

Hi everyone,

I have learned earlier today that the Karaite Jews in the land of Israel have declared tonight to be the first day of the next month. That makes it also the first day of the NEW YEAR...!!!! So, tonight is the first day of Aviv, the new moon day, and if that is not enough, the NEW YEAR DAY.... This also means that the Passover will fall on the night of April 10 2009, after sunset. This will be the beginning of the 15th day of Aviv, which is the Passover as listed in Leviticus 23.

This is an interesting case, as the Karaites did not actually SEE the new moon crescent, due to cloud cover. This is the first time I have ever had this event occur since I have been following the Karaites, which has been at least five years now. They have made this decision based upon the "expected viewability" of the moon, which they have been tracking for many decades now. Also, they are confident that others in different areas of the land of Israel that DID NOT have cloud cover should of been able to see the new moon crescent.

What this means for us in True Bread in all reality is this: I am in the position to have to make a decision on this situation about what to do, since the Karaites did NOT see the crescent by direct observation, and I may not have more information until tomorrow night. My decision is to FOLLOW the determination of the Karaites, and to proclaim as well that we are indeed now into the very first day of Aviv at this time, and that we have the correct dates for Passover and Unleavened Bread. The reason for my decision is that we MUST have a common source of measurement of time on this earth, and that the Karaites are ,in my humble opinion, the hands-down experts on moon observations and determinations of the beginning of months. They have very precise methods of determining the EXPECTED visibility of a new moon crescent under IDEAL conditions, and that also the biblical months are either 29 or 30 days long, PERIOD. I cannot wait 24 more hours to make this decision. I have to make a decision now, and I have. And, it is my "gut" instinct that they are correct. The barley has already been found, and we know that a new moon crescent will be seen SOMEWHERE on the earth within specific windows of time, so I am confident of this decision. If anyone sees it another way, please write so we can discuss this critical issue.

By tomorrow evening, I am certain that we will have ACTUAL reports of a crescent seen Friday night in Israel.

Happy New Year.....!!!!

Todd