

40 SCRIPTURES ON THE NEW MOONS

By Marie Casale
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1Peter 2:5 tells us that we as lively stones are built up into a holy temple for the Lord to dwell in. The church, then, is a very type of the physical temple. But when we take a look at the operations of the physical temple, we cannot help but notice that the church, its counterpart, is lacking! (1Chr 23:30-31 and 2Chr 2:4-5) give the operations of Solomon's temple saying, "And to stand every morning to thank and praise the Lord, and likewise at even; And to offer all burnt sacrifices unto the Lord in the Sabbaths, in the New Moons, and on the set Feasts, by number, according to the order commanded unto them, continually before the Lord: Behold, I build an house to the name of the Lord my God, to dedicate it to him, and to burn before him sweet incense, and for the continual shewbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths, and on the New Moons, and on the solemn Feasts of the Lord our God. This is an ordinance for ever to Israel. And the house which I build is great: for great is our God above all gods." In the spiritual house of the Lord which we have constructed, we offer sacrifices of prayer morning and evening; we keep the Sabbaths and the Feasts, but we ignore the New Moons. WHY?

As we read through these scriptures we will see that God designed the observance of the New Moons as part of his plan for the spiritual nourishment of those he calls, just as the weekly Sabbaths and the annual Holy Days provide spiritual nourishment. The New Moons are a separate category of observance from the Sabbaths and Feasts. In David's time, the New Moons were observed with a monthly banquet. We also should observe each New Moon with a special event, whether a special meal or a Bible Study. However, we are not required to cease from servile work on the New Moons as on the Sabbath. As these scriptures will show, the New Moon observance is not a 'tradition of men', but was indeed COMMANDED by God. It was observed by God's people during Old Testament times as well as apostolic times; and will be observed by all mankind as a Day of Worship after the return of Jesus Christ in the coming Kingdom of God.

1.

Gen 1:14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years.

Gen 1:15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

Gen 1:16 And God made two great lights, the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

Gen 1:17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth.

Gen 1:18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

Note: This is a general reference to the physical moon and its function. We saw in the first article that the moon is symbolic of the church. So these scriptures also show us seven spiritual functions of the church:

1. *To divide the day from the night (or the light from the darkness)*
2. *To be for signs*
3. *To be for seasons*
4. *To be for days*
5. *To be for years.*
6. *To give light upon the earth*
7. *To rule the night*

As you see, the functions of the moon include more than just to mark the days and months of the calendar.

2.

Gen 8:5 And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen.

Gen 8:13 And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry.

Note: The first sight of land after the great flood was over occurred on a New Moon. Also the day that Noah removed the covering of the ark was a New Moon.

3.

Gen 37:9 And he (Joseph) dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

Gen 37:10 And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

Note: Notice here that the moon is symbolic of Joseph's mother. This tells us that the moon is symbolic of a woman and therefore also of a church.

4.

Ex 40:2 On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation.

Ex 40:3 And thou shalt put therein the ark of the testimony, and cover the ark with the veil.

Ex 40:17 And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was reared up.

Note: This is the commandment telling us that the tabernacle, the dwelling place of God was to be set up on the New Moon of the first month. So we might consider that if we do not keep the New Moons, Satan has successfully prevented us from building the true spiritual temple of God.

5.

Lev 23:23 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,

Lev 23:24 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a Sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation.

Lev 23:25 Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord.

Note: The Day of Trumpets is the annual high day of all the New Moons.

6.

Num 1:1 And the Lord spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of the congregation, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying,

Num 1:2 Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, after their families, by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their polls;

Num 1:3 From twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel: thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies.

Note: Continuing in verses 4-17, Moses appointed a leader from every tribe on this New Moon.

7.

Num 1:18 And they assembled all the congregation together on the first day of the second month, and they declared their pedigrees after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, by their polls.

Num 1:19 As the Lord commanded Moses, so he numbered them in the wilderness of Sinai.

Note: The rest of the chapter, tells of their numbering of the congregation on this New Moon.

8.

Num 7:1 And it came to pass on the day that Moses had fully set up the tabernacle, and had anointed it, and sanctified it, and all the instruments thereof, both the altar and all the vessels thereof, and had anointed them, and sanctified them;

Num 7:2 That the princes of Israel, heads of the house of their fathers, who were the princes of the tribes, and were over them that were numbered, offered:

Note: As we know, the day that Moses had set up the tabernacle was the New Moon. (see # 4, Ex 40:2-3,17) The rest of this chapter tells how each prince offered from the day the tabernacle was set up for the next twelve days. Then they kept the Passover on the fourteenth of the month.

9.

Num 10:10 Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the Lord your God.

Note: Some say that we should not keep the New Moons because it is not commanded. But here we are definitely commanded to blow with the trumpet over the burnt offerings of the New Moons. The New Moon is not a commanded 'holy convocation' as is the Sabbath and Holy Days, but there is indeed a special observance commanded here . We can understand the nature of the observance by putting the scriptures together to show the symbolism of the terms in the New Testament spirit of the law.

The symbolism of blowing with the trumpets is found in Rev 1:10 where we see that the voice speaking that sounds like a trumpet is the voice of Jesus Christ. Compare with Isa 58:1 which says, "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." Notice here that if we obey this commandment, it will be a memorial before God. It is something he will remember about us.

Some say we should not observe the New Moons because it is only commanded in connection with the sacrifices offered at the temple and the temple no longer exists. The morning and evening sacrifice are commanded only in connection with the temple sacrifices as well. Yet we understand them to be under the New Testament spirit of the law, special times that God makes himself available to hear our prayers. (Ps 141:2)

We know that there are no longer physical sacrifices, but spiritual sacrifices are still required. Here are some scriptures showing spiritual sacrifices:

1Pe 2:5 Ye also as lively stones are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up 'spiritual sacrifices', acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your REASONABLE SERVICE.

Now, if there is an observance commanded on the New Moon, but God doesn't tell us exactly HOW to observe it, instead of finding that as an excuse to do away with it, we might consider that God is searching our heart to see what WE THINK reasonable service consists of!

At the end of their paper found at <http://www.ucg.org/papers/newmoons.pdf> United Church of Gof says, "While the United Church of God is eager to observe all the institutions commanded by God, we do not have a biblical command to observe New Moons. There is a stern admonition found in Deuteronomy 12:32 commanding us not to add or take away from God's commands. Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it." This statement effectively scares God's people away from doing his will to keep the New Moons and it is a hypocritical statement to apply to the New Moons in view of the fact that the Church does keep things that are not 'commanded' but only implied in the scriptures. One of these is the annual blessing of little children. They also keep the Night to Be Much Observed with a special meal. Yet there is no COMMAND to have an assembly or a meal on this night. Also they assemble on the days in between the First and Last days of the Feast of Tabernacles. Yet there is no command here for holy convocations or instructions on HOW to observe these days except for sacrificial commands. If we observe the New Moons simply because we know that they please God by the fact that he included them in the description of the temple observances (i.e. Sabbaths, New Moons and Holy Days), what would be wrong with observing the New Moons with a special meal as David did or a monthly Bible Study?

10.

Num 28:11 And in the beginnings of your months ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the Lord; two young bullocks, and one ram, seven lambs of the first year without spot;

Num 28:12 And three tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one bullock; and two tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one ram;

Num 28:13 And a several tenth deal of flour mingled with oil for a meat offering unto one lamb; for a burnt offering of a sweet savor, a sacrifice made by fire unto the Lord.

Num 28:14 And their drink offerings shall be half an hin of wine unto a bullock, and the third part of an hin unto a ram, and a fourth part of an hin unto a lamb: this is the burnt offering of every month throughout the months of the year.

Note: Here we find another commandment to observe the New Moon with a special sacrifice. If we compare the value of the sacrifices, we see that the New Moon sacrifice is comparable to one of the Holy days of Unleavened Bread. Num 28:18 In the first day (of the Feast of Unleavened Bread) shall be an holy convocation. Ye shall do no manner of service work therein: But ye shall offer a sacrifice made by fire for a burnt offering unto the Lord, two young bullocks, and one ram, and seven lambs of the first year; they shall be unto you without blemish. Verse 22 includes a goat for a sin offering. The New Moon sacrifice is the same as the holy day except for the goat. This tells us how significant the New Moon is to God.

11.

Num 29:1 And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing the trumpets unto you.

Num 29:2 And ye shall offer a burnt offering for a sweet savour unto the Lord; one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year without blemish:

Num 29:3 And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals for a bullock, and two tenth deals for a ram.

Num 29:4 And one tenth deal for a lamb throughout the seven lambs.

Num 29:5 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering to make an atonement for you

Num 29:6 Beside the burnt offering of the month, and his meat offering, and the daily burnt offering, and his meat offering, and their drink offerings according unto their manner, for a sweet savour, a sacrifice made by fire unto the Lord.

Note: Verses 2-5 describe the sacrifices offered on the annual Day of Trumpets, the high day of the New Moons. This is offered in addition to the regular monthly sacrifice described in # 10.

12.

Num 33:38 And Aaron the priest went up into mount Hor at the commandment of the Lord, and died there, in the fortieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the first day of the fifth month.

Num 33:39 And Aaron was an hundred and twenty and three years old when he died in mount Hor.

Note: Aaron died on a New Moon.

13.

De 1:3 And it came to pass in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first day of the month, that Moses spake unto the children of Israel, according unto all that the Lord had given him in commandment unto them;

Note: Continue reading the ENTIRE BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY! The book of Deuteronomy is the sermon which Moses preached on the first day of the eleventh month in the fortieth year of their wandering in the wilderness just before they entered the promised land.

14.

De 33:13 And of Joseph he said, Blessed of the Lord be his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath,

De 33:14 And for the precious fruits brought forth by the sun, and for the precious things put forth by the moon (Margin: the months or moons)

Note: Here, when Jacob was blessing his sons, the greatest blessing of all was given to Joseph, part of which was the blessing of the New Moons.

15.

1Sa 20:5 And David said unto Jonathan, Behold, to morrow is the New Moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king at meat: but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field unto the third day at even.

1Sa 20:18 Then Jonathan said to David, To morrow is the New Moon: and thou shalt be missed, because thy seat will be empty.

1Sa 20:24 So David hid himself in the field: and when the New Moon was come, the king sat him down to eat meat.

Note: A paper called The Calendar of Christ and the Apostles by Carl Franklin states that “Brown, Driver and Briggs attest that this new moon was a religious festival (Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament p. 225). Since the only new moon that God ordained as a religious festival is the new moon of the seventh month, it is evident that this Scripture is referring to the Feast of Trumpets.” Mr. Franklin included no proof from Brown, Driver and Briggs that this New Moon was the Feast of Trumpets and there is no indication in the text as to which New Moon was being observed. All New Moons throughout the year could have been observed as special occasions to dine with the King.

16.

2Ki 4:22 And she called unto her husband, and said, Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again.

2Ki 4:23 And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither New Moon, nor Sabbath. And she said, It shall be well.

Note: This was the incident of the woman whose son died whereupon she ran to fetch the prophet Elisha to pray over her son. Her husband, who did not yet know the child died, was puzzled that she should go to see the prophet when it was neither the New Moon nor the Sabbath. This story reveals that it was customary to visit a man of God on New Moons as well as the Sabbath days.

17.

1Chr 23:30 And to stand every morning to thank and praise the Lord, and likewise at even;

1Chr 23:31 And to offer all burnt sacrifices unto the Lord in the Sabbaths, in the New Moons, and on the set Feasts, by number, according to the order commanded unto them, continually before the Lord:

Note: This is speaking of the office of the Levites appointed by David for the service of the house of the Lord. This is an important verse because the true 'house of the Lord', Old Testament and New is identified by the keeping of these things including the New Moons.

18.

2Chr 2:4 Behold, I build an house to the name of the Lord my God, to dedicate it to him, and to burn before him sweet incense, and for the continual shewbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths, and on the New Moons, and on the solemn Feasts of the Lord our God. THIS is an ordinance for ever to Israel.

2Chr 2:5 And the house which I build is great: for great is our God above all gods.

Note: This is the dedication of the house of the Lord which Solomon built. The word 'this' refers back to the required offerings and incense on these days. These offerings are an ordinance forever. We see here that the true house of the true God is identified by the keeping of these things including the New Moons.

19.

2Chr 8:12 Then Solomon offered burnt offerings unto the Lord on the altar of the Lord, which he had built before the porch,

2Chr 8:13 Even after a certain rate every day, offering according to the commandment of Moses, on the Sabbaths, and on the New Moons, and on the solemn Feasts, three times in the year, even in the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and in the Feast of Weeks, and in the Feast of Tabernacles.

Note: Here we find Solomon offering at the temple at all the appointed times including the New Moons.

20.

2Chr 29:16 And the priests went into the inner part of the house of the Lord, to cleanse it, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of the Lord into the court of the house of the Lord. And the Levites took it, to carry it out abroad into the brook Kidron.

2Chr 29:17 Now they began on the first day of the first month to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the month came they to the porch of the Lord: so they sanctified the house of the Lord in eight days; and in the sixteenth day of the first month they made an end.

Note: This is speaking of the cleansing of the house of the Lord during the days of Hezekiah beginning on the first day of the first month.

21.

2Chr 31:2 And Hezekiah appointed the courses of the priests and the Levites after their courses, every man according to his service, the priests and Levites for burnt offerings and for peace offerings, to minister, and to give thanks, and to praise in the gates of the tents of the Lord.

2Chr 31:3 He appointed also the king's portion of his substance for the burnt offerings, to wit, for the morning and evening burnt offerings, and the burnt offerings for the Sabbaths, and for the New Moons, and for the Set Feasts, as it is written in the law of the Lord.

Note: After Hezekiah cleansed the house of the Lord, he restored the offerings on the appointed days including the New Moons.

22.

Ezr 3:5 And afterward offered the continual burnt offering, both of the New Moons, and of all the set Feasts of the Lord that were consecrated, and of every one that willingly offered a freewill offering unto the Lord.

Ezr 3:6 From the first day of the seventh month began they to offer burnt offerings unto the Lord. But the foundation of the temple of the Lord was not yet laid.

Note: This is speaking of the return of the captives to Jerusalem by the decree of Cyrus King of Persia who, when they returned, began to rebuild the house of the Lord and restore the burnt offerings on the appointed days including the New Moons.

23.

Ezr 7:8 And he (Ezra) came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king.

Ezr 7:9 For upon the first day of the first month began he to go up from Babylon, and on the first day of the fifth month came he to Jerusalem, according to the good hand of his God upon him.

Ezr 7:10 For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.

Note: The Lord made it possible for Ezra to return from the captivity to Jerusalem by the decree of Artaxerxes the king who granted him his request on these New Moons.

24.

Ezr 10:16 And the children of the captivity did so. And Ezra the priest, with certain chief of the fathers, after the house of their fathers, and all of them by their names, were separated, and sat down in the first day of the tenth month to examine the matter.

Ezr 10:17 And they made an end with all the men that had taken strange wives by the first day of the first month.

Note: The matter they were discussing on these New Moons had to do with the taking of strange wives and their repentance of this transgression.

25.

Neh 8:1 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded to Israel.

Neh 8:2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month.

Neh 8:3 And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.

Neh 8:4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattathiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchiah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam.

Neh 8:5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up:

Neh 8:6 And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

Note: Continue reading to verse 12. This was the Day of Trumpets.

26.

Ne 10:33 For the shewbread, and for the continual meat offering, and for the continual burnt offering, of the Sabbaths, of the New Moons, for the set feasts, and for the holy things, and for the sin offerings to make an atonement for Israel, and for all the work of the house of our God.

Note: Here we read from chapter 8 that the children of Israel who kept the Feast of Tabernacles in the time of Ezra began to repent and seal themselves with a covenant to restore the ways of the Lord including the New Moons.

27.

Ps 81:1 Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob.

Ps 81:2 Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.

Ps 81:3 Blow up the trumpet in the New Moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn Feast day.

Note: This psalm has often been interpreted as a psalm for the Day of Trumpets, the first day of the seventh month. However, Trumpets is nowhere else called a 'Feast'. Also, the marginal reference in the Companion Bible says: Some codices with two early printed editions, Aramaic and Syriac, read "days" plural, IE, festivals. If "days" is the proper translation, this verse then shows a connection with Num 10:10, which gives ALL the occasions when Trumpets were blown - on all New Moons and all Feast days, not just on the New Moon called the Day of Trumpets.

28.

Ps 104:19 He appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his going down.

Note: This shows a general function of the moon.

29.

Isa 1:12 When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?

Isa 1:13 Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the New Moons and Sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.

Isa 1:14 Your New Moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

Isa 1:15 And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

Isa 1:16 Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;

Isa 1:17 Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Isa 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Isa 1:19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

Isa 1:20 But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Note: Some quote these scriptures to prove that the New Moons and Feast days are no longer required. In fact God hates them! But they fail to notice the intended meaning of these verses. If God hates the New Moons, Feasts, and Sabbaths, then he hates prayers also (vs 15). We know this is not so because God commands us to pray and responds to our prayers (1Ti 2:8, Mt 6:6) It is the prayers of the wicked that God will not hear. (Pr. 28:9) What God is really saying here is that it does not matter if you keep the right days and say many prayers on the one hand if on the other hand you oppress people, are partial in judgment, or neglect the care of the fatherless and the widows.

30.

Isa 66:22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain.

Isa 66:23 And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord.

Note: This scripture is perhaps one of the greatest proofs that it is indeed God's will for us to observe the New Moon. This is a prophesy that all flesh shall come to observe it as a day of worship in the Kingdom of God.

31.

Eze 26:1 And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first day of the month, that the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

Note: Continue reading to the end of chapter 28. This is the prophesy against Tyrus who is a type of Satan given on this New Moon.

32.

Eze 31:1 And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the third month, in the first day of the month, that the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

Note: Continue reading to the end of the chapter. This was the prophesy against Pharaoh and Egypt given on this New Moon.

33.

Eze 32:1 And it came to pass in the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, in the first day of the month, that the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

Note: Continue reading to verse 16. This was another prophesy given against Pharaoh and Egypt on this New Moon.

34.

Eze 45:17 And it shall be the prince's part to give burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and drink offerings, in the Feasts, and in the New Moons, and in the Sabbaths, in all solemnities of the house of Israel: he shall prepare the sin offering, and the meat offering, and the burnt offering, and the peace offerings, to make reconciliation for the house of Israel.

Note: The New Moons shall be part of the new order of worship in the future temple in the Kingdom of God which Ezekiel saw in vision. The prince is Jesus Christ, our high priest.

35.

Eze 45:18 Thus saith the Lord God; In the first month, in the first day of the month, thou shalt take a young bullock without blemish, and cleanse the sanctuary:

Ezek 45:19 And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering, and put it upon the posts of the house, and upon the four corners of the settle of the altar, and upon the posts of the gate of the inner court

Ezek 45:20 And so shalt thou do the seventh day of the month for every one that erreth, and for him that is simple; so shall ye reconcile the house

Note: Remember the original command was that the tabernacle was to be set up on the first day of the first month. This shows that a special sacrifice will be required on the first day of each new year to cleanse the sanctuary in the future temple which Ezekiel saw in vision..

36.

Eze 46:1 Thus saith the Lord God; The gate of the inner court that looketh toward the east shall be shut the six working days; but on the Sabbath it shall be opened, and in the day of the New Moon it shall be opened.

Eze 46:2 And the prince shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate without, and shall stand by the post of the gate, and the priests shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate: then he shall go forth; but the gate shall not be shut until the evening.

Eze 46:3 Likewise the people of the land shall worship at the door of this gate before the Lord in the Sabbaths and in the New Moons.

Eze 46:4 And the burnt offering that the prince shall offer unto the Lord in the Sabbath day shall be six lambs without blemish, and a ram without blemish.

Eze 46:5 And the meat offering shall be an ephah for a ram, and the meat offering for the lambs as he shall be able to give, and an hin of oil to an ephah.

Eze 46:6 And in the day of the New Moon it shall be a young bullock without blemish, and six lambs, and a ram: they shall be without blemish.

Note: This refers to the order of worship which shall be in the future temple in the coming Kingdom of God which Ezekiel saw in vision. How important to God is the observance of the New Moon? It shall be equal to the Sabbath in that the gate whereby the Prince (Jesus Christ) enters shall be opened on that day.

Notice here that the offering for the New Moons shall include a bullock. This is MORE than for the Sabbath! Even more amazing is this comparison with the original requirements...

Num 28:9 And on the Sabbath day two lambs of the first year without spot, and two tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, and the drink offering thereof

Num 28:10 This is the burnt offering of every Sabbath, beside the continual burnt offering and his drink offering.

Num 28:11 And in the beginnings of your months ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the Lord; two young bullocks, and one ram, seven lambs of the first year without spot;

Num 28:12 And three tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one bullock; and two tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one ram;

Num 28:13 And a several tenth deal of flour mingled with oil for a meat offering unto one lamb; for a burnt offering of a sweet savor, a sacrifice made by fire unto the Lord.

Num 28:14 And their drink offerings shall be half an hin of wine unto a bullock, and the third part of an hin unto a ram, and a fourth part of an hin unto a lamb: this is the burnt offering of every month throughout the months of the year.

We see here that the New Moons required offerings were originally VERY MUCH GREATER than for the Sabbaths!

37.

Ho 2:10 And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine hand.

Ho 2:11 I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her Feast days, her New Moons, and her Sabbaths, and all her solemn Feasts.

Ho 2:12 And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, whereof she hath said, These are my rewards that my lovers have given me: and I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall eat them.

Note: This is a prophesy of Hosea who ministered to the Northern Kingdom of Israel just before they went into the Assyrian captivity. Notice that God says that he will cause her Feast Days, her New Moons and Sabbaths to CEASE. Indeed this is exactly what has happened to the physical descendants of Israel. They no longer keep the Biblical days which God ordained, but rather the worldly counterfeit holidays. The absence of these days in the world or in the Church is therefore the sign of a PUNISHMENT from God, a SEPARATION from God. The restoration of these days (including the New Moons) will be the sign that the punishment has been lifted!

38.

Am 8:4 Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail,

Am 8:5 Saying, When will the New Moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the Sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?

Am 8:6 That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?

Note: A question was raised because of this verse, whether the New Moon is a required day of rest as is the Sabbath. Apparently in the days of Amos the Israelites observed it as a day of rest. However, there is no command in the Bible to do so. The New Moon is not listed in Lev 23 along with the other holy days requiring rest or holy convocation. It is found in the scriptures in a category by itself (The Sabbaths, New Moons, and the Feast Days). We are indeed commanded to observe the New Moons with special sacrifices and trumpet blowing. Other than that we are not specifically told how to observe them, so we have some freedom of choice in this respect.

Although Israel was going above the letter of the law and keeping the New Moon as a required day of rest at this time, their ATTITUDE was, "O when is this day going to be over so that we may continue with our own business?" It was this ATTITUDE that the Lord was condemning here. We must beware of this attitude in our observance of the Sabbaths and Holy Days which ARE required days of rest. If we choose to voluntarily keep the New Moon as a day of rest, the Lord will accept it, just as he will accept freewill offerings above and beyond the command of

tithes, or fasts above and beyond the commanded Day of Atonement. But just as we must give offerings and observe fastings with the right attitude of heart, so the same principle applies here.

39.

Hag 1:1 In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying,

Note: The word of the Lord came to Haggai the prophet concerning the Lord's commission for the people to go and rebuild the house of the Lord, Solomon's temple on this New Moon.

40.

Col 2:16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an Holyday, or of the New Moon, or of the Sabbath days:

Col 2:17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

Note: Here we find the Sabbaths, Holy Days, and New Moons all together just as they were in the Old Testament. Without the New Moons, our observances are incomplete.

Some use this scripture to say that the New Moons/Sabbaths/Holy days are no longer required. But if you read carefully in context, you can see that this is not so. Paul was speaking to the Colossians who were formerly Greek idol worshipers. When they converted to Christ they then became Sabbath keepers as Paul himself was. This verse actually proves that the Colossians were keeping the Sabbaths, Holy days and New Moons since Paul said, "Let no man judge you" concerning them.

In the second verse, the word 'is' is in italics showing that it was not originally there. So the true sense of the reading should be, "Let no man judge you concerning these things, but the body of Christ (the church) - let that judge you."

These verses follow along with the overall context of the book of Colossians. Notice in chapter 2:8 that Paul says, "Beware lest ANY MAN SPOIL YOU through philosophy or vain deceit after the traditions of men, after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ." Then in verse 18 he says, Let NO MAN BEGUILE YOU of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshiping of angels..." Then here, he says, "Let NO MAN JUDGE YOU". To SPOIL (or take away from you), to BEGUILE (or deceive you), and to JUDGE (or condemn you) are ways that MEN can possibly sabotage the truth that you have in Christ.

Notice also here that the New Moons, (as well as the Holy Days, and Sabbaths) are a shadow of things to come. This means that there is prophesy yet to be fulfilled on these days. The book of Colossians was written in 62 AD AFTER the time of Christ. So there is fulfillment of these days YET FUTURE not having been fulfilled by his birth, death, and resurrection. This is proof that they are not done away.

SCRIPTURAL NAMES OF THE MONTHS

1) Abib April Ex 13:4 or Nisan Est 3:7	7) Ethanim October 1Ki 8:2
2) Zif May 1Ki 6:1	8) Bul November 1Ki 6:38
3) Sivan June Est 8:9	9) Ezer 10:9 (name not given)
4) Jer 39:2 Zec 8:19 (name not given)	10) Tebeth January Est 2:16
5) Num 33:38, Zec 7:3 (name not given)	11) Sebat February Zec 1:7
6) Elul September Neh 6:15	12) Adar March Est 3:7