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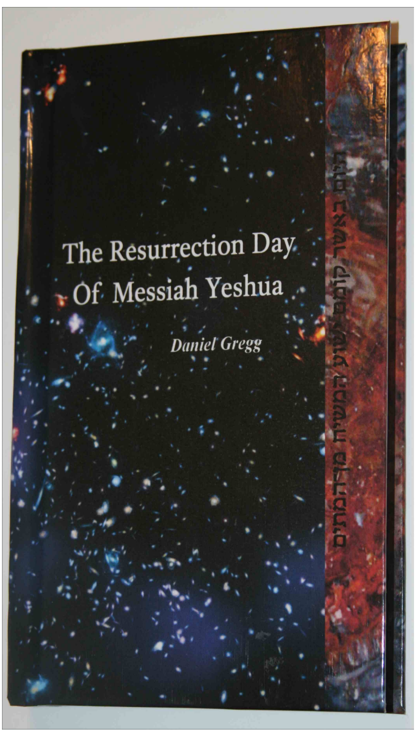
הַמָּשִׁיחַ מִן־הַמֵּתִים



The Resurrection Day

Of Messiah Yeshua

When It Happened

According To The Original Texts

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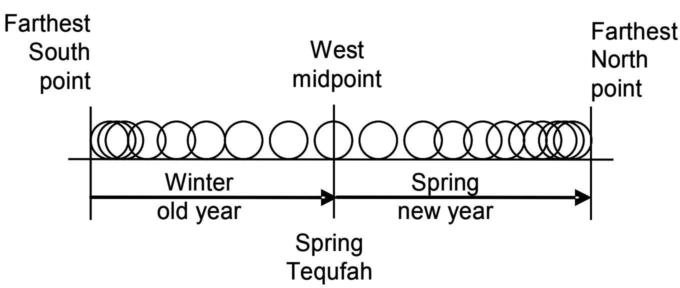
(laid out in book order)

The point in the year when this event occurs is called the “circuit of the days,” “circuit of the year” or “turn of the year.” It marks the boundary of the year between “days” and “days.” So in the text “from days to days,” the dividing point is the *tequfah*, [תְּקוּפָה].

The word *tequfah* is applied to each turning or return point, a. extreme south, b. extreme north, and c. the midpoint:

> In them he has placed a tent for the sun, which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber; it rejoices as a strong man to run his course. At the extremity [מִקְצֵה] of the heavens is its going forth, and its turning point [תְקוּפָת] is at their extremities [קְצוֹת], and nothing is hidden from its heat. (Psalm 19:4b-6).

Holladay gives the Hebrew definition of “extremity”: “**end**, **edge**, **border**, **extremity.**”[281] In the context of this Psalm it refers to the extreme points of the sun, to the north, and to the south. Holladay also defines “turning point” [תְּקוּפָה]: “**turning** (of the sun at solstice) Psa 19$_7$; (of the year, i.e. end of year, at autumnal equinox) Ex 34$_{22}$; (of the days [i.e. of the year] = end of year) 1S 1$_{20}$.”[282] Thus the word *tequfah* refers to the spring equinox (1 Sam 1:20), the summer solstice (Psa. 19:6 [7]), the autumn equinox (Ex 34:22) and the winter solstice.



[281] pg. 321, *A CONCISE HEBREW AND ARAMAIC LEXICON ON THE OLD TESTAMENT*, William Holladay.

[282] pg. 394, Holladay. All the [ ] and ( ) in the quote are Holladay’s original explanation. Holladay is incorrect to refer Exodus 34:22 to the autumn equinox, as the words “תְּקוּפַת הַשָּׁנָה” refer all the way back to vs. 18, and forward to vs. 23, as being three feasts in the circuit of one year. The words may refer to either the whole circuit or to one of the four cardinal points of the circuit.

The three points in the figure mark (in order from left to right): left: winter solstice, the midpoint: equinoxes, right: summer solstice.

Now, it was necessary to know when the spring *tequfah* was in advance in order to determine the Passover. For this ancient peoples built observatories. Archaeoastronomers show that ancient sites like Stonehenge were in fact observatories. One such site in Israel is Gilgal Refaim (Rujm el-Hiri) on the Golan Heights. The Israelites, of course, did not need such huge observatories. All that is needed is to fix a pole upright over a flat surface so that the sun makes a shadow. The pole is called a gnomon. The key to using a gnomon is to plot the tip of the shadow made by the top of the pole. This shadow will travel in a straight line on the day of the equinox:[283]

[283] One can demonstrate this using a planetarium program. The time of the equinox is when the sun is at RA $00^h\ 00^m\ 00^s$. (If this is between sunset and sunrise, then take the next day as the new year day.) First record ∠BNG = ***v***, the altitude of the sun when it reaches azimuth 180° (measured clockwise from North 0°) on this day (Figure with the sun at ①). Let ***h*** be the height of the gnomon $\overline{BG}$. The length of the shadow cast $\overline{BN}$ = ***h*****/tan(*****v*****)**. Second record the sun's *altitude* ∠GEB = ***α*** and *azimuth* ∠BEW = ***ϵ*** (measured counter-clockwise from west 0°) at a time after noon, say 3 p.m. (Figure with the sun at). The length of the shadow cast $\overline{BE}$ = ***h*****/tan(*****α*****)**. When the sun is at ϵ =∠EWB azimuth (sun③, measured clockwise from east 0°), the length of $\overline{BW} = \overline{BE}$ since the altitude of sun③ ∠BWG is symmetrical to sun. Through the points of the E and W shadows, $\overline{EW}$ a line of latitude may be drawn. Point N lies on $\overline{EW}$ only if $\overline{BE}$ × sin(ϵ) = $\overline{BN}$. For if the line $\overline{EW}$ where not straight ∠BNE and ∠BNW would not be right angles, and $\overline{BE}$ × sin(ϵ) = $\overline{BN}$ would not hold true. Or: find $\overline{EN} = \sqrt{\overline{EB}^2 - \overline{BN}^2}$ and then find $\overline{BN} / \overline{EN}$ = tan(ϵ).

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