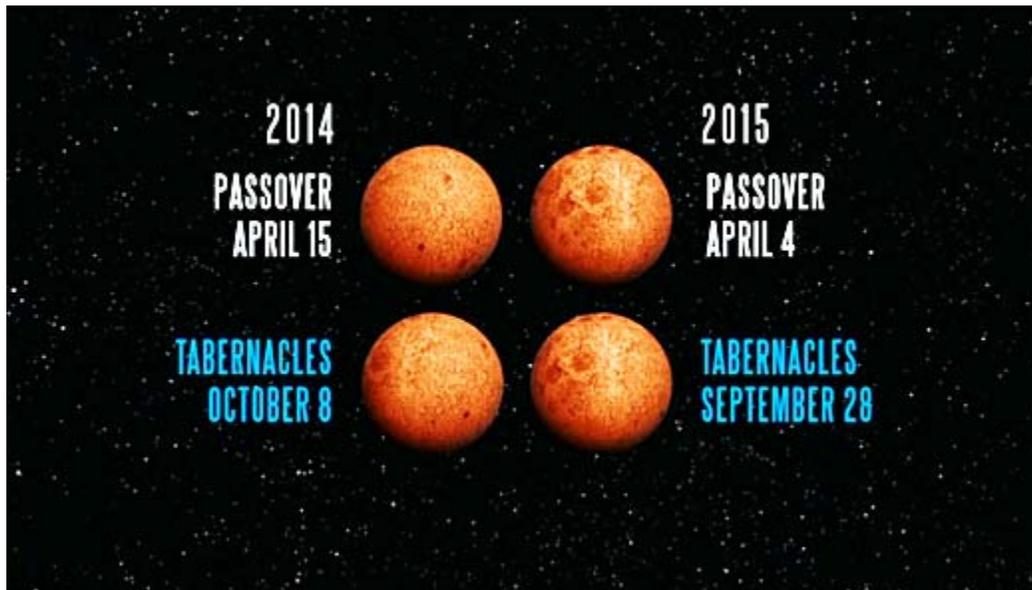


The BLOOD RED MOONS – Countdown to the Messiah?

What is the significance of the tetrad of blood red lunar eclipses occurring on the Hebrew holy days of Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles in 2014 and 2015? Is the END of this age drawing near? Is this a SIGN of the soon coming of the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lord, and the return of the Messiah?

William F. Dankenbring

According to the Jewish calendar, the year 2008 was a Sabbatical year. A new Sabbatical cycle began September 29, 2008. 2015 will also be a Sabbatical year. But most amazing of all, it has been discovered that in the years 2014 and 2015 there will be two solar eclipses and four lunar eclipses, all of them occurring on Jewish Holy Days!



As WND has reported, Biltz, who promotes the Old Testament roots of Christianity at El Shaddai Ministries in Bonney Lake, Wash., began focusing in recent years on the precise times of both solar and lunar eclipses, with lunar eclipses often called

"blood moons" since the moon sometimes takes on a bloody color.

He logged onto NASA's eclipse website which provides precision tracking of the celestial events. Biltz noted a rare phenomenon of four consecutive total lunar eclipses, known as a tetrad, and saw that 2014 and 2015 would play a key role.

Says Biltz, "One morning, as I was praying, a thought popped into my head: Why don't I compare the dates of the eclipses on the NASA website to the dates on the biblical calendar? When I did, I was shocked to find that all four eclipses – over both years – fell on the biblical holidays of Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles. I just about jumped out of my skin.

"Immediately I ran to my computer and pulled up NASA's website to look up other times when there have been four consecutive blood moons, which are total lunar eclipses, where the moon appears blood red. NASA calls four total blood moons in a row a tetrad, and they list their occurrences. I noticed there weren't any in the 1600s, 1700s, or even the 1800s. The last time there was a tetrad was back in the 1900s, and to my amazement, they also fell on the feasts of Passover and Tabernacles.

"When I noticed the years these phenomena occurred, my mind began reeling. The last two times there were four blood moons in a row, they happened, first, right after Israel became a nation in 1948, and then again when Israel retook Jerusalem in 1967. I started doing a hallelujah dance. It was as if I had just found treasure buried in the sand. My heart was racing a hundred miles an hour as all those key Scriptures about the signs in the heavens, God's feast days, and the timing on the biblical calendar flooded my mind."

The find led Biltz on an incredible journey of discovery as he began linking the feast days in the Bible with the signs in the heavens.

Blood Red Moons 2014-2015

The Lunar eclipses break down as follows:

Passover	April 15, 2014
Feast of Tabernacles	October 8, 2014
Passover	April 4, 2015
Feast of Tabernacles	September 28, 2015

The two Solar eclipses connected with God's Holy Days in 2014-2015 occur:

Adar 29/Nisan 1(new year)	March 20, 2015
Feast of Trumpets	September 13, 2015

It was on Nisan 1 that the Hebrew new year's day occurred, according to the Scriptures (Exo.12:1-2). On the anniversary of this date, one year later, Moses raised up

the Tabernacle of God, inaugurated it, and the glory of God descended from heaven (Exodus 40:2, 17, 34).

The real shocker is that this phenomenon is extremely rare, for this pattern of eclipses to fall on both Passover and Sukkot in two years in a row, and for a solar eclipse to occur on important Holy Days in the same year (2015).

This intriguing, incredible discovery comes from Mark Biltz, pastor of El Shaddai Ministries, in Bonner Lake, Washington.

Biltz was intrigued with the statement in the Scriptures that connect the second coming of the Messiah with “signs in the heavens,” particularly the signs that “the sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood” before the return of Christ.

He went on the internet, to the U.S. Government NASA website to see if there were any significant eclipses of the sun and moon during the next few years. To his surprise, he discovered four lunar eclipses in the Sabbatical year 2014/2015, and was intrigued by the fact that they occurred on God’s annual Holy Days!

Writing about the amazing discovery in the May 2008 issue of *Prophecy in the News*, J. R. Church declares, “This is most unusual. It is a rare occurrence for four lunar cycles on successive Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot) observances. It will not happen again for hundreds of years.”

Says J. R. Church, in a letter accompanying the magazine issue, “Four lunar eclipses occurring on the Feast of Tabernacles and Passover in two successive years are phenomenal. But add to them two solar eclipses on the two days that open the Jewish year – Adar 29/Nisan1, just two weeks before Passover, and Tishri 1 (Rosh Hashannah) – is uncanny. On each of these six Jewish Holy Days, the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give her light. Will this happen again in the 21st century? No. Did it happen in the 20th century? Yes, in 1949/1950, the year following Israel’s statehood, and 1967/1968, the year Jerusalem was liberated in the Six-Day War! Before that, you have to go back to 1493 for four successive lunar eclipses on Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles” (May 2008 letter).

Is God Almighty telling us something? Skeptics and scoffers will denounce the discovery as mere coincidence, but the prophet Daniel informs us, “Many shall be purified, made white, and refined. But the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but the wise will understand” (Dan.12:10).

Peter warned, “Scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation’ (II Pet.3:3-4).

Biltz focused on the precise times of solar and lunar eclipses, sometimes called “blood moons,” by logging onto NASA’s website on eclipses. He noticed a rare

phenomenon of four consecutive total lunar eclipses which are known as a “tetrad.” During this century, tetrads occur at least six times, but the only string of four consecutive “blood moons” coincide with God’s Holy days of Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles. This occurs between the years 2014 and 2015 on today’s Gregorian calendar.

In the 20th century, he noticed that such successive blood moons coinciding with Passover and Tabernacles occurred only on 1967-68, the year the Jews liberated Jerusalem from the control of the Arabs. He also noted that the only other such combination of eclipses in the 20th century took place in 1949-50, the year following the Jewish state’s hard-fought war of independence, when Israel became a nation.

“Signs” in the Heavens

Just how significant is this astounding information? Is this another tell-tale clue pinpointing the period of the second coming of the Messiah?

Why did God create the stars in the heavens in the first place? We read one significant answer in Genesis, the first chapter.

Moses wrote: “And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them *serve as SIGNS* to mark *seasons* and days and years’ (Genesis 1:14, NIV).

The word for “sign” here, in the Hebrew, is *owth*, and means “a signal, as a flag, beacon, monument, omen, prodigy, evidence,” etc. The word for “seasons” is the Hebrew *moadim* and means “festivals, literally, appointed times.”

Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon points out that this word means “a sign,” “a token” (Exo.12:13; Josh.2:12), “signs and times” (Gen.1:14), i.e., “signs of times.” It is used of a military ensign, a sign of something past, and a sign of something future, a portent, as well as a sign of anything which cannot be seen.

For “seasons”, Strong’s Concordance has “an appointment, i.e. a fixed time or season; spec. a festival.” Gesenius has it, “(1) a set time, . . . (2) an assembly . . . (3) a place in which an assembly is held . . . (4) an appointed time, a signal.”

Thus heavenly bodies, and the periodic return of comets, and celestial meteor showers, and eclipses, can be, in Biblical terms, a “heavenly sign”! Yeshua spoke of such signs occurring before His return to planet Earth. When such a sign occurs on a *moad or moadim*, or Festival of God, it is especially significant.

Biblical End-Time Prophecies

Jesus Christ Himself said, referring to the days before His second coming: “And there will be fearful sights and GREAT SIGNS *from heaven*” (Luke 21:11, KJV). Christ went on, “And there will be SIGNS in the sun, in the moon, and in the *stars* . . .” (Luke

21: 25).

Also speaking of His second coming, to rule this world, and to deliver mankind from its greatest crisis in all human history, Jesus foretold: *“Immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars [meteors] will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken [an incredible cosmic quaking and shaking -- see Hebrews 12:25-28; Hag.2:21-23]. Then the SIGN of the Son of Man will APPEAR in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will SEE the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and glory”* (Matt.24:29-31).

Such signs are also mentioned as occurring before the day of the Lord in the Tanakh – the Old Testament Scriptures (Joel 2:30-31; Joel 2:10; Joel 3:14-16).

Does God often send mysterious “signs” in the heavens before He performs mighty works in the earth? What do the Scriptures say about this?

The prophet Joel tells us, “The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, BEFORE the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD” (Joel 2:31).

These awesome occurrences in the skies and heavens will stagger mankind, causing terrible fright and anxiety.

John in Revelation prophesied, that in the period just before the coming of the Messiah, and the “Day of the Lord,” that great signs would take place: “I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood” (Rev.6:12).

“And the stars of heaven fell to the earth [meteor showers], as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place” (Rev.6:13-14). After this, then, comes the final “Day of the Lord” -- the time when God Himself begins to punish the nations, and bring His divine judgments of wrath and fury.

Jesus’ Step-by-Step Prophecy

Jesus' disciples came to Him and asked Him privately, “When shall these things be? And what shall be the SIGN of thy coming, and of the END of the world [Greek *aion*, “age”]?” (Matt.24:3). Jesus warned them first of all to beware of false prophets and false religious teachers who proclaim heresy (Matt.24:4-5). He then prophesied wars and rumors of wars, but said these did not signal the end (verse 6). He even predicted wars, earthquakes, famines and plagues, but said these were but “the beginning of sorrows” (verses 7-8).

Jesus then warned that persecution of true Christians would greatly increase

(verses 9-20), and many false prophets and deceivers would rise up (verse 11). This has begun to happen around the world -- with Christians being persecuted vehemently in Turkey, Egypt, India, China, Moslem countries, and even in "secular" societies like the United States, and the western world!

Jesus then announced, "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold" (verse 12). This has begun to happen! The world has seen a sharp increase in violence, lawlessness, and general immorality and iniquity. Riots, looting, arson, murder, pornography, violence in movies, profanity, and the breakdown of the home and family -- all are contributing to a world gone berserk and gangs and rioters running amok! Civil disorder and ethnic strife and hatred are rapidly increasing.

In the midst of this, Jesus said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in ALL THE WORLD for a WITNESS unto all nations; and THEN the END will come" (verse 14). That also has begun to happen! In the pages of *Prophecy Flash*, and via the internet and worldwide web around the world, this final message of the coming of God's KINGDOM is being hurled around the globe!

Jesus said that the next thing to look for is "the abomination of desolation" standing in the Temple of God in Jerusalem (Matt.24:15) -- and when we see that happening, those in Jerusalem should FLEE to the hills and mountains for safety (verses 16-20). That final invasion of Israel and Jerusalem in the Middle East will lead to a captivity and time of travail lasting 42 months (compare Matt.24:21-22 with Rev.13:4-6, 11:1-2, 12:6, 14).

Notice -- Jesus gave us a specific TIME TABLE of many sequential prophecies, each to be fulfilled in their proper order, BEFORE and LEADING UP TO HIS SECOND COMING! After this Great Tribulation, Jesus foretold great signs in the heavens, followed by the "Day of the Lord" -- the time He will return in awesome glory and power (Matt.24:29-31). This will occur at the seventh or "last" trumpet (I Cor.15:50-51; I Thess.4:14-17; Rev.11:15).

Isn't this plain?

These are NOT mere "speculations"! The apostle Peter wrote in these terms: "We have also a MORE SURE WORD OF PROPHECY; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a LIGHT that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

"Knowing this first, that NO prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (II Pet.1:19-21).

Prophecy is a vital and integral part of the Word of God! It is not something which should be treated lightly, cavalierly, with disrespect and dishonor. It is vital to our SALVATION! If it were not so important, then God would not have inspired

2/3rds of His Word to deal with prophecy, and 90% of that to apply to the LAST DAYS, the generation alive just before the return of the Messiah in awesome power and glory to deliver His people and to save the earth from utter annihilation, destruction, and cosmocide!

Paul wrote, even commanded, “Never disdain prophetic revelations” (I Thess.5:20, Moffatt), or, “Do not scoff at those who prophesy” (TLB). Have you become a scoffer in these last days?

What is the main lesson these vital End-Time SIGNS in the heavens show us?

OUR GENERATION -- this present generation -- will be the FINAL, LAST, END-TIME GENERATION that will see all these things come to pass, and that will WITNESS the awesome, spine-tingling return of JESUS CHRIST, THE MESSIAH in tremendous power and unimaginable GLORY!!!

Jesus Himself said: “Verily I say unto you, *This generation shall not pass*, till ALL these things be fulfilled” (Matt.24:34). You and I – those of us of THIS present generation of the Atomic Bomb, nuclear weapons, biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction – WE are the ones living in the Biblical "time of the end" -- the FINAL generation! The time has come. The Messiah's footsteps are approaching. His coming is near. His heavenly stallion is getting nervous, chomping at the bit, getting ready for that great ride through the sky (Rev.19:11-14). The heavenly army is growing tense with excitement and anticipation. The time is near – the moment we are all breathlessly waiting for.

The “signs” are increasing, for those who have eyes to see and hearts to understand! John declares:

“The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, *that there should be delay no longer.*”

"But in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, *the mystery of God would be finished*, as he declared to His servants the prophets” (Revelation 10:5-7, NKJV).

The Awesome Significance

Biltz told WND, “Four total lunar eclipses happening the next two years herald possible war in the Middle East as well as global economic collapse.”

He says historically, these types of solar eclipses have been signs, “foretelling

important events such as the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem. Two happened right in a row at the time of destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. and on feast days,” he said.

“Around eight months before the Temple was destroyed we find on 10/18/69 there was a partial lunar eclipse on the Feast of Sukkot. A total solar eclipse followed this on Nisan 1-3/30/70, the beginning of the religious year. Two weeks later there was a penumbral lunar eclipse on Passover on 4/14/70. An annular solar eclipse followed this on Rosh Hashanah on 9/23/70. Then another penumbral lunar eclipse on Sukkot on 10/8/70,” he explained.

Biltz stresses what makes the coming events so startling is the fact they'll take place during the Feast of Passover and Feast of Tabernacles in consecutive years.

“This has happened only eight times over the last 2,000 years!” Biltz said. “And the last two times these occurred on the Jewish holidays there was a war in the Middle East regarding the nation of Israel. These are patterns and historical facts that cannot be disregarded. The Jewish Talmud records that total lunar eclipses are indicators or omens for the nation of Israel.”

Among those championing the need to pay attention to Biltz's message in *Blood Moons* is Joseph Farah, the founder and CEO of WND.

“It’s not a question of *if* these signs will occur. It's not even a question of *when* they will occur. About that there is no doubt,” said Farah. “The only questions that remain to be answered are: what they mean – and whether they are biblical harbingers of things to come for the world and for God's people. No one has perspective on these questions like Mark Biltz.”

Farah added: “The wisdom of decoding these heavenly messages from our Creator . . . is overwhelmingly persuasive . . . God is trying to get our attention. And I am convinced He has anointed Mark Biltz to help us understand the times in which we live and the urgent warnings God is trying to deliver to us all.”

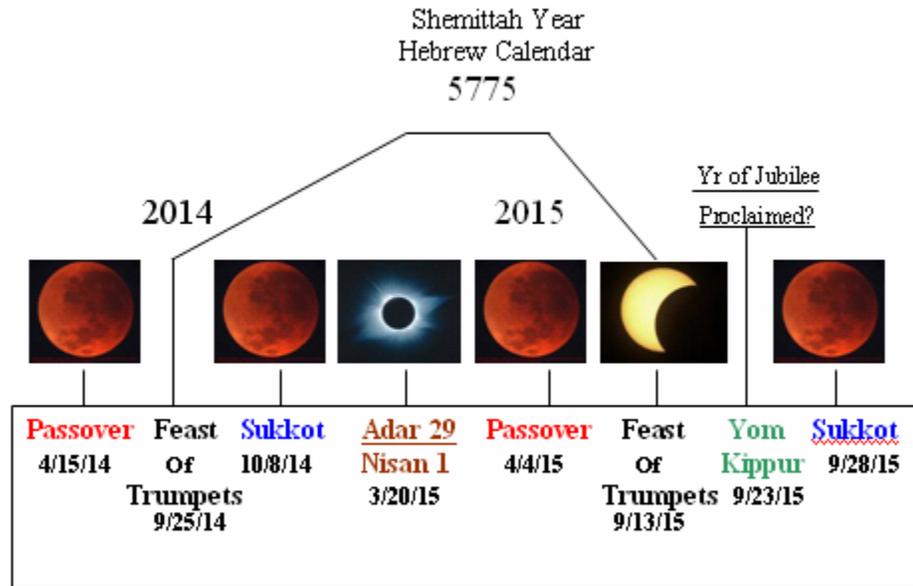
Farah calls the blood red moon discovery a powerful spiritual teaching “so detailed, so improbable, so mysterious it could only be the result of divine handiwork.”

But what IS the real significance of the blood red lunar eclipses occurring on the Jewish holy days of Passover and Sukkot?

Could the years 2014-2015 picture the final years of the countdown to the approaching footsteps of the Messiah? Could this be the beginning of Daniel’s 70th week, which heralds in the “end of the age,” “to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy”? (Dan.9:24-27).

Could this be the final “seven times” or “years” of Leviticus 26 – a time of

plagues and punishments upon all Israel? God says, “I will punish you seven times [“years”] more for your sins. I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze. And your strength shall be spent in vain” (Lev.26:18—20).



Four blood moons occurring on Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles in two consecutive years is fantastic, phenomenal. But when two solar eclipses on the two days that open the Jewish year March 20, 2015 (Nisan 1), and September 13, 2015 (Tishri 1) which is the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah) are added, it is mind boggling.

Are these heavenly signs a powerful indicator that we are on the cusp of frightening days of judgment, and that the Great Tribulation is now about to begin, and the coming of the Messiah is right around the corner?

“And there will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; and upon the earth [there will be] distress (trouble and anguish) of nations in bewilderment and perplexity [without resources, left wanting, embarrassed, in doubt, not knowing which way to turn] at the roaring (the echo) of the tossing of the sea” (Luke 21:25, Amplified Parallel Bible).

Are the tell tale end-time signs now beginning in earnest?