

Now this Jubilee did come on the heels of a world changing disaster, a depression so severe that the whole land was laid waste, and had it not been for Joseph, would have starved to death as well. Joseph has often been viewed as a type of Messiah also, a man come to save Israel. Joseph restores the blessing of the land to the people of Egypt in the Jubilee. Likewise, the Messiah will restore the land of Israel in a Jubilee.

The next Jubilee of significance in Israel's history comes in the fall of 1592 B.C. (2549). The preceding year was sabbatical (2548) and occasioned the conquest of the trans-Jordan territory, the crossing of the Jordan river, and the destruction of Jericho and Ai. The manna ceased in the sabbatical year, and the children of Israel ate what was growing in the land. The sabbatical year called for eating whatever grew off the land by itself.

The biblical legislation called for the Jubilee counting to be renewed upon entry into the land of Israel as well as for a reading of the Torah to all Israel at the end of the sabbatical year (Deut. 31:10; p.y. 2549) and this reading took place as recorded in Joshua 8:31-35 (2549), which is the Jubilee as synchronized with creation, and it is also the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the renewed Jubilee count.<sup>417</sup> For every Jubilee year is also the first year of the counting to the next Jubilee.

Once again, the Jubilee ushers in a world-changing event. After 40 years of depression, Israel is delivered into the land of their fathers in the Jubilee. Literally, the land is returned to Israel as God gives them permission to conquer it. Seven years are spent conquering the land (2548-2554) and in the seventh year (2555, 7/7) the conquered land is divided out as each man received his inheritance. They were able to live off the land and booty for the entire first sabbatical period, a situation that has prophetic connections with the aftermath of the Gog and Magog war.

Now let us fast forward to the next Jubilee alluded to when Saul was confirmed as king of Israel. There is a strange and misunderstood text in 1 Samuel 13:1, which is often considered a chronological mistake or is mistranslated. It says that Saul was "son of a year in his reigning, yea two years he has reigned over Israel" (3039). This is the literal meaning of the Hebrew: "son of a year," which means a whole year had passed and he was at the beginning part of his second year. This does not mean that Saul only reigned two years over Israel as some translators suppose, because we are told elsewhere that he reigned 40 years. The Scripture is here pointing to a special event that took place in Saul's second year: he "sounds a trumpet throughout the whole land" (1 Sam. 13:3).

This turn of phrase alludes to the Jubilee as legislated in Leviticus 25:9 (3039). Now this Jubilee is prophetically significant. For Saul proved to be an unfaithful king (1 Sam. 13:9-15), and the LORD said he would "appoint a man after His own heart" (vs. 14), which was king David, but also interpreted as a Messianic prophecy means the Messiah, who is Yeshua, the son of David. Yeshua will come as King of kings and Lord of lords in the "end of days" which is the year of Jubilee.

<sup>417</sup> The 50<sup>th</sup> year and the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the counting are the same year. This inclusive counting keeps the seven year sabbatical cycle consistent.

Now the author did not at first notice this Jubilee. No attempt did he make to construct this chronology by matching up the second year of Saul with the Jubilee cycle! It came about that one day I noticed 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 13:1-3 as I was researching and writing on the Jubilee of Hezekiah's 15<sup>th</sup> year, because I was thinking about potential allusions to the year of Jubilee. Hezekiah's Jubilee is established by a very strong literary allusion to its original legislation. As I was thinking, and doing word searches and the word 'trumpet' since a trumpet is used to announce the Jubilee, I came across this 1 Samuel 13:3 passage. Quickly, it crossed by mind that the occurrence or non-occurrence of a Jubilee in the second year of Saul would be a critical test of the chronology. Therefore, it was with a bit of awe and trepidation of mind that I quickly opened the charts to 1102/01 B.C. (3039) to see if the Jubilee did fall in this year! To my amazement and relief it did! The chart already had 1/50 colored in next to Saul's 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

It is not every day that multiple lines of evidence come together that mutually reinforce their own veracity. Now clearly, the man after God's own heart is David, however, as I said, with many prophecies there is a Messianic connection to the ultimate Messiah, who is Yeshua<sup>418</sup> himself, who will sit on the throne of David in the Jubilee.

Now the next Jubilee of importance, and probably the most noticed by chronologists is the sabbatical and Jubilee combination of Hezekiah's 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> years, who again is a type of Messiah. The Jubilee connection is established in Isaiah 37:30, which is an allusion to the Jubilee legislation in Leviticus 25:9ff. They were required to eat the wild growth of the land for two years, which refers to a sabbatical year followed by a Jubilee year. The time is dated as the 14<sup>th</sup> year of Hezekiah (Isaiah 36:1; 3430). And the second year (3431) is the Jubilee of Hezekiah's 15<sup>th</sup> year.

This Jubilee is *exactly* 18 Jubilees distant from the entry of Israel into the land.<sup>419</sup> Between these two points, all the other chronology fits precisely securing the chronology beyond any reasonable doubt.

Now this is not all, it just gets more exciting! Isaiah 27:13 also refers to the Jubilee trumpet in both historical fulfillment and Messianic expected fulfillment. The historical reference is to the fall of Assyria and the destruction of Nineveh in the 6<sup>th</sup> month of 612 B.C. (613/12 = 3528 = 7/49), which would be just days before the Jubilee (3529 = 1/50), in which freedom was announced to all the captives of this land and Egypt also, which was controlled by Assyria.

The antitypical fulfillment in the end of days is when Messiah blows the Jubilee trumpet<sup>420</sup> and delivers Israel from the anti-Christ.

<sup>418</sup> Hebrew for "Jesus".

<sup>419</sup> By calculation: 3431 - 2549 = 882. And 882 / 49 = 18. The Jubilee period is seven sabbatical periods (7x7=49) and this divides evenly into the whole period.

<sup>420</sup> The Jubilee trumpet is sounded on the day of atonement. It is also called the 'great trumpet' or the 'last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:52).