

Election-Day Blood Moon and America's Prophetic Destiny

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ON NOVEMBER 8, Americans will cast ballots in one of the most consequential midterm elections ever.

That same day, for the first time ever on Election Tuesday, a total lunar eclipse will turn the moon blood red.

As voters decide the nation's political path under the rare and ominous glow of a blood moon, it is fascinating to consider the United States' origins, history, and role in God's plan of redemption—for Israel, and for the world.

It begins with America's discoverer. While Christopher Columbus was a devout Christian, he was also, according to some, a Jew who aspired to find a new Promised Land at a time when his people were being expelled from Spain. Scholars point to the date the explorer set sail as evidence of his heritage. It was Av 10, the day after Jews traditionally mourn the destruction of both Temples and exiles from the Land, that Columbus departed Spain.

But the part of Columbus's journey that could not have been orchestrated is the duration. Ten weeks into the voyage, the Spanish–Jewish explorer happened upon the Americas and went ashore. The biblical date was Tishrei 21, the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles. Thus, the voyage to the new Promised Land lasted exactly 70 days, the biblical number of homecoming and redemption (Jer. 29:10; Dan. 9:24–27). Moreover, the journey began at the saddest date on the biblical calendar, a day associated with Jewish exile, and ended on its most joyous date, the last and greatest day of the Feast of Tabernacles, the festival associated with God's provision and a temporary dwelling place (Lev. 23:34–44; John 7:37).

America would indeed turn out to be a new Promised Land, a nation profoundly influenced by Hebrew principles and culture.

For example:

The Puritans living in America viewed themselves as a new Chosen People dwelling in a New Israel. Their fast and feast days, including Thanksgiving, were based on Jewish observances such as Yom Kippur and the Feast of Tabernacles.

One of the original designs for the Great Seal of the United States depicted the Israelites crossing the Red Sea with Pharaoh in pursuit.

The Hebrew language was a prerequisite for early American scholars. Many universities even required it in their curriculum.

From the late 1800s to early 1900s, millions of Jews fleeing antisemitism in Europe immigrated to the US, making America home for the largest Jewish diaspora population.

Around the same time, Zionism, the movement to create a Jewish state in the Land of Israel, gained momentum in the US.

The US defeat of Nazi Germany in the Second World War thwarted Hitler's plan to exterminate the Jews.

After the Holocaust, the US played a key role in securing support for the UN resolution to create the modern State of Israel.

When Israel declared itself a nation on May 14, 1948, the US was the first country to grant recognition.

From 1948 to the present, the United States has provided more financial, political, and military support to Israel than to any other nation.

With America's history in view, two things are clear: it is a country sympathetic to the Jewish people, and has been instrumental in facilitating their prophesied return to the Promised Land (Isa. 11:11, 12). Indeed, one could say that without the US, there would be no modern State of Israel.

But there is more.

Another hint at America's prophetic relationship with Israel is that it is uniquely founded on the Jubilee principle of "liberty" (Lev. 25:10). From the original ideologies and charters, to the nation's iconic symbols and currency, the liberty theme is all-pervasive:

Patrick Henry's battle-cry in the run-up to the Revolutionary War was, "Give me Liberty, or give me death!"

The US Declaration of Independence cites "liberty" as the first God-given right, next to the fundamental right to life.

The US Constitution states that no person shall be deprived of "liberty" without due process of law.

The US Pledge of Allegiance ends, "with liberty and justice for all."

The Statue of "Liberty" greets immigrants arriving in New York harbor.

The iconic symbol of American independence is the "Liberty" Bell, which is engraved with the Jubilee command, "Proclaim Liberty Throughout all the Land unto all the Inhabitants Thereof" (Lev. 25:10).

The one-word motto stamped on US coins is “Liberty.”

Seeing how the US is distinctly founded on liberty, it is uncanny that it is the only nation comprised of 50 states—the number of Jubilee.

But America’s connection to the Jubilee goes deeper still. Based on the calculation that 2022 is a Jubilee year, the United States’ first year as a nation—1777—was also a Jubilee. It is fitting that the first Jubilee was 1777 because the Jubilee is declared after seven periods of seven years, in the seventh month—that is three sevens, or “777.”

Finally, with the Jubilee themes of liberty and returning to one’s land in view, it is interesting to consider events in subsequent Jubilees:

In 1826, America’s second Jubilee, “The Jew Bill” was passed in Maryland, allowing Jews full rights and freedoms to hold public office. (Maryland was among the last states to remove the prohibition on Jews holding public office). That same year, the second and third Presidents of the US, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, both died on the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Thus, both Presidents lived for exactly one jubilee period after the nation was founded.

In 1875, America’s third Jubilee, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act, a law aimed at protecting the freedoms of those who might face discrimination based on race.

In 1924, America’s fourth Jubilee, Congress passed the Immigration Act, a law that had a major restrictive effect on Jewish immigration to the US. When European Jews found themselves unable to immigrate to the US, many moved to the Land of Israel, then called Palestine. In the five years following the Immigration Act, 82,000 Jews moved to Palestine, the largest number of immigrants since the beginning of the Zionist Movement, and a critical population influx for the land’s continued development.

In 1973, America’s fifth Jubilee, the US saw a cascade of consequential events. The ‘trigger’ was an Arab attack on Israel on Yom Kippur, the day on which, significantly, the Year of Jubilee is declared by a trumpet blast (Lev. 25:8, 9).

When the US came to Israel’s aid during the Yom Kippur War, the Arab (OPEC) countries retaliated by imposing an oil-embargo, which led to a massive stock crash, energy crisis, and inflation that persisted throughout the 1970’s.

The Yom Kippur War and Arab oil embargo were the first major events since the Great Depression to have a lasting impact on the US economy. But it was not just the economy that took a downward turn in 1973, it was a year of moral and geopolitical decline in the US as well.

In 1973:

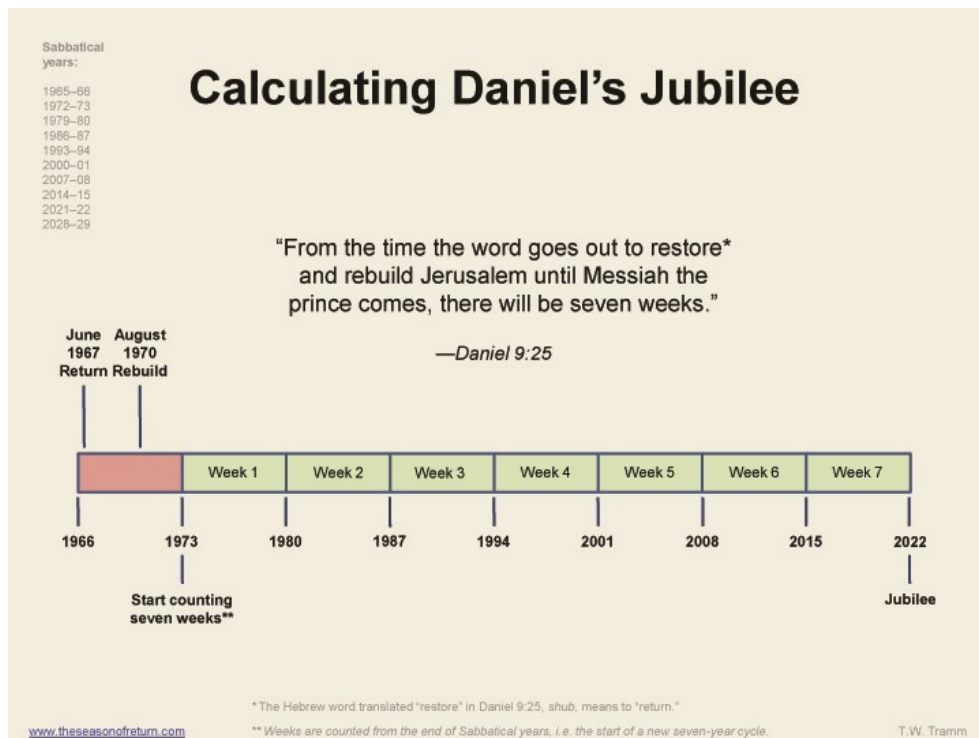
- The Supreme Court legalized abortion nationwide.
- Spiro Agnew became the first Vice President to resign for criminal reasons.
- The Watergate trial began, which led to the first resignation of a US President.
- The US withdrew all troops from Viet Nam, thus losing its first major war.

Why, of the five Jubilees since America's founding, was 1973 so momentous? The answer may be found in Daniel's Weeks Prophecy:

"From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the prince comes, there will be seven weeks" (Dan. 9:25).

According to Daniel, a restoration of Jerusalem initiates a count of seven Sabbatical "weeks," or one Jubilee period, to Messiah the prince.

The only modern restoration of Jerusalem occurred in June 1967. However, since Daniel says to count weeks (according to the fixed Sabbatical cycle), the count begins at the start of the first week *after* the restoration, which happens to be 1973:



If our reading is correct, Daniel's prophecy explains why 1973 was so momentous: it marked the start of a Jubilee-countdown to Messiah.

Daniel's countdown brings us to the final Jubilee in our sequence: 2022. Eerily, this year is seeing a repeat of themes from 1973: war, an energy crisis, soaring inflation, stock market volatility, and low national morale. Moreover, as during the 1973 Yom Kippur War, opposing geopolitical interests have nuclear tensions at a high between the US and Russia. The difference between now and then is that Russia's mounting losses in Ukraine make a nuclear detonation more likely.

Along with the repeat of crises from 1973, the US faces a swarm of other troubles in 2022: continuing supply chain issues, a nationwide drought, a drug crisis, a homelessness crisis, a border crisis, a crime crisis, and—in a way not seen since the Civil War—a crisis of division.

The political divide in the US, which is emblematic of a greater spiritual divide, brings us full circle to Election Day 2022. As voters decide the nation's political path under the ominous glow of a blood moon—a concurrence that has never happened before, and will not happen for another 372 years—we are reminded that a blood moon is a sign of judgment:

“The moon will turn blood red before that great and terrible day of the LORD arrives” (Joel 2:31).

If our reckoning is correct, 2022 marks the end of the fifth Jubilee period since the United States' founding in 1776. Since the number five signifies God's grace and good favor toward man, one might conclude that the convergence of threats looming over America is a sign that her period of favor is ending.

But here is the good news: The decline of the US—Israel's protector, and the “global policeman”—is part of God's plan of redemption; it means He is about to bring the Jews, and an unbelieving world, through a final fiery trial that will lead countless lost souls to Salvation.

NOTES:

1. Election-Day Blood Moon:

<https://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/total-lunar-eclipse-nov8-2022/>

<https://earthsky.org/human-world/election-day-total-lunar-eclipse-nov8-2022/>

<https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/in/usa/washington-dc>

2. Columbus's Jewish background:

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/christopher-columbus-the-hidden-jew/>

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/destination-the-new-world/>

<https://www.threemacs.org/docs/Americas%20Hebraic%20Roots%20-%20Columbus%20and%20the%20Discovery.pdf>

3. Today's inflation is comparable to the 1973 Oil Crisis:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/annemarienkott/2022/02/03/todays-inflation-is-comparable-to-the-1973--oil-crisis/?sh=3d8cc19b5251>

4. In his 2014 book, *The Mystery of the Shemitah*, Jonathan Cahn notes that 1973 is when the Shemitah financial-crash phenomena became more pronounced:

“Beginning in 1973, every single one of the five greatest financial and economic peaks and collapses have converged, clustered, and taken place according to the set time of the Shemitah year” (p. 109).

“It is worthy of note that the connection between the Year of the Shemitah and the collapses in America's financial and economic realms appears to grow more intense and consistent in the cycles immediately following the critical year 1973 than in those preceding it” (p. 209).

5. More on why 2022 could be a Jubilee: <https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/a0ea26efd60c45ec83fce69a4d6e75cc/Jubilee%20Q%20and%20A%20-%20Is%20the%20Year%20of%20Redemption%20Upon%20Us%20-%20rev%20a.pdf>

6. Jesus' true Hebrew name, Yeshua, means “salvation.”