

AVIV: A Basic Scriptural Understanding

The first month of the biblical year

A few plagues before the last one - the death of the firstborn, we see that in the land of Mitsrayim (Egypt) the barley “was in the ear.” The word used for “ear” is Strong's H24 - “aviv”. So the barley was “in aviv”. Now what does Aviv mean? According to Strong's Hebrew dictionary, it comes from an unused root verb meaning to be tender, and it means “**green, i.e. a young ear of grain**”. So the barley was in its green stage, whatever that looks like. So what is the significance of that? Well... Skip ahead a little bit to the last plague, when Yahweh declares that their present month is to be the first month of the year (Exodus 12:1-2). **Then in Exodus 13:4 we see the Israelites are leaving Egypt in this first month and it is called the month of Aviv!** So it makes sense that around the time the barley was “in aviv-green” that that is the time of the first month, called Aviv. Thus the greenness of the barley seems to define the month - thus it is called aviv-green. So it makes sense that we look for the green barley to define this new moon (month). It also makes sense that the first new moon after the barley has become “aviv-green” is the new moon/month of Aviv - the first month of the year, in which Passover is kept the night of the 14th, etc... In summary, in general terms, Aviv - the first month of the biblical calendar, is in the time when things are turning Green (Aviv) in the Spring - an appropriate time for a new beginning instead of the pagan January coming from false god Janus which is in the middle of when everything is dead.

