

## T h e   N e w   M o o n



Many teachers have a lot of variations as to how they calculate the New Moon. It is very essential to know when the New Moon is as we approach the Feast Days of Yah each calendar year. One day beyond the shadow of a doubt the Father is going to put us all on one accord and we will all speak the same thing.

**1Co 1:10** Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of Yahshua, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

### A secular Brief Explanation of the Moon Phases

The phases of the moon are caused by the relative positions of the earth, sun, and moon. The moon goes around the earth, on average, in 27 days 7 hours 43 minutes.

The sun always illuminates the half of the moon facing the sun (except during lunar eclipses, when the moon passes thru the earth's shadow). When the sun and moon are on opposite sides of the earth, the moon appears "full" to us, a bright, round disk. **When the moon is between the earth and the sun, it appears dark, a "new" moon.** In between, the moon's illuminated surface appears to grow (wax) to full, then decreases (wanes) to the next new moon.

The edge of the shadow (the terminator) is always curved, being an oblique view of a circle, giving the moon its familiar crescent shape. Because the "horns" of the moon at the ends of the crescent are always facing away from the setting or rising sun, they always point upward in the sky. It is fun to watch for paintings and pictures which show an "impossible moon" with the horns pointed downwards.

*(above information courtesy of NASA <http://liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov>)*

(Psa 81:3) Blow up<sup>8628</sup> the trumpet<sup>7782</sup> in the new moon,<sup>2320</sup> in the time appointed,<sup>3677</sup> on our solemn feast<sup>2282</sup> day.<sup>3117</sup>

The scriptures states that we should blow the trumpet in the new moon in the time appointed. Therefore, if we are not aware when the New Moon is how will we be on one accord and blow the trumpet or sound the alarm on one accord?

**New moon** is defined in the Hebrew text as rebuilt or repaired. You could say when it begins its new cycle to start the calculation of the new month.

**H2320** חדש chôdesh kho'-desh

From H2318; the *new* moon; by implication a *month*: - month (-ly), new moon.

**H2318** חדש châdash khaw-dash'

A primitive root; to *be new*; causatively to *rebuild*: - renew, repair.

The phrase in the time appointed is from Hebrew Kaseh which is from the Hebrew Kasah meaning covered.

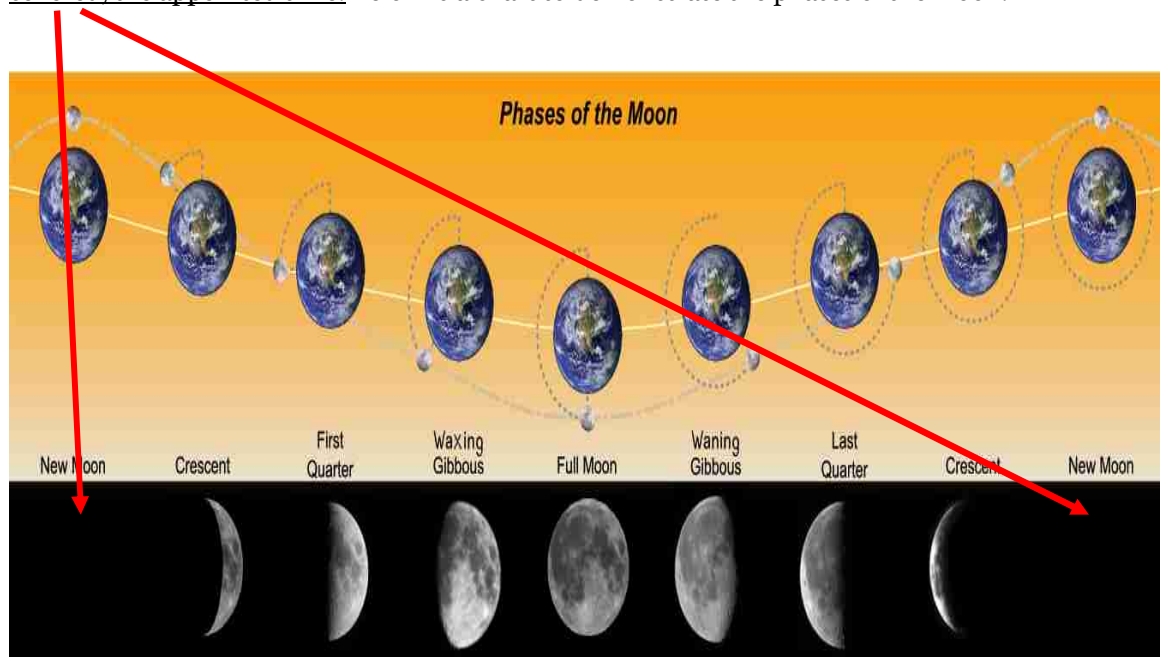
**H3677** כסה כסה kese' keseh keh'-seh, keh'-seh

Apparently from H3680; properly *fulness* or the *full moon*, that is, its festival: - (time) appointed.

**H3680** כסה kâsâh kaw-saw'

A primitive root; properly to *plump*, that is, *fill up* hollows; by implication to cover (for clothing or secrecy):

The new moon is not when the moon is visible as in the crescent but at the time when the moon is covered, the appointed time. Below is a chart to demonstrate the phases of the moon.



(Amo 8:5) Saying,<sup>559</sup> When<sup>4970</sup> will the new moon<sup>2320</sup> be gone,<sup>5674</sup> that we may sell<sup>7666</sup> corn?<sup>7668</sup> and the sabbath,<sup>7676</sup> that we may set forth<sup>6605</sup> wheat,<sup>1250</sup> making the ephah small,<sup>6994, 374</sup> and the shekel<sup>8255</sup> great,<sup>1431</sup> and falsifying<sup>5791</sup> the balances<sup>3976</sup> by deceit?<sup>4820</sup>

The word “gone” in the phrase “new moon be gone” is from the Hebrew Abar meaning transition or to cross over. When the black moon is seen it has crossed over or has made it’s transition to the next phase of the monthly cycle.

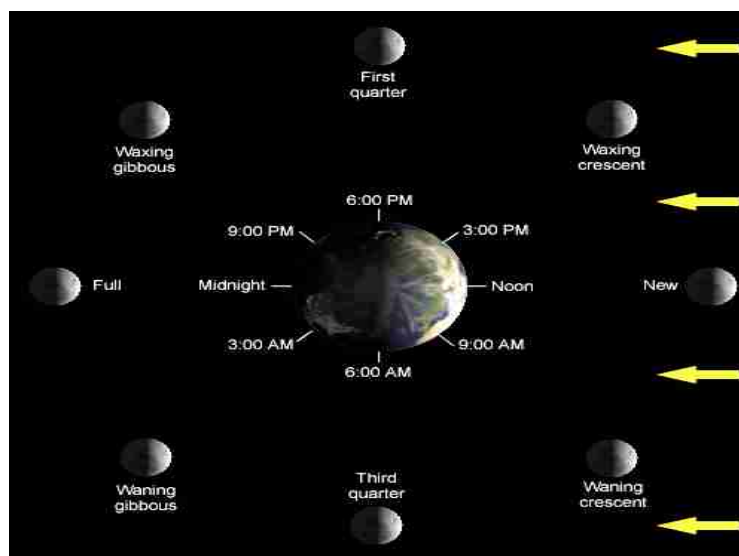
**H5674** עבר ‘ābar *aw-bar*’

A primitive root; to *cross over*; used very widely of any *transition* (literally or figuratively; transitively, intransitively, intensively or causatively); specifically to *cover* (in copulation):

From another source we find the same explanation for the New, Covered, Black, Dark Moon. However, there is a distinction made as relating to the traditional moon vs the New Moon.

### Lunar Phases

Lunar phases are the result of our eyes seeing the illuminated half of the Moon from different viewing geometries: they are not caused by shadows of the Earth on the Moon that occur during a [lunar eclipse](#). The Moon exhibits different phases as the relative geometry of the Sun, Earth, and Moon change, appearing as a [full moon](#) when the Sun and Moon are on opposite sides of the Earth, and as a [new moon](#) (also named [dark moon](#)) it is not visible at night when they are on the same side. The phases of full moon and new moon are examples of [syzygies](#), which occur when the Earth, Moon, and Sun lie (approximately) in a straight line. The time between two full moons (or between successive occurrences of the same phase) is about 29.53 days (29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes) on average. This [synodic month](#) is longer than the [time](#) it takes the Moon to make one orbit about the Earth with respect to the fixed stars (the [sidereal month](#)), which is about 27.32 days. This difference is caused by the fact that the Earth-Moon system is orbiting about the Sun at the same time the Moon is orbiting about the Earth. The actual time between two syzygies is variable because the [orbit](#) of the Moon is elliptic and subject to various periodic perturbations, which change the velocity of the Moon.



The phases of the Moon have been given the following names, which are listed in sequential order:

Phase	<u>Northern Hemisphere</u>	<u>Southern Hemisphere</u>
<b>Dark Moon</b>	Not visible	Not visible
<b>New Moon</b>	Not visible, or <b>traditionally, the first visible crescent of the Moon</b>	
<b>Waxing Crescent Moon</b>	Right 1-49% visible	Left 1-49% visible
<b>First Quarter Moon</b>	Right 50% visible	Left 50% visible
<b>Waxing gibbous Moon</b>	Right 51-99% visible	Left 51-99% visible
<b>Full Moon</b>	Fully visible	Fully visible
<b>Waning gibbous Moon</b>	Left 51-99% visible	Right 51-99% visible
<b>Third Quarter Moon</b>	Left 50% visible	Right 50% visible
<b>Waning Crescent Moon</b>	Left 1-49% visible	Right 1-49% visible

Notice - the Crescent is called the TRADITIONAL MOON. However, we for scriptural reason we stay with the dark or black moon it is the new or covered (Kasah) moon. The question is do we follow Yah's Laws or the traditions of men?

**Here is what Yahshua had to say about mans traditions.**

(Mar 7:13) Making the word of YAH of none effect<sup>208, 3588, 3056, 2316</sup> through your<sup>5216</sup> tradition,<sup>3862</sup> which<sup>3739</sup> ye have delivered;<sup>3860</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> many<sup>4183</sup> such<sup>5108</sup> like things<sup>3946</sup> do<sup>4160</sup> ye.

(Mat 15:6) And<sup>2532</sup> honor<sup>5091</sup> not<sup>3364</sup> his<sup>848</sup> father<sup>3962</sup> or<sup>2228</sup> his<sup>848</sup> mother,<sup>3384</sup> he shall be free. Thus<sup>2532</sup> have ye made the commandment of YAH of none effect<sup>208, 3588, 1785, 2316</sup> by<sup>1223</sup> your<sup>5216</sup> tradition.<sup>3862</sup>

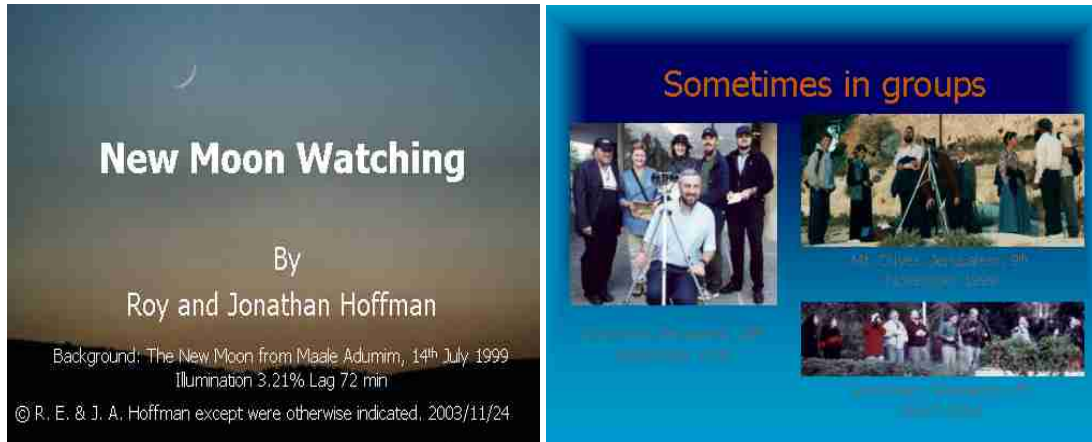
**Shaul had something to say about the traditions of men as well.**

(Col 2:8) Beware<sup>991</sup> lest<sup>3361</sup> any man<sup>5100</sup> spoil<sup>4812</sup> you<sup>5209</sup> through<sup>1223</sup> philosophy<sup>5385</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> vain<sup>2756</sup> deceit,<sup>539</sup> after<sup>2596</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> tradition<sup>3862</sup> of men,<sup>444</sup> after<sup>2596</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> rudiments<sup>4747</sup> of the<sup>3588</sup> world,<sup>2889</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> not<sup>3756</sup> after<sup>2596</sup> Christ.<sup>5547</sup>

(Col 2:16) Let no<sup>3361</sup> man<sup>5100</sup> therefore<sup>3767</sup> judge<sup>2919</sup> you<sup>5209</sup> in<sup>1722</sup> meat,<sup>1035</sup> or<sup>2228</sup> in<sup>1722</sup> drink,<sup>4213</sup> or<sup>2228</sup> in<sup>1722</sup> respect<sup>3313</sup> of a holy day,<sup>1859</sup> or<sup>2228</sup> of the new moon,<sup>3561</sup> or<sup>2228</sup> of the sabbath<sup>4521</sup> days:

Therefore, we should not let man judge us because the creator has given us the signs for seasons and no one can change that. No Man!

**On the contrary we have the traditionalists who hold to the view that the moon is not new until you see it.**



[http://chem.ch.huji.ac.il/nmr/foo/ppt/nmoon\\_files/frame.htm](http://chem.ch.huji.ac.il/nmr/foo/ppt/nmoon_files/frame.htm)

However these practice have their origin in crescent moon worship Although the moon has not had great prominence in the history of religion, the worship of it has been known since earliest recorded time—in the oldest literatures of Egypt, Babylonia, India, and China—and still exists today in various parts of the world, particularly among certain African and Native American groups. Moon worship is founded on the belief that the phases of the moon and the growth and decline of plant, animal, and human life are related. In some societies food was laid out at night to absorb the rays of the moon, which were thought to have power to cure disease and prolong life. Among the Baganda of central Africa it was customary for a mother to bathe her newborn child by the light of the first full moon. The moon was frequently equated with wisdom and justice, as in the worship of the Egyptian Elohiym Thoth and the Mesopotamian Elohiym Sin. In general, however, the moon has been the basis for many amorous legends and some superstitions (madmen were once considered to be moonstruck, hence the term *lunatic* ) and is particularly important in the practice of astrology .

<http://www.encyclopedia.com/doc/1E1-moonwors.html>

Others site the passage in the book of Enoch to determine the New moon Let's take a look at the passage.

CHAP. 73.—And after this law I saw another law with reference to the smaller luminary whose name is moon. 2. And her circuit is like the circuit of the heavens, and her chariot in which she rides is driven by the wind, and in a measure light is given to her. 3. Every month her ascent and her descent is changed; her days are like the days of the sun, and when her light is equal [full] her light is the seventh part of the light of the sun.

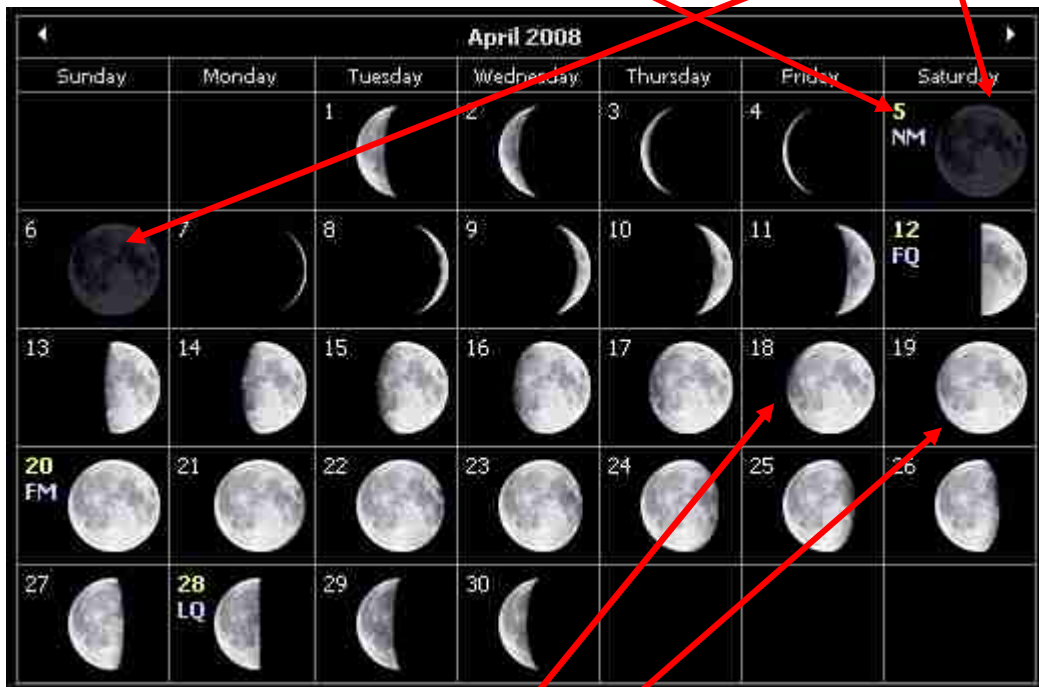
Notice he says when here light is Equal or Full it is the seventh part of the sun. This is no doubt not talking about the New moon but the Full moon which is equal to the seventh part of the sun.

4. And thus she rises. And her beginning in the east comes forth on the thirtieth morning, and on that day she becomes visible and is for you the beginning of the moon, on the thirtieth morning, together with the sun in the portal whence the sun proceeds.

Once again this passage is not talking about the New Moon which is on the first day, but the Full moon which usually is visible on or about the 13<sup>th</sup> morning.

(Deu 16:1) Observe the month of Abib, and keep the passover unto YHWH thy Elohiym: for in the month of Abib YHWH thy Elohiym brought thee forth out of Egypt by night.

On the First Day of Abib is the New Moon for the New Year> this month has two black moons.



Exo 12:5-6 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: (6) And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

Lev 23:5 In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is YHWH's passover.

Notice he says on the fourteenth day at even which would correspond with the book of Enoch that states on the 13<sup>th</sup> day it is visible. At even would be the sunset of the 13<sup>th</sup>.

5. And the one half is prominent by the seventh part, and her whole circuit is empty, and there is no light with the exception of the one seventh part of the fourteen parts of light. 6. And on that day when she takes up the seventh part and the half of her light, her light contains one seventh and one seventh part and the half of it. She sets with the sun. 7. And when the sun rises the moon also rises with him and takes a half portion of light, and in that night in the beginning of her morning on her first day the moon sets with the sun, and is darkened in that night, with the seventh and the seventh portions and the half of one. 8. And she will rise on that day with exactly

the seventh part, and will come out and become smaller from the rising of the sun and shine the rest of her days, with the seventh and the seventh part.

Crescent moon observation is actually moon worship, not the new moon as the traditionalist would like us to believe. When one observes the Crescent they are ignorantly worshipping the Moon.

### **Here is a list of Lunar Deities**

Ainu mythology-Chup Kamui , Akkadian mythology ,Sin (Sumerian: Suen). This name was corrupted to Enzu

Arabian mythology -Illat ,Hilal ,Hubal ,Sin ,Ta'lab ,Wadd ,al-Ilah

Aztec mythology , Coyolxauhqui ,Metztli ,Tecciztecatl

Babylonian mythology-Sin,Basque mythology,Ilazki

Canaanite mythology-Jarih, Nikkal

Celtic mythology-GóntiaLair bál,Chibcha mythology

Just to name a few.

The New Moon Phase count.



### **Sîn: Moon god in 2100 BC**

"Sin.—The moon-god occupied the chief place in the astral triad. Its other two members, Shamash the sun and Ishtar the planet Venus, were his children. Thus it was, in effect, from the night that light had emerged....In his physical aspect Sin—who was venerated at Ur under the name of Nannar—was an old man with along beard the color of lapis-lazuli. He normally wore a turban. Every evening he got into his barque—which to mortals appeared in the form of a brilliant crescent moon—and navigated the vast spaces of the nocturnal sky. Some people, however, believed that the luminous crescent was Sin's weapon. But one day the crescent gave way to a disk which stood out in the sky like a gleaming crown. There could be no doubt that this was the god's own crown; and then Sin was called "Lord of the Diadem". These successive and regular transformations lent Sin a certain mystery. For this reason he was considered to be 'He whose deep heart no god can penetrate'... Sin was also full of wisdom. At the end of every month the gods came to consult them and he made decisions for them...His wife was Ningal, 'the great Lady'. He was the father not only of Shamash and Ishtar but also of a son Nusku, the god fire." ([Larousse Encyclopedia of Mythology](#), 1960, p 54-56)



The worship of the Moon god "Sîn" was widespread and common during the time of Abraham. Contrary to Muslim claims, Abraham was asked to leave Ur of the Chaldees where the moon god Sîn was worshipped and migrate to Canaan and worship Jehovah. The Ur of Chaldees is in the region of Babylon.



The Mesopotamian Ziggurat: Temple of the moon God 2100 BC.

"Sîn, moon god of Semitic origin, worshiped in ancient Middle Eastern religions. One of the principal deities in the Babylonian and Assyrian pantheons, he was lord of the calendar and of wisdom. **The chief centers of his worship were** at Harran and **at Ur**, where he was known as Nanna." (encyclopedia.com, Sîn)

The ziggurat of Ur, and the of the moon god Sîn who is seen being carried in procession to the temple called the "Hill of Heaven".



The tower of Babal in Gen 10 may in fact have been a Ziggurat.

Above is actual drawing at the British Museum in London.

Nanna was worshipped in the ziggurat of Ur. There was also a smaller temple for Ningal the moon goddess. Nanna was worshipped both by a High Priestess and priests. Great Kings throughout history from Sargon 2600 BC to Nabonidus 550 BC had their daughters officiate as high-priestess of Nanna at Ur. The tradition begins with the first dynasties of Ur around 3400 BC and continued through to the fall of Ur around the time of Nabonidus, a period of some 3000 years. As we shall see this tradition continued for another 1700 years at Harran and still underlies the Islam of today.



"The Sumerians, in the first literate civilization, left thousands of clay tablets describing their religious beliefs. As demonstrated by Sjöberg and Hall, the ancient Sumerians worshipped a moon-god who was called by many different names. The most



popular names were Nanna, Suen, and Asimbabbar" (Mark Hall, *A Study of the Sumerian Moon-god, Sin*, PhD., 1985, University of Pennsylvania).

### **Harran, City of the Moon God**

At the Northernmost end of the Sumerian empire the city of Harran likewise had the Moon Deity as patron God, under the name of Sin. From about 2000 BC to 1200 AD Harran continued an evolving tradition of Moon God worship. Harran is the place of Abraham's family and ancestors and the centre of many of the early events of genesis, including the naming of Israel. As described by Ezekiel 27:23, Harran along with Sheba and other cities were traders 'in blue clothes and brodered work, in chests of rich apparel , bound with cords and made of cedar.'

The status of Sin was so great that from 1900 BC to 900 BC his name is witness to the forging of international treaties as the guarantor of the word of kings. The temple was resotred by Shalmanester of Assyria in the 9th century BC, and again by Asshurbanipal. About 550 BC, Nabonidus the last king of Babylon, who originated from Harran, rebuilt the temple of the Moon God, directed by a dream. His mother was high priestess at Harran and his daughter at Ur. Ironically his devotion to the Moon God caused a rift between him and his people and contributed to his defeat by the Persians. The worship of the Moon God at Harran evolved with the centuries. It included E-hul-hul, the Temple of Rejoicing, and a set of temples of distinctive shape and colour dedicated to each of the seven planets as emissaries of the cosmic deity. Many of the descriptions of Harran through Christian and Moslem eyes include exaggerated tales of sacrifice which are probably not factual. It was said by one writer that they sacrificed a different character or type of human to each planet. A garlanded black bull was however sacrificed in public ceremony, as the bull was



Star and Crescent of Harran coin



Sign of sin



Stele of Nabonidus

at Ur, and Moslem sources refer to seasonal weeping for Ta'uz at Harran, and up to the 10th century among bedouin in the desert.

"His symbol was the crescent moon. Given the amount of artifacts concerning the worship of this moon-god, it is clear that this was the dominant religion in Sumeria. The cult of the moon-god was the most popular religion throughout ancient Mesopotamia. The Assyrians, Babylonians, and Arkkadians took the word *Suen* and transformed it into the word *Sîn* as their favourite name for this deity." (Austin Potts, *The Hymns and Prayers to the Moon-god, Sin*, PhD., 1971, Dropsie College, p.2).

"Sîn is a name essentially Sumerian in origin which had been borrowed by the Semites" (Austin Potts, *The Hymns and Prayers to the Moon-god, Sin*, PhD., 1971, Dropsie College, p.4)

Assyrians had established 20 independent trade colonies throughout Anatolia known as KARUM. It can be said that the Assyrians had developed the most sophisticated trading system of their time



Anatolian mural from Karum - notice the boxed pre-Islamic Crescent-and-Star glyph



Anatolian mural from Karum

Another pre-Islamic crescent moon and star from the same location



close up of Anatolian mural from Karum

In the Ugaritic texts, the moon-god was sometimes called Kusuh.



Ancient Persian Moon-goddess



Ancient Egyptian Moon-goddess

Ur of the Chaldees was so devoted to the moon-god that it was sometimes called Nannar in tablets from that time period. A temple of the moon-god was excavated in Ur by Sir Leonard Woolley. He dug up many examples of moon-worship that are now displayed in the British Museum.



Nannar with the 'three muses' and Eternally Fruiting Orb  
- Ur-Nammu (Maspero 655)

Harran was likewise noted for its devotion to the moon-god. is shown to the right. Note the presence of the crescent moon on the Babylonian moon-god.





## Moon God Aksum 0-600 AD

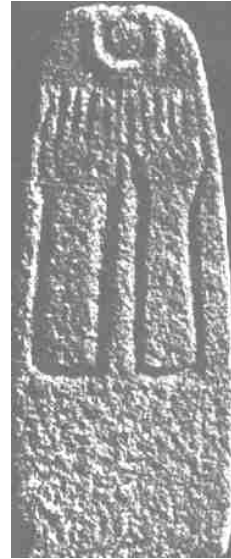
Moon God Aksum 0-600 AD



### Yerah - The Moon God of Canaan

In the 1950's a major temple to the moon-god was excavated at Hazor in Palestine. Two idols of the moon-god were found. Each was a statue of a man sitting upon a throne with a crescent moon carved into his chest (below left). The accompanying inscriptions make it clear that these were idols of the moon-god (below right). The worship tablet found at the same sight shows arms outstretched towards the Moon-god here represented by the full moon within the crescent moon. Several smaller statues were also found which were identified by their inscriptions as the daughters of the moon-god.





Thousands of inscriptions from walls and rocks in northern Arabia have also been collected. Reliefs and votive bowls used in worship of the "daughters of Allah" have also been discovered. The three daughters, Al-Lat, Al-Uzza, and Manat are sometimes depicted together with Allah the moon-god represented by a crescent moon above them (North Arabian archaeological finds concerning Al-Lat are discussed in:

- Isaac Rabinowitz, Aramaic Inscriptions of the Fifth Century, JNES, XV, 1956, pp.1-9;
- Another Aramaic Record of the North Arabian goddess Han'Llat, JNES, XVIII, 1959, pp.154-55
- Edward Linski, The Goddess Atirat in Ancient Arabia, in Babylon and in Ugarit: Her Relation to the Moon-god and the Sun-goddess, *Orientalia Lovaniensia Periodica*, 3:101-9
- H.J.Drivers, Iconography and Character of the Arab Goddess Allat, found in



Études Preliminaires Aux Religions  
Orientales Dans L'Empire Roman, ed.  
Maarten J. Verseren, Leiden, Brill,  
1978, pp.331-51)

Nabonidus the last King of Babylon, (555-539 BC), built Tayma, Arabia, as a centre of moon-god worship.

"South Arabia's stellar religion has always been dominated by the Moon-god in various variations" (Berta Segall, *The Iconography of Cosmic Kingship*, the Art Bulletin, vol.xxxviii, 1956, p.77).

In 1944, G. Caton Thompson revealed in her book, *The Tombs and Moon Temple of Hureidah*, that she had uncovered a temple of the moon-god in southern Arabia. The symbols of the crescent moon and no less than 21 inscriptions with the name Sîn were found in this temple.



In 1944, G. Caton Thompson also found an idol which is probably the moon-god himself was also discovered. This was later confirmed by other well-known archaeologists

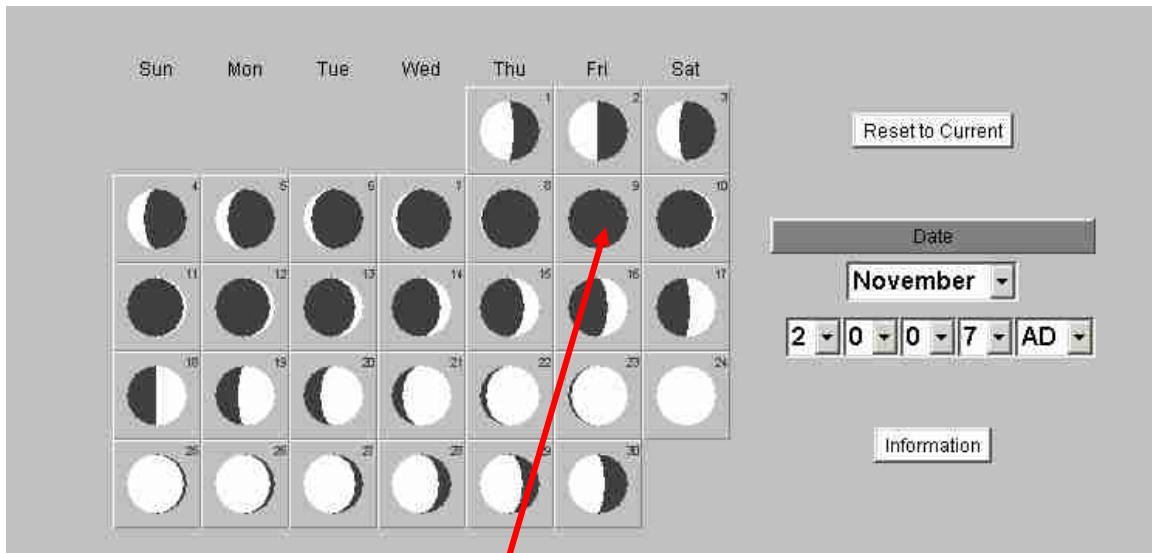


Richard Le Baron Bower Jr. and Frank P. Albright, *Archaeological Discoveries in South Arabia*, Baltimore, John Hopkins University Press, 1958, p.78ff

Ray Cleveland, *An Ancient South Arabian Necropolis*, Baltimore, John Hopkins University Press, 1965; Nelson Gleuck, *Deities and Dolphins*, New York, Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 1965).

This MAY be the moon god but it is not certain

## The conclusion on our discussion of the New Moon



The Black or Dark moon is actually the New Moon.

The different phases of the Moon have different names. As the Moon waxes (the amount of illuminated surface as seen from Earth is increasing), the Moon moves through the New Moon, Crescent Moon, First-Quarter Moon, Gibbous Moon and Full Moon phases, before returning through the Gibbous Moon, Third-quarter Moon, Crescent Moon and Old Moon phases. Old Moon and New Moon are interchangeable, although New Moon is used in preference, and Half Moon is often used to mean the First- and Third-Quarter Moons.

Casual observers will not typically notice a waxing Crescent Moon until about 60 hours after it has passed conjunction with the Sun (i.e after New Moon); but some individuals have crafted a hobby out of attempting to view the Moon after a much shorter interval than this. Informal "records" and their confirmability vary; some have claimed to have seen the Moon as little as 12 hours after the moment of conjunction. Three factors increase the likelihood of spying a very "young" Moon: First, the angle the Moon makes with the ecliptic must be favourable for the applicable side of the Earth — the optimum scenario for this would be a New Moon that falls in mid-March in the Northern Hemisphere or mid-September in the Southern Hemisphere; second, the Moon should be at or near perigee, causing it to appear to move faster (and hence draw away from the Sun sooner); and third, the New Moon must be at or near its maximum separation from the node in a favourable direction based on the hemisphere of the observer. These same principles can be applied to sight a very "old" Moon just before conjunction (with the best time of year being very early autumn for that side of the Earth), but this is far less commonly pursued.

Therefore, on the basis of the scriptures and the record we have obtained from the study of the New moon we stay with the Black or Dark moon as our sign for the New Month.

**Ecc 12:13** Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear YAH, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.