H776</sup>

**Jeremiah 6:17** Also I set<sup>H6965</sup> watchmen<sup>H6822</sup> over<sup>H5921</sup> you, *saying*, Hearken<sup>H7181</sup> to the sound<sup>H6963</sup> of the **trumpet**.<sup>H7782</sup> But they said,<sup>H559</sup> We will not<sup>H3808</sup> hearken.<sup>H7181</sup>

**Isaiah 27:13** And it shall come to pass<sup>H1961</sup> in that<sup>H1931</sup> day,<sup>H3117</sup> *that* the great<sup>H1419</sup> **trumpet**<sup>H7782</sup> shall be blown,<sup>H8628</sup> and they shall come<sup>H935</sup> which were ready to perish<sup>H6</sup> in the land<sup>H776</sup> of Assyria,<sup>H804</sup> and the outcasts<sup>H5080</sup> in the land<sup>H776</sup> of Egypt,<sup>H4714</sup> and shall worship<sup>H7812</sup> the LORD<sup>H3068</sup> in the holy<sup>H6944</sup> mount<sup>H2022</sup> at Jerusalem.<sup>H3389</sup>

Please note that **Psalms 81:3** sounds a great deal like **Numbers 10:10** (previous page)...

**Psalms 81:3** Blow up<sup>H8628</sup> the **trumpet**<sup>H7782</sup> in the new moon,<sup>H2320</sup> in the time appointed,<sup>H3677</sup> on our solemn feast<sup>H2282</sup> day.<sup>H3117</sup>

Several things need to be pointed out here... **First of all**, those presenting the full moon as New Moon need to explain why in **Leviticus 23**, where all the appointed times are listed including the weekly Sabbath, the New Moon is conspicuously absent, save for the seventh New Moon which is an annual feast (Rosh Hoshanah or Feast of Trumpets).

**Secondly**, the Hebrew word *Chag* is used 60 times in Scripture, and whenever enough information is offered in the text (and nearly all of them do), it refers to one of the three traveling feasts revealed in **Exodus 23:14-17**, and later in **Exodus 34:18, 22**. These folks also need to explain why they believe **Psalms 81:3** is entirely about the New Moon when the word *chag* (H2282, translated as solemn feast above) indicates one of the traveling or pilgrimage feasts. New Moon is not one of the pilgrimage feasts, so this segment cannot be referring to the New Moon.

**Thirdly**, in case it is not already self evident, New Moon is a time to blow the trumpet (see **Numbers 10:10**). Two of the traveling feasts begin in the middle of the month, and these feasts are also a time to blow the trumpet (see **Numbers 10:10** and **Psalm 81:3**).

**Lastly**, since New Moon is NOT a chag, and is NOT an appointed time (save for the seventh New Moon), why do these folks think that **Psalm 81:3** is exclusively about New Moon? Clearly, by implementing here a little, there a little (**Isaiah 28:9-10**), this psalm is about New Moon, and the feasts that begin with a full moon. In context, the full moon feast in question is Unleavened Bread. (Thank you Brenda for sharing this with me).

8. At the time of this writing, the folks recently promoting the “full moon as New Moon” professed that Ellen White was a prophet, but after learning that she writes against their position they have renounced her writings. Ellen White says this about Passover, an event that occurred in the middle of the first Hebrew lunar month (the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Abib):

“The first of these festivals, the Passover, the feast of unleavened bread, occurred in Abib, the first month of the Jewish year, corresponding to the last of March and the beginning of April. The cold of winter was past, the latter rain had ended, and all nature rejoiced in the freshness and beauty of the springtime. The grass was green on the hills and valleys, and wild flowers everywhere brightened the fields. **The moon, now approaching the full, made the evenings delightful.**” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 537

“In company with His disciples, the Saviour slowly made His way to the garden of Gethsemane. **The Passover moon, broad and full, shone from a cloudless sky.** The city of pilgrims’ tents was hushed into silence.” *The Desire of Ages*, p. 685

“The Redeemer, in company with his disciples, slowly made his way to the garden of Gethsemane. **The passover moon, broad and full, shone from a cloudless sky.** The city of pilgrim’s tents was hushed into silence.” *Spirit of Prophecy*, Vol. 3, p. 94

9. There is a Greek word for eclipse, but it is not used in Scripture. Let’s look at the underlying language that IS used regarding this particular issue. There is a Greek word that can be translated as eclipse; it is the Strong’s G1587. Here is what Thayer’s says about this word, notice how the word is pronounced (underlined below)

**Thayer Definition: G1587** ἐκλείπω ekleipō

1) fail

1a) to leave out, omit, pass by

1b) to leave, quit

2) to fail

2a) to leave off, cease, stop

**2b) of the failing or eclipse of the light of the sun and the moon**

The passages in the NT regarding the darkness surrounding the events of the crucifixion do NOT use this word. Evidence below:

**Matthew 27:45** Now<sup>G1161</sup> from<sup>G575</sup> the sixth<sup>G1623</sup> hour<sup>G5610</sup> there was<sup>G1096</sup> darkness<sup>G4655</sup> over<sup>G1909</sup> all<sup>G3956</sup> the<sup>G3588</sup> land<sup>G1093</sup> unto<sup>G2193</sup> the ninth<sup>G1766</sup> hour.<sup>G5610</sup>

**Mark 15:33** And<sup>G1161</sup> when the sixth<sup>G1623</sup> hour<sup>G5610</sup> was come, <sup>G1096</sup> there was<sup>G1096</sup> darkness<sup>G4655</sup> over<sup>G1909</sup> the<sup>G3588</sup> whole<sup>G3650</sup> land<sup>G1093</sup> until<sup>G2193</sup> the ninth<sup>G1766</sup> hour.<sup>G5610</sup>

**Luke 23:44** And<sup>G1161</sup> it was<sup>G2258</sup> about<sup>G5616</sup> the sixth<sup>G1623</sup> hour, <sup>G5610</sup> and<sup>G2532</sup> there was<sup>G1096</sup> a darkness<sup>G4655</sup> over<sup>G1909</sup> all<sup>G3650</sup> the<sup>G3588</sup> earth<sup>G1093</sup> until<sup>G2193</sup> the ninth<sup>G1766</sup> hour.<sup>G5610</sup>

Strong's G4655 means shadiness, obscurity, darkness. It comes from the root word, G4639, which means shade or shadow. To shade or shadow would precisely describe what an eclipse would cause, but "ekleipo" (G1587) is NOT the Greek word used in any of the gospels and a solar eclipse lasts only minutes, not three hours. Also, eclipses can be tracked, pinpointed and predicted in both the past and future. There was no solar eclipse at Passover time for any of the accepted years of the crucifixion. (Thank you Brenda for sharing this.)

10. Believers know that Passover is Abib 14. On their website, without any natural evidence, the former SDA's promoting the full moon as New Moon suggest that the hours of darkness at the crucifixion were caused by a solar eclipse (an idea planted by those who shared this false doctrine with them). In contrast to this, SDA author Ellen White says the following about these unexplained hours of darkness...

".... The sun refused to look upon the awful scene. Its full, bright rays were illuminating the earth at midday, when suddenly it seemed to be blotted out. Complete darkness, like a funeral pall, enveloped the cross. 'There was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.' **There was no eclipse or other natural cause for this darkness, which was as deep as midnight without moon or stars.** It was a miraculous testimony given by God that the faith of after generations might be confirmed." *The Desire of Ages*, p. 753

".... The sun refused to look upon the awful scene. Its full, bright rays were illuminating the earth at midday, when suddenly it seemed to be blotted out. Complete darkness enveloped the cross, and all the vicinity about, like a funeral pall. **There was no eclipse or other natural cause for this darkness,** which was deep as midnight without moon or stars. ...." *Spirit of Prophecy*, Vol. 3, p. 163

The 6<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> hour is from noon to 3 p.m. An eclipse can take a couple of hours from start to finish, but the totality of a solar eclipse (the time that the face of the sun is completely covered by the moon is 6-12 minutes. With a total solar eclipse, there is still daylight even when the face of the sun is covered by the moon; it's more like a cloudy day than the complete darkness spoken of in Scripture and commented on by Ellen White. Now you know why Ellen White said there was no natural cause, and no eclipse responsible for those dark hours: because it was physically not possible. Nature does not lie.

In case our intrepid “full moon as New Moon” promoters change their website in order to save face over this terrific gaffe, I have made a screen grab of the page, along with the .pdf studies that accompany it as evidence of their folly. Since this website admits that Ellen White was not shown everything, one might also wonder if they believe she was ever given false information. For if the webmasters believe that they are right, that there was a solar eclipse at Passover, then they must also admit that Ellen White was wrong and therefore or a false prophet. [Update: Naturally, this is now their position on the matter.] The promoters of the “full moon as New Moon” also need to answer why Ellen White says that the moon was full in the middle of the first month (the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the first month) and why she said that the dark hours were NOT caused by an eclipse because in this case nature and the historical record agree with Ellen White.

11. The one study that I have seen that attempts to prove the full moon is the New Moon makes no consideration for the New Moon being a third category of day, which might explain why that particular author makes the above mistakes. However, the lunar Sabbath proponents bringing this “full moon as New Moon” before you now understand the concept that the New Moon is a third category of day and I have made a downloaded their study as evidentiary proof.

My question is if New Moon is a third category of day as shown in **Ezekiel 46:1**, **Amos 8:5**, **Isaiah 66:23** and **II Kings 4:23**, why does the moon NOT have three distinct categories of day that line up with it hand in glove in the “full moon as New Moon” model? With the full moon as New Moon, the New Moon (that third category of day) is announced by a visible moon, same as the week days, yet, in the middle of a month that begins with the full moon, two of the week days are announced by 2 dark days rather than a visible moon like the other 26 week days are announced. Please see #1 above.

12. There were exclusively 30 days in a lunar month at Creation. Seven day weeks x 4 is 28 days, leaving 2 remaining. There is only ONE full moon per month. If there is only ONE New Moon day per month (for a total of 29), then what is this 30<sup>th</sup> day? Please define it in Scripture. Three categories of day can be defined in Scripture (New Moon days, work days and Sabbaths), there is not a fourth.

In Scripture, there are 360 days in a prophetic year. Twelve 30 day months = a 360 day year. Here is the Scriptural evidence that the months in Scripture were originally 30 days in length. **Genesis 7:11** says that the flood began on the 17th day of the second month. **Genesis 8:4** says the water prevailed upon the face of the earth until the 17th day of the seventh month. That is 5 months. **Genesis 7:24** and **8:3** say that the water prevailed upon the earth for 150 days. 150 divided by 5 = 30. So there were 5 consecutive 30 day months in Scripture, which is not possible with the current relationship between the earth and moon. So, we have solid Scriptural proof that the months were all 30 days in length. The lunar cycle is now 29.5 days rather than 30 day in length. Which equates to some months being 29 days long, some being 30 days long. In a 30 day month, simple math demands that there be 2 days of New Moon.



It was not until YHWH dented His clock that there were 29 day months. Prior to that, there were 2 days of New Moon celebration each month. I used to believe this dent occurred in Hezekiah's time, but it could have been at one of several occasions recorded in Scripture: the flood, the exodus or Joshua's long day all of which were caused by (or contributed by) a great cosmic upheaval.

**As a side note:** I know why the webmasters of the site that now promotes the full moon as New Moon are often keeping a Sabbath different than lunar Sabbath keepers living nearby who observe the lights in the heavens. I've seen their calendar in advance on their website. There, the months toggle back and forth between 29 and 30 days, as if by writing it down, nature is forced to comply. The natural cycle of lunar months does not toggle back and forth between 29 and 30 days.

Friends, I've witnessed and observed (by looking at the lights in the heavens) as many as three 29 day months in a row, and three 30 day months in a row, some say there can be 4 in a row. This will force these ill-advised webmasters to keep a Sabbath differently than a lunar Sabbath keeping neighbor who is actually going outside and LOOKING in the heavens and letting the moon tell THEM when the month starts. This is also why I no longer print a calendar in advance. It is not possible to predict with 100% accuracy the number of New Moon days each month will have. I have guessed wrong in the past, and will continue to guess wrong until the Father restores His 360 year calendar of 12 thirty day months where every month is attended to by two consecutive days of New Moon observation. My personal preference is not to "guess" at all, but to look up and let nature tell me when I need to know, but many of you are still employed by Babylon, and need to know in advance when the New Moon and Sabbaths will be. It is for this reason alone that I try to anticipate the number of New Moon days each month. And you are all my judges: When I cannot tell for sure, I admit as much telling each one to follow their own conscience.

13. Creation week destroys the idea that the full moon is the New Moon. If the second month after creation began with a New Moon, and last month began with a New Moon, what do you suppose the FIRST month of earth's history began with? New Moon!

Yah's Creation week began the first month of earth's history, and began with a New Moon day, described in **Genesis 1:1-2**. THAT unnamed, unnumbered segment of time was dark, and it is not part of the SIX day work week, proving that this dark segment of time was indeed the New Moon day of the first month. Those who are presenting the "full moon as New Moon" need to explain why they feel that all subsequent New Moon periods were VERY well lit with a full moon, but the FIRST New Moon of history was dark. Is this contradiction not also confusion? Is anyone out there bothered by this other than me?

14. Our friends who are now promoting full moon as New Moon seem to think that THEY (or those responsible for sharing this false doctrine with them) can read Hebrew better than you and I. I find it interesting that the Hebrew scholars who were responsible for Gesenius' Hebrew Lexicon were not nearly as certain as our full moon friends are:

Gesenius' Lexicon says this about the word "full moon" translated from the Hebrew word *kese* or *keseh*, H-3677. **Quote:** "כֶּסֶה Proverbs 7:20 and כֶּסֶה Psalm 81:4, [it is actually Psalm 81:3 in the KJV] *the full moon;*" ...according to Isa Bar Ali ... "is the first day of the full moon, also the whole time of the full moon, and so it is often used by Bar-hebræus and Ephraim Syrus. The etymology is not clear to me, for it is not satisfactory to say that it is so called from the whole moon being then *covered with light* (from the root כֶּסֶה כֶּסֶה). [The Hebrew root is Strong's H-3680]. Verbs of covering are often applied in the sense of hiding or covering over, but never, as far as I know, to that of giving light." **End quote.**

This Hebrew scholar does not understand why this word is translated as "full moon" because the root/etymology of this word means to cover up (wholly covered), concealed or hidden; it does NOT mean FULL of light! It is VERY difficult to hide a full moon. Apparently, this has been mistranslated; it should be fully covered or DARK of the moon.

I had not seen Gesenius' commentary before. His confusion over the use of this word, and his confession, is priceless. In reality, the underlying Hebrew in **Psalm 81:3** SHOULD have been translated, *Blow the trumpet in the new moon, the dark of the moon, [and] on the day of our pilgrimage feast*. In context of the passage, the last part (on our solemn feast day) is about the traveling feast of Unleavened Bread.

15. New Moon is translated from the Hebrew word, Chodesh (H2320), which comes from a root word (H2318) that means to rebuild. From the full moon phase, the moon is torn down, not rebuilt. I have a hard time believing that the Father would tear down (figuratively) the moon then try to tell Israel that it was, in reality, being rebuilt. He is not the Author of Confusion.

The phrase *first day of month* or *new moon* is from the Hebrew word Chodesh (Strong's H-2320) and is used 279 times in Scripture. The term "full moon" (translated from the Hebrew word, *Keseh*, Strong's H-3677) is used all of twice Scripture in the two verses referred to above (**Proverbs 7:20**, and **Psalm 81:3**). Come to find out, *Keseh* means fully *covered* or *hidden* moon, not a *full* moon. See these 3 short vimeo presentations from Joe in Canada, <https://vimeo.com/227837748>, <https://vimeo.com/227839870>, <https://vimeo.com/227841087>

16. There is a Hebrew word (Strong's H3842) for full moon. This word is never translated as "full moon" just *moon*, but the Hebrew word for moon is H3394, pronounced Yaw-ray-akh. So doing a little examination of this evidence should reveal fruit. H3842, pronounced Leb-aw-naw, is used three times in Scripture, so we have three witnesses, **Song of Solomon 6:10**, **Isaiah 24:23** and **30:26**.

How many phases of the moon garner any attention or even rate a comment from the casual viewer? The full moon is the first, and the first crescent is the second most commented on phases of the moon (based on in my personal experience, I have not conducted a poll).

**Song 6:10** is clearly speaking of the full moon. The morning is arguably the most beautiful part of the day, the full moon is the most notable phase of the moon, and the beauty of the sun is impossible to suppress. If I were to use "nature" to describe my beloved wife, I could find no more beautiful language or more accurate natural metaphors than did Solomon.

Please read all three of these verses for yourselves, but let me focus your attention to **Isaiah 30:26**, which says...

Moreover the light<sup>H216</sup> of the moon<sup>H3842</sup> shall be<sup>H1961</sup> as the light<sup>H216</sup> of the sun,<sup>H2535</sup> and the light<sup>H216</sup> of the sun<sup>H2535</sup> shall be<sup>H1961</sup> sevenfold,<sup>H7659</sup> as the light<sup>H216</sup> of seven<sup>H7651</sup> days,<sup>H3117</sup> in the day<sup>H3117</sup> that YHWH<sup>H3068</sup> bindeth up<sup>H2280</sup> (H853) the breach<sup>H7667</sup> of his people,<sup>H5971</sup> and healeth<sup>H7495</sup> the stroke<sup>H4273</sup> of their wound.<sup>H4347</sup>

No metaphor here. What phase of the moon under the right circumstances could POSSIBLY be as bright as the sun? Only the full moon (if given sufficient light or heat) could rival the sun, considering that there is no crescent sun or quarter phases of the sun, etc. (Thank you Brenda for sharing this with me).

17. The folks now presenting the full moon as New Moon followed up their announcement that they had changed their position on New Moon with another e-mail (that I will address in a moment). Let me say for the record that I have labored with these webmasters for years trying to get them to recognize that the first sliver is NOT the New Moon spoken of in Scripture, that the ONLY segment of time that is substantiated by all the evidence in nature and compared with Scripture is the DARK phase of the moon. Finally, they admit they were wrong only to adopt a concept that is even less conceivable (historically, Scripturally, or naturally) than the first sliver.

The e-mail they sent out recently was a collection of supportive e-mails they received in response to their announcement that they had changed to the full moon as New Moon. To their credit they included my rebuke, or perhaps, they did not read all of it, only the part where I admitted that their website was very professionally done. That said, the first comment they shared was one where the first paragraph ended with the following lines:

*“There will be those who do not accept this information and will not even search to see if there is any truth to be found. Please do not be discouraged as it is not you they are rejecting, but Yahushua.”*

Have I thoroughly studied this concept to learn if there was any truth in it? Have I shared with you the evidence that destroys the full moon as New Moon doctrine? For the record, I am not rejecting anyone who has adopted this false doctrine; I am rejecting the false doctrine, which is something *Yahushua* would have done also!

*“True love cannot tolerate false doctrine.” John MacArthur*

My target is the false doctrine not the believers of false doctrine. If any full moon as New Moon proponents received any shrapnel wounds, they will have to heal naturally. If they would actually STOP and examine the sound doctrine I have shared, and put some distance between themselves and the false doctrine I’m targeting, they would discover that I am not actually shooting at them. And they might even discover that they have been misled.

Lastly, I find it most disheartening that the one responding to the announcement that they had changed to the full moon doctrine invoked the name Yahushua there at the end. The man from Galilee never said a solitary word about New Moon, or the full moon, so I find it difficult to reconcile that comment. What that comment may facilitate is most frightening.

What better way to cement someone in a false doctrine than to patronize them, then encourage them by saying that others who reject them (over the full moon as New Moon doctrine) are actually rejecting Yahushua (a.k.a. Jesus). This is a deceitful, dangerous lie.

18. Our “full moon” friends say that since everything at creation was created in its fullest (adult) state, that this must apply to the moon as well. They came to this conclusion without considering that the hour, minute and second hands of a clock all start at the SAME place. The same can even be said about a digital clock where everything starts at “0:00”. According to our “full moon” friends, the clock at creation apparently began with the “hour hand” on the 12 o’clock position, and the “minute hand” on the 6 o’clock position.

Here, nature offers one of the strongest rebuttals to this ill conceived notion. Fact is, time began with the sun and moon in the same position (to earth’s east) in relation to the earth, call this the “12 o’clock” position if you will, and both proceeded around the earth at different speeds, JUST like the hands of a clock. In this model, the moon was in its New Moon position but was not seen, being lost in the glare of the sun and was not fully illuminated until 14 days later. (Thank you Tom for sharing this with me).

19. Those promoting the Full Moon as New Moon use as a catch phrase that those who have adopted this doctrine are Children of the Light, not children of darkness. The implication is that those who do not accept their (false) doctrine are children of darkness for believing that the New Moon is the dark phase of the lunar cycle. First of all, Scripture makes no such statement, and once again nature destroys this false “Children of the Light” premise:

A) Children are conceived in darkness and come into the light. When a woman is pregnant, can she feel the baby the first day? Does she even know she is pregnant? No. Just because she is not aware of the baby does not mean it is not there. Like the New Moon—just because you cannot see it, does not mean it is not there. Everything starts in utter darkness. **Genesis 1:1-2** is a perfect example.

B) When you plant a seed in the ground, what happens? Are you aware when it germinates? No. But just because you cannot see what is happening does not mean that the seed has not germinated. And if you dug it up every day to check its progress it would soon die. (Thank you Mayah for sharing these with me.)

20. One of the principal reasons nay-sayers refuse to accept the dark phase of the moon as New Moon is because they can not figure out how a dark moon can be a signal. They ASSUME that it must be lit in order to be a sign. They assume that the moon operates under the same rules as a traffic signal that is red, yellow or green, every signal being illuminated. The fallacy of this thinking is readily seen, and I will share it with you now.

If a light MUST be lit in order to tell us anything, may I ask why our “full moon as New Moon” friends cross a railroad crossing without stopping EVERY time? There is no signal there, but there MIGHT be a train coming since you cannot trust an unlit signal. If I were to show up at the door of our “full moon as New Moon” friends at 3:37 A.M., logic alone should tell me that even though the lights are off, they must be up and awake and ready to receive visitors since having the lights off is not a signal (that they can understand anyway), so it should not keep me from knocking.

Also, I can’t for the life of me figure out how ships can navigate up or down a coast without stopping every few minutes and taking new readings or sending out small search vessels looking for rocks. I guess it is a good thing that thinking people only put lighthouses where there ARE rocks, and they leave open and safe waters in the comfort of darkness. If our “full moon as New Moon” friends crashed on a deserted island, why do they insist on firing off signal flares to let us know where they are?

Oh, that’s right! In the real world, NO signal flare means that they are NOT there, meaning we should continue to search for them elsewhere. It is a good thing that those of us who are out looking for these signals understand that no signal or an unlit signal IS a signal with meaning, no different than a lit signal. I can even give you an example in Torah. In Egypt, shortly before the exodus, there were three dark days where you could not see your hand in front of your face. I’m guessing our “full moon as New Moon” friends would have this account stricken from Torah since the Egyptians should NOT have considered that having the sun put out for three days (**Exodus 10:20-23**) was a sign of YHWH’s hot displeasure, so it should not have been included as one of the 10 plagues. I find it interesting that Scripture says that the sun would be for signs (**Genesis 1:14-16**, **Luke 21:25**, **Isaiah 13:10**, **Joel 3:15**) which is something that the plagues were called that in **Exodus 10:1**.

21. If there is any possible remaining doubt that Israel observed the dark phase of the moon as New Moon and regarded the full moon as being visible in the middle of the week, let this quote salve your conscience:

“Changes in the appearance of the moon at night provide the seven-day week....

“There are four quarters during one-lunar-month. From new moon, which shows no moonlight, to the first phase of the moon, or half the lighted moon, about one week has passed. In two weeks, the moon’s light waxes to full-moon stage. Reversing the pattern, the third week of the month wanes visibility to diminish the moon’s light back to halfway again. The fourth weekly period continues the waning retreat of moonlight until again repeating the new moon.” *Ages of Adam*, Clark K. Nelson, published in 1995.

Friends, anyone who accepts a false doctrine (or refuses a true one) is in desperate need of our prayers and concern. We should be very concerned. Time is short, and our camp and houses are divided. It is a commendable thing to admit we are wrong; it is quite another thing to admit we are wrong only to adopt an equally erroneous doctrine to replace the first as doing so gives instant yet false credibility to the second (yet false) doctrine.

There is room in the world's Lunar Sabbath assembly for differing points of view, but there is no room for false doctrine in the assembly of the Most High Yah. I'm hoping that those of you who have contact with our misled friends will give them sound counsel regarding their new position. YHWH knows that I have tried, but I have yet to receive a response to any of the rebuttals I have sent them regarding some of their studies.

We are all in Yah's army. My only concern is that some of my fellow soldiers are not defending the sustainable truths of Scripture along with me, and worse, that some are even attacking the standards of Scripture or nature. If we can't all be on the same page, let's at least work together so we are all in the same Book.

This study has been prepared for your illumination.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Miller

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