



The Living God Ministries, Inc.

Montgomery & Spanish Fort, Alabama

August 14, 2020

A Beautiful Full Moon

Warm hellos to you dear brethren, co-workers, spiritual family on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, and scattered children of God, from our offices here in Spanish Fort, AL.

My wife and I pray and hope this finds you all doing well, and that again your week has been blessed. I hope you are doing well and coping successfully with life's challenges.

I often like to walk out of my house at night and gaze up into the heavens. I find it peaceful and calming. Ten days ago on August 3rd, I noticed there was a beautiful **full moon**. It's called a "Sturgeon Moon" by many in the United States. The next full moon after September's will be October 1st, or "Harvest Moon" a couple days before we will begin observing the Feast of Tabernacles this year. The autumn here in the Northern hemisphere is a beautiful time of year with the fall colors that emerge. That big full moon shining brightly adds to the beauty of the setting. As mentioned, I have always enjoyed God's gift to man that aluminates the sky during the night time hours.

Interestingly, the phrase "full moon" does not appear in the King James Version translation. Other translations do translate the Hebrew word kece' as "full moon" as we see in **Psalm 81:3**: "*Blow the trumpet at the time of the New Moon, at the full moon, on our solemn feast day.*" (NKJV)

Here is how the Authorized Version (or as some call it the Old King James Version) translates this verse: "*Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.*"

The phrase "in the time appointed" is translated from the Hebrew word kece' mentioned above. The Online Bible Hebrew Lexicon says the Hebrew word kece' (Strong's #03677) is "apparently from 03680" and is translated "appointed" two times. The Hebrew word kakah (Strong's #03680) refers to: 1) to cover, conceal, hide, and 2) (Niphal) to be covered" This appears to indicate that the KJV translation makes the most sense. The shofar was sounded to announce the new moon and the beginning of the lunar month.

It was blown extensively on the appointed day of the Feast of Trumpets which took place on the first day of the seventh month. On the first day of the month the moon was covered and

concealed by the shadow of the earth falling on it. The earth blocks the rays of the sun from shining on the moon at that time. The moment of zero illumination of the moon is technically called *the lunar conjunction*.

In Psalm 81:3 all refer to the new moon or the beginning of the lunar month. The Hebrew calendar system establishes the Molad (conjunction) of Tishri. Then the first day of the seventh month is established. All the other appointed times and festival dates are determined from this benchmark, including the first day of the first month. The first seven months alternate from 30 and 29 days in length. The first month Abib is 30 days in length and the next month is 29 days in length, etc.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread begins on the 15th day of the first month. The Feast of Tabernacles begins on the 15th day of the seventh month. Because of the 29-1/2 day lunar cycle, there is a full moon or nearly a full moon on the 15th day of the month. It is the benchmark of the first day of the seventh month that is the key to determining the festivals of Leviticus 23.

I mention this, because I realize that there are many controversies floating around regarding the calendar to be used for establishing the festivals. Various calendar systems have been proposed. Most all of churches of God have accepted the calendar system which has been used by the Jews for centuries and whose calculations were made public c. 390 A.D. by the high priest of the Sanhedrin whose name was Hillel ben Judah. Dear friends, unity is most important, and we must not lose sight of why we are going to observe the Lord's Feast of Tabernacles.

There is a full moon illumination implied in **Numbers 33:3** "*1 These are the journeys of the children of Israel . . . 3 They departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the day after the Passover the children of Israel went out with boldness in the sight of all the Egyptians.*"

We are also told that "*in the month of Abib the LORD your God brought you out of Egypt by night*" (**Deut 16:1**) During the night of Abib 15 the light of the full moon would illuminate the departing Israelites who were seen by the Egyptians. They departed at "the going down of the sun" (**Deut 16:6**). A memorable full moon experience!

As we count down the days to the Feast of Trumpets, Atonement, and then the Feast of Tabernacles and Eighth Day (Last Great Day), let' be prepared to rejoice before our Lord! And when we see the beautiful full moon shine with its brightness, we'll have a lot to be thankful for, inclusive of the beauty God has provided.

Let's stay strong, vigilant, and spiritually focused on the God who has called us, allowing Him to live in us, looking forward to that coming Kingdom of God! And, just like these fall Feasts, it IS coming! That's a promise!

Arms up friends! Our prayers and thoughts are with you daily. Please do pray for us as well.

-Scott Hoefker

(Pastor, *The Living God Ministries Gulf Coast*)

The schedule for this **Sabbath** is:

August 14th / Friday: Evening Praise Sacrifice to welcome God's Sabbath - 6:30 pm (via *teleconference* live connect with Stephen Glover and Friends.)

August 15th / Saturday: Spirit and Truth Worship Services - 10:15 am, with services held in both **Montgomery** and **Spanish Fort** at our normal **10:15 a.m.** (with *Live Webcast* and *phone conference connection* available from Spanish Fort). A noon "potluck" meal will be enjoyed and shared in **Spanish Fort** shortly after worship services.

August 15th / Saturday: Malachi 3:16 Sabbath Fellowship (Interactive Bible Discussion) - **3:30 pm** from Spanish Fort. (Connecting live with all via *phone conference*).

Telephone Ministry (English): Call **1-712-770-4700**; then, when asked, enter Code **112165 #** to join.

(Note: All callers are muted and must press *6 to comment and *6 to resume mute.)

All times are listed in Central Standard Time zone.

Our Daily Bread Recordings

Sunday through Saturday / Our Daily Bread [listen anytime 24/7 to a recorded 15 minute message] Call 1-712-770-4709 (note this call in number is different and ends in "9"), then when asked, enter code 112165# [reference code numbers are on "Spiritual Fellowship Opportunities" on this website <http://www.tlministriesgc.org> or at "Resources/Archives" on <http://www.haggai114.net>]

Daily Fellowship Opportunities

Sunday – Friday / **Morning Sacrifice** (Prayers & Scripture Reading) at 6:00 a.m.

Sundays / **The Minor Prophets** (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Whit, Logan & Friends]

Mondays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Stephen & Moses]

Almond Branch Fellowship at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) (Stephen & Friends)

Tuesdays / **Haggai Fellowship** (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) [Stephen & Friends]

Wednesdays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Stephen & Moses]

1st & 3rd Wednesday / **Sons of God Fellowship** (Young men training) at 6:30 p.m. [Stephen & Friends]

2nd & 4th Wednesday / **Lydian's Fellowship** (Ladies) at 6:30 p.m. [Esther/Gayle/Laura & Friends]
Thursdays / **Mt. Carmel Fellowship** (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Scott & Friends]

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