

Just returned from vacation in California ... with a joke.  
How does a mermaid clean her tail?  
With Tide.

We have entered 5779!  
*Shana Tovah* שָׁנָה טוֹבָה  
[Have a] Good Year\*

שָׁנָה טוֹבָה וּמְתוּקָה  
*Shana Tova oo-m'tukah*  
[Have a] Good and sweet year

[Let's practice together.

*There are several variant forms, but this is the simplest and clearest. And scriptural.]*



Rosh Hashanah ראש השנה  
literally "head [of] the year"  
Why that name?

Three points:

1. New year: meaning of "new."
2. New year: how it relates to the other Torah holidays: Return of Messiah.
3. Can we expedite the Return of Messiah?

The historian Josephus, and the ancient Aramaic translation of the Bible, the Targum Jonathan, identify Rosh HaShanah as the New Year observed by the people of Israel **before** the holiday of Passover was instituted.

[*Encyclopaedia Judaica*]

The traditional Jewish concept is that **the world, Adam and Khava/Eve, were created on Rosh HaShanah**, so this day is indeed the beginning of the year chronologically.  
**Birthday of the world!**

[[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosh\\_Hashanah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosh_Hashanah)]

The Babylonian month name Tishri seems to derive from the root Ugaritic or Akkadian seru, which means "to begin." The ancient Semitic peoples thought of the year as beginning in the autumn, at the time of the late harvest. This was the beginning of the economic year, when crops began to be sold.

[School year too, probably based on agricultural cycle.]

G-d made a spiritual cycle to start on Pesakh, but the chronological year didn't change. So, Jews have two [actually more] new years, a chronological one, and a spiritual one. Passover is described in these terms:

Shmot/Ex. 12:1-2 Now Adoni said to Moshe and Aharon in the land of Egypt, "This month shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year to you." NASU  
So, it's scripturally OK to call this holiday Rosh HaShanah, New Year!

Three points

1. New year: meaning of "new."

### New:

Rev. 21.5 And the One seated upon the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new!" Then He said, "Write, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Latest covenant G-d with Israel:

הִנֵּה יָמִים בָּאִים, נְאֻם-יְיָ; וְכָרַתִּי, אֶת-בְּיַת יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֶת-בְּיַת יְהוּדָה--בְּרִית חֲדָשָׁה.

Yer. 31.30 "Here, the days are coming," says Adoni, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'hudah."

new ; unused adj חֲדָשׁ

passive verb

to be renewed ; to be recommenced, to be re-established ; to be rejuvenated, to be refurbished ; to be initiated, to be launched, to be instigated

Terms of the new covenant

Yer.31.32-33 "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adoni: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people..."

Yer.31.32-33 "for all will know me, from the least of them to the greatest; because I will forgive their wickednesses and remember their sins no more."

כִּי אֶסְלַח לְעֹנָם, וְלֹחֲטָאֲתָם לֹא אֶזְכֶּר-עוֹד.

עֹוֹן *Avon*, wickedness, iniquity

[*Avon* עוֹוֹן, singular]

Rabbi Jim Appel makes an important distinction between sin and iniquity עֹוֹן . Sin, in the Hebrew mind, is missing the mark, falling short of God's standards, the violation of a commandment, an action (*khata* חָטָא in Hebrew).

Iniquity, on the other hand, is our natural inclination to sin, a state of being, *avon* (ah-VOWN) in Hebrew. *Avon* עֹוֹן is passed down from generation to generation.

Orthodox Judaism calls *avon Yetzer HaRa*, the evil inclination. While the Torah speaks of a sin offering, it never mentions an offering to remove iniquity. Their *Avon* עֹוֹנָם

Yet, the consequence of iniquity is serious, as declared by the prophet Isaiah, "Your iniquities עֹוֹנֵיכֶם have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear" Isa. 59:2.

[<http://www.jewishjewels.org/blog/a-holy-month-repentance-to-redemption/>]

## Terms of the New Covenant

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*[Deep cleansing, cleansing on the inside, new empowerment. Breaks habits. Break the avon]*

Malakhi 3.2-4 But who can endure the day when he comes? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire, like the soapmaker's lye. He will sit, testing and purifying the silver; he will purify the sons of Levi, refining them like gold and silver, so that they can bring offerings to Adoni uprightly. Then the offering of Y'hudah and Yerushalayim will be pleasing to Adoni, as it was in the days of old, as in years gone by.

Go beyond sins to underlying iniquity: avon עֲוֹן

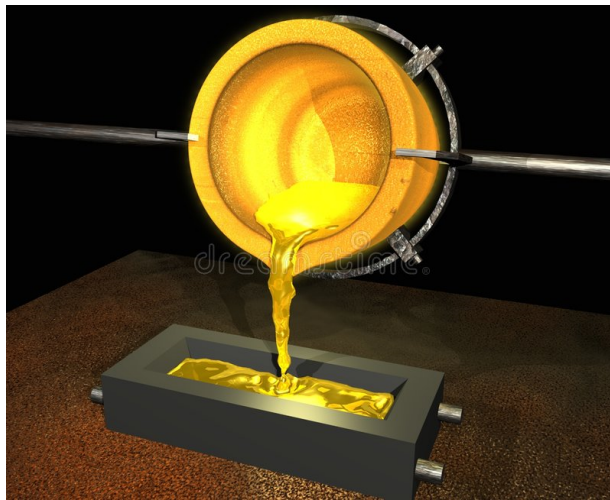
A silversmith explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest as to burn away all the impurities. How do you know when the silver is fully refined? “When I see my image in it.”

*[<http://www.montney.com/inspire/silver.htm>]*

*What a picture that G-d hold us in the center of the fire, until he can see His reflection in the molten gold silver.]*



*[[https://www.google.com/search?q=purifying+silver&safe=active&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiMoo7Qwq7dAhVSR60KHfwxCQQQ\\_AUICygC&biw=1165&bih=871#imgdii=GbQvr7bijvUPDM:&imgrc=kSH-KM\\_xGTq4wM:](https://www.google.com/search?q=purifying+silver&safe=active&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiMoo7Qwq7dAhVSR60KHfwxCQQQ_AUICygC&biw=1165&bih=871#imgdii=GbQvr7bijvUPDM:&imgrc=kSH-KM_xGTq4wM:)]*



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Three points:

1. New year: meaning of “new.”
2. New year: how it relates to the other Torah holidays: Return of Messiah.
3. Can we expedite the Return of Messiah?

[1. *Cleansed, renewed, deeply new, down to the underlying avon IV*]

Passover/ Matzah  Vayikra/Lev 23.5-8	Firstfruits of Barley Omer count Vayikra/Lev 23.9-14	Shavuot Firstfruits of Wheat Vayikra/Lev 23.15-22	<b>Yom T'ruah/ Rosh HaShanah</b> Vayikra/Lev 23.23-25	Yom Kippur Vayikra/Lev 23.26-32	Sukkot  Vayikra/Lev 23.33-43
Egyptian Redemption Lamb	New crop	Harvest/ Torah at Sinai	Shofar	Atone- ment/ Fasting	Celebrate Eat in Sukkah Wave 4 species
Yeshua's Sacrifice	Messiah's Resurrec- tion	Ruakh given	Gathering Judgment	Plagues	Celebrate Kingdom!
Fulfilled on the day	Fulfilled on the day	Fulfilled on the day	To be fulfilled	To be fulfilled	To be fulfilled

Will Messiah Yeshua return today [Sunday night/Monday = Yom Sheni י"ב י"א in Hebrew reckoning.]

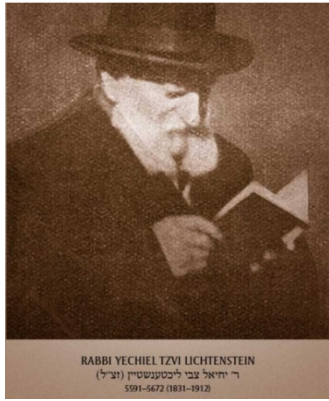
Apparently, it's up to us, at least in part!

<sup>2</sup> Kefa/Peter 3.10-14

However, the Day of the Lord will come “like a thief.” On that Day the heavens will disappear with a roar, the **elements will melt and disintegrate**, and the earth and everything in it will be burned up. Since everything is going to be destroyed like this, what kind of people should you be? You should lead holy and godly lives, as you wait for the Day of God and **work to hasten its coming**. That Day will bring on the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the **elements will melt from the heat**; but we, following along with his promise, wait for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness will be at home. Therefore, dear friends, as you look for these things, do **everything** you can to be found by him without spot or defect and at peace.

“as you wait for the Day of God and work to hasten its coming.”

Hasten??



19<sup>th</sup> century Messianic Jewish luminary and scholar, Rabbi Yechiel Tzvi Lichtenstein, born into a Chasidic family in 1831 Bessarabia (Moldavia)...He purchased a Hebrew edition of the New Testament, became convinced about Yeshua, and persuaded a small circle of young men to join him.

On the present verse Yechiel Lichtenstein writes: "Kefa says the believers can hasten the Day.

[<https://ffoz.org/discover/messianic-luminaries/the-old-rebbe-yechiel-tzvi-lichtenstein.html>]

In the Talmud compare Sanhedrin 98a, which applies Isaiah 60:22 ('I, Adonai, will hasten it in its time') to the Messiah's coming: God means, "If they deserve him, I will hasten it: but if they do not deserve him, his coming will be in its time."""

David Stern quotes a number of Hasidic legends about expediting the coming of Messiah.

And finally, again the Talmud:

"Rav said, 'All the forecast dates [for redemption] have come and gone. Now the matter [of when the Messiah will come] depends only on repentance and good deeds.'" (Sanhedrin 97b).

“as you wait for the Day of God and work to hasten its coming.”

We can hasten [by implication delay] the return of Messiah.

Will Messiah Yeshua return today [Sunday night/Monday = Yom Sheni יום שני in Hebrew reckoning.]

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Applications:

1. Every time you click on that licentious image on screen, you delay his coming.

Frequent type

of sidebar in

news articles:

Curious?

~Woodstock

~WW II

*[Other forms of fornication of the eyes or in fact, intoxication]*

2. Every generous act of giving, tithing, blessing hastens His coming.

3. Every kind, unselfish deed and word done to others, especially needy or difficult people, expedites His return.

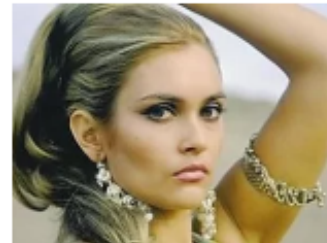
4. Every act of service to the community, oneg food, cleanup, ushering, hastens His return.

5. Every time you follow a Ruakh prompt to share your redemptive faith in Messiah, you hasten his coming. So, our people will say, “Barukh HaBa b’Shem Adoni!”

ברוך הבא בשם ד'

6. When you vote for righteous leadership in government. This year 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District serious.

7. When you spend time in prayer and in His word, you purify your soul, expedite His Return!



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