

The Two “Yooms”

Often Calendar Studies become confused because of mixing the two definitions of a “Yoom/Day”, within the same context. The task is to keep separate the difference between a “Three-Parts-Per-Day” type of “Yoom/Day”, from a “Calendar-Day” type of “Yoom/Day”.

The ancient Hebrew concept of a “Day” comes from “**The Book of Enoch**”. Enoch used the word “Day” in two different ways. The Hebrew Text has Enoch’s same dual meaning of the word “Day”, H3117-“Yoom”.

The Book of Enoch uses the word “Day”, having the meaning of counting 364 “Day-Events” to make a “Solar Calendar Year”. It also has the meaning of referring to the “Lighted” portion of the “Day”, contrasted with the “Darkened” night portion of the “Day”. **The casual reader will get confused by not noticing when an ancient calendar-source is talking about the “Day” as a “Calendar Event”, versus the “Day” as the “Lighted” portion of a “Three-Parts-Per-Day-Event”.**

The Book of Enoch uses the word “Day” to refer to the astronomical events of “Morning” and “Evening” of the Sun, and also to refer to the astronomical events of “Morning” and “Evening” of the Moon. The “Morning” of the Moon starts in the Sun’s “Evening”. Thus, the Sun’s “Calendar Day” starts in the “Morning”; from “Morning” to “Evening” to the next “Morning”. The Moon’s “Calendar Day” starts in the Sun’s “Evening”; from “Evening” to “Morning” to the next “Evening”. **The Book of Enoch defines the Lunar Calendar’s “Day” to be from “sunset-to-sunset”.**

The ancient Hebrew concept of a “Yoom/Day” had these same concepts. You can demonstrate for yourself that there are two different counting systems for a “Yoom/Day”. Here is a start:

- 3117 - ywm(y-ow-m) - typically pronounced as 'Yoohm'
Brown-Driver-Briggs - day, **as a division of time** (also ‘day’ as in any span of time)
- 3119 - ywmm Brown-Driver-Briggs -> daytime, in the daylight time
- 3117 - ywm - daylight time, Genesis 1:5 "...and called light (‘Yoom’) Day and called darkness (lylm) Night", demonstrating ‘Yoom’ is used to contrast daylight time from night time. The 24-Hour-Day begins with the daylight’s sunrise.
- 3117 - ywm - a 24-Hour-Day system, Genesis 1:5,8,etc. "...and evening was and morning was ‘Yoom’ 2", demonstrating a "sunrise-to-sunrise" 24-Hour-Day system
ywm can be a "sunrise-to-sunrise" 24-Hour-Day system, the context must decide how ‘Yoom’ is being used
- 3117 - bywm - in-24-Hour-Day system

Context is still Genesis 1:5,8,etc. which is a "sunrise-to-sunrise" 24-Hour-Day system. Genesis 2:2-3 "...He rested (bywm) in-24-Hour-Day the-7th... (direct object is 'Yoom') that-24-Hour-Day the-7th sanctified it..." Thus, the Sabbath is a 24-Hour time span.

3117 - bywm - in-24-Hour-Day system, (Ezra 6:9,15 context shows a Lunar Calendar counting)

'Yoom' can be either of the two 24-Hour-Day systems, the context must decide how 'Yoom' is being used

3117 - hywm - the-daylight time (of a 24-Hour-Day system) (Genesis 1:14)

3995 - hlylm - the-night time (sun is down) (Genesis 1:14)

Context is still a "sunrise-to-sunrise" 24-Hour-Day system

The context must decide how 'Yoom' is being used

3119 - hywmm - the-daylight time (Exodus 13:22)

3915 - lylm - night time (sun is down) (Exodus 13:22)

The context must decide how 'Yoom' is being used

Most often the Hebrew word "Yoom" (H3117) refers to a 24-Hour Calendar-Day, as a division of time. **The Hebrew priests and scholars divided the 24-Hour "sunrise-to-sunrise" Calendar-Day up into three (3) parts: two (2) parts for the daylight portion, and one (1) part for the nighttime portion.**

The historical evidence for this is given below:

The "**Sumerian Lunar Calendar**" of circa BC 2250 has the concept of the 24-Hour Lunar-Calendar-Day starting at sunset. The Sumerian Lunar Calendar is from "sunset-to-sunset". This is the same for the Observed Lunar Calendar used today, it is from "sunset-to-sunset".

The Hebrew "Yoom/Day" can refer to a Lunar Calendar "sunset-to-sunset" type of "Calendar-Day", or to a "sunrise-to-sunrise" type of "Calendar-Day". There are two different "Day" systems of counting time. The context must be used to know which system the word "Yoom/Day" is talking about.

When talking about events, it is important to understand which of the 24-Hour systems is being used. As a contrast, our modern clocks and the counting of the next Calendar-Day begins at midnight, "midnight-to-midnight". When talking about the Lunar Calendar, we try not to use the modern 24-Hour system to map things out. We try to avoid using our modern "midnight-to-midnight" system when talking about Lunar Calendar events. We also need to avoid mixing up the two Hebrew 24-Hour-"Yoom" systems too.

Below is taken from the Passover Paper's Summary:

<http://www.yhwhis1.com/Articles/PassoverSummary.pdf> :

The Book Of Jubilees Describes How The Ancient Hebrews Observed The Passover:

“The Book of Jubilees” was written in Hebrew circa BC 135, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jubilees> . It is part of the Coptic Christian Bible, called “The Book of Divisions”. As a historical reference, this book is invaluable, giving us an insight into how the ancient Jewish authorities understood the Scripture’s Hebrew words.

In the book of Jubilees, Chapter 49 explains both the history of, and the details of how to observe the Passover. In this discourse we are told what is meant by the Hebrew words “between the evenings”. We are told that the Hebrew day is divided into three (3) unequal parts: two (2) parts for the daylight’s twelve hours of the day, and only one (1) part for the entire night time portion of the Calendar-Day. It then explains how the reader is to interpret the Passover instructions, relative to the words “between the evenings”.

The Hebrew word for “**evening**” only means “**mixture**”, and by the context means the “**mixture of lightness and darkness**”. The time after sunset is a “dusk” (mixture) of lightness and darkness, and the morning before sunrise is another “dusk” (mixture) of lightness and darkness also. **The time in between these two “mixtures” is the night-portion, and is the third division of the ancient Hebrew day.**

This Book of Jubilees chapter explains that we are to kill the Passover on the 14th daylight portion of the day, and then eat the Passover “between the mixtures” during the 12-hour night time portion of that “Day”, and leave nothing of the meat after sunrise of the next “Day’s” morning. This chapter is so clear, it even calls this night-portion of the Passover meal as happening on the 15th of the Lunar Calendar.

Even if the reader discounts this book because it is not “scripture” in the Protestant cannon, this book nevertheless is historically authentic. **It tells us how the Jewish scholars of circa BC 135 understood the division of the day into three parts**, and explains the Hebrew understanding of the words “**between the evenings**”. Thus, we are provided with significant historical evidence, and eyewitness insight into the ancient Hebrew understanding of the Passover Ceremony.

In the 24-Hour-"Yoom" system of "sunrise-to-sunrise" a lunar crescent happens on the same "Calendar-Day".

In the 24-Hour-"Yoom" system of "sunset-to-sunset" a lunar crescent happens on the next "Calendar-Day".

Therefore, be aware that any historical event may be recorded as happening on either of two different "Yoom/Day" calendar systems.

For example:

In 2015 the Spring Equinox will be an event, and we need to specify which 24-Hour-"Yoom" calendar system we want to talk about, before we can answer the question: "which day does the equinox happen?"

The 2015 Spring Equinox will occur Local Mean Time in San Jose CA about Friday 2015/03/20 14:36:36 (about 2:37 pm), using the world's "midnight-to-midnight" 24-Hour system. This will be on 12/29 of the Lunar Calendar "sunset-to-sunset" 24-Hour-"Yoom/Day" system. This will be on 12/29 in the 2nd portion of daylight in the "sunrise-to-sunrise" 24-Hour-"Yoom/Day" system. It just so happens to be 12/29 in both systems.

In Service To The Brethren,
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