

Blood Moon on Purim

T.W. Tramm – (02/05/26)

LOOK UP!

On March 3, a total lunar eclipse, or “blood moon,” will adorn the night skies from Eastern Asia to the Americas.

While most people will view the crimson lunar disc as simply an awesome spectacle, there are at least nine reasons it is biblical.

1. JUDGMENT SIGN

In Scripture, a blood moon is a sign of the impending Day of the Lord (Joel 2:31). With this in mind, it is significant that March’s total lunar eclipse is the last one until December 2028, when the moon glows red on New Year’s Eve.

2. OCCURS ON PURIM

The March blood moon occurs on Purim, the festival that celebrates the Jews’ deliverance from annihilation in ancient Persia/Iran. The Book of Esther records that when the Persian king’s advisor, Haman, convinced the king to issue a decree to kill and plunder all the Jews on Adar 13, Queen Esther exposed his evil motives, and he himself was executed. A new decree was then issued, allowing the Jews to defend themselves, which led to Jewish victory and the establishment of Purim on Adar 14.

The Purim theme of a reversal of fortune, where the villain is trapped by his own schemes, is echoed in the current Israel-Iran war. The genocidal Hamas attack that triggered the conflict provoked an Israeli response that has put the Iranian regime on the extermination list.

Striking to note is that this period of heightened conflict has been marked by a *trio* of lunar eclipses on Purim:

- The first (2024) Purim eclipse occurred in the spring following the initial attack by Hamas.
- The second (2025) Purim eclipse occurred ahead of the US attack on Iran’s nuclear facilities.

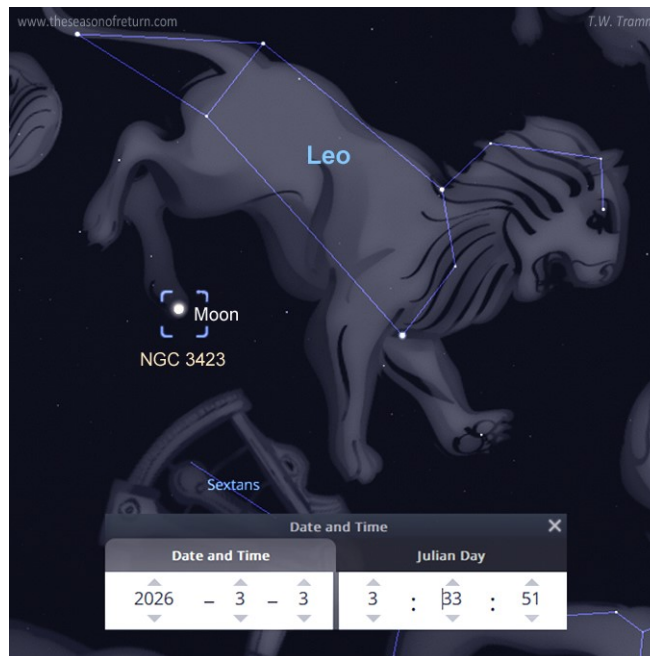
- The third (2026) Purim eclipse occurs as the US and Israel are planning a new round of attacks aimed at collapsing the Iranian regime.

The Talmud teaches that blood moons are a bad omen for Israel (Sukkah 29a). While a regime change in Iran would appear to represent a Purim-like reversal of fortune, raising hopes of peace and security for Israel, the more likely outcome is even greater destruction:

“While people are saying, ‘Peace and security,’ destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape” (1 Thess. 5:3).

3. RARE OCCULTATION

The Purim blood moon features a rare astronomical phenomenon. Just as the eclipse reaches its total phase, it will occult the spiral galaxy numbered “3423” in the NGC astronomical catalogue.



The lunar occultation of galaxy 3423 is considered highly unusual because deep-sky objects such as galaxies are rarely occulted by the Moon during the totality phase of a lunar eclipse.

While the number 3423 has no obvious meaning in Scripture, there are two interesting correlations in the biblical index: Strong’s Greek index assigns 3423 to the word *mnésteuó*, meaning “to betroth” or “espouse.” Strong’s Hebrew index assigns 3423 to the word *yârash*, meaning to “take possession,” “dispossess,” or “drive out,” as in one party moving to possess the land of another. Both themes have major eschatological connotations.

Another 3423 coincidence is that Exodus “34:23” is the verse in which God commands attendance of the harvest festivals: “Three times in the year [Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles] all your men shall appear before the Lord” (Ex. 34:23). Thus, the lunar occultation of galaxy 3423 in early March could be a sign pointing to the subsequent harvest season.

4. RING OF FIRE

The Purim blood moon is centered above the Pacific “Ring of Fire,” the tectonic belt responsible for 90 percent of the world’s earthquakes. Besides the earthquake connection, the Ring of Fire location is noteworthy for two reasons.

First, a “ring” is the universal symbol of betrothal or marriage, evoking the rapture-wedding.

Second, “ring of fire” is a pregnancy term that describes the burning sensation in the final moments of labor, when the baby’s head crowns. This is significant because the Day of the Lord is said to arrive suddenly, as “labor pains on a pregnant woman” (1 Thess. 5:3).

5. WEDDING DAY

The Purim blood moon occurs on a Tuesday, the preferred day for Jewish weddings. The preference for Tuesday weddings is rooted in the Bible’s creation account, where the phrase “it is good” appears twice in the passage recounting the third day of Creation, making it a day of “double blessing.”

6. “3” SYMBOLISM

The Purim eclipse maximum occurs on 3/3 at 3:33 am (PST). The ubiquity of “3s” is noteworthy because the number three is associated with God coming down in a cloud, weddings, and resurrection (Ex. 19:9–11; John 2:1; 1 Cor. 15:4).

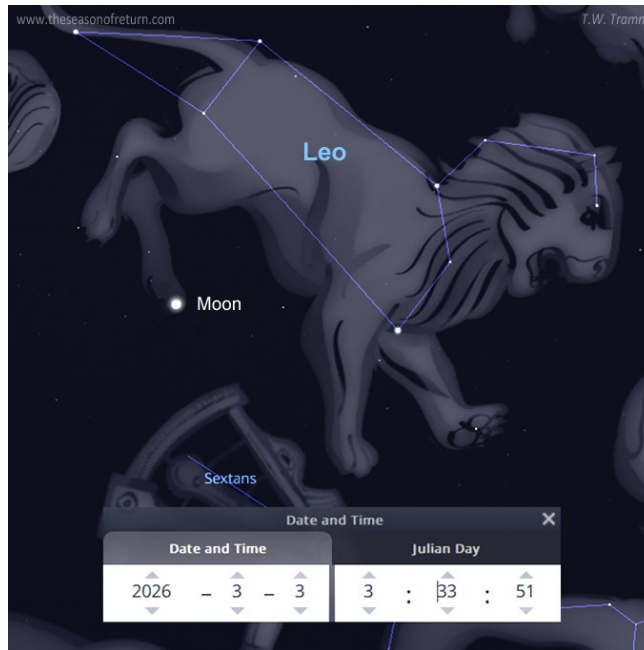
7. MIDNIGHT

The Purim eclipse’s totality phase occurs between 11pm and midnight UTC (Coordinated Universal Time), which is the global standard for regulating clocks and time.

The midnight timing is significant because midnight is when Ruth, a type of the Church, was betrothed to Boaz, a type of Christ (Ruth 3:8–13). Midnight is also when the bridegroom comes to gather the virgins to the wedding (Matt. 25:6).

8. MOON IN LEO

The Purim blood moon occurs on the “hind paws” of the constellation Leo.



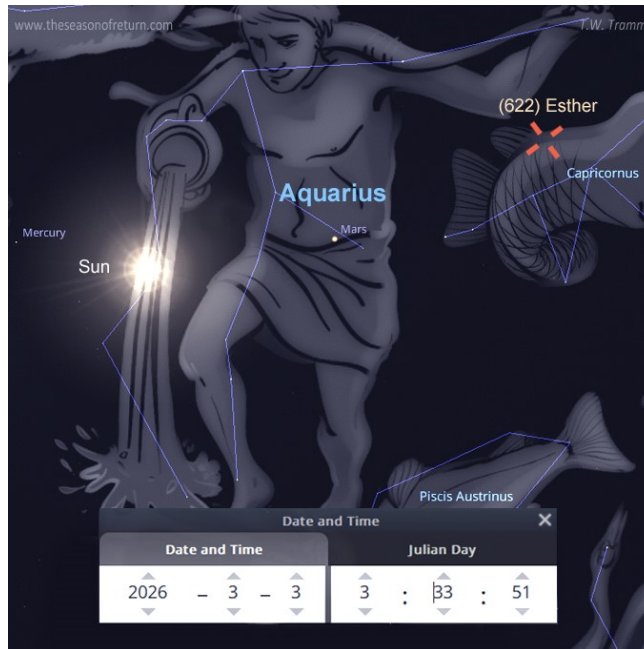
The location is noteworthy because Leo, the Lion, is the final sign in the circle of the Zodiac and symbolizes the “Lion of the Tribe of Judah,” Jesus, coming to judge (Rev. 5:5).

9. AQUARIUS SIGNS

During the Purim blood moon, an asteroid named “622 Esther” (after the hero character in the Purim story) is found in Aquarius, the Water Bearer that depicts the last-days outpouring of the Holy Spirit: “In the last days, God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit on all people’ The moon will turn blood red before that great and glorious day of the LORD” (Acts 2:17, 20).

Adding to the theme of a last-days outpouring, the Sun, a symbol of Jesus as the Bridegroom (Ps. 19:5), is found in Aquarius’s water stream.

(see image next page)



In summary, March's blood moon is biblically significant because:

- It is the last total lunar eclipse for nearly three years.
- It is the third consecutive eclipse on Purim.
- It occults galaxy "3423."
- It is centered above the Ring of Fire.
- It occurs on a Tuesday, the preferred wedding day.
- It reaches maximum on 3/3 at 3:33 am.
- Its totality phase ends at midnight.
- It occurs in Leo, the sign of the coming Judge.
- It occurs while the Sun and "Esther" are in Aquarius, the sign of the last-days outpouring of the Spirit.

Scripture says the heavens "speak" to us:

“The heavens declare the glory of God ... Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge” (Ps. 19).

The blood moon on Purim seems to be saying, “Be ready. Jesus is coming soon!”

NOTES:

1. Purim eclipse: <https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/lunar/2026-march-3>

2. Total lunar eclipse in 2028: <https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/map/2028-december-31>

3. Consecutive Purim eclipses:

2024: <https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/lunar/2024-march-25>

2025: <https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/lunar/2025-march-14>

2026: <https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/lunar/2026-march-3>

4. Strong's #3423:

Greek (betroth or espouse) <https://biblehub.com/greek/3423.htm>

Hebrew (take possession,” “dispossess,” or “drive out”) <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/3423.htm>

5. Pacific Ring of Fire: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ring_of_Fire

6. Coincidentally, 2026 marks the 120th anniversary of asteroid Esther's discovery in 1906. The number 120 is associated with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the Church Age, and judgment, “as in the days of Noah” (Acts 1:15; 2:1–4; Gen. 6:3; Matt. 24:37).