The 2 Branches



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The Calendar

The Calendar According To Victor Houteff and Benjamin Roden





THE CALENDAR ACCORDING TO VICTOR HOUTEFF AND BENJAMIN RODEN

The Testimony of Two Witnesses



VICTOR HOUTEFF'S STATEMENT IN ANSWERER BOOK 3, PAGES 10,11

"To prevent His people from bringing upon themselves such a catastrophe, and to have them intelligent as to **the time the year begins**, the Lord gave to Moses the sacred yearly calendar, **which cannot be lost or miscalculated so long as the earth remains**. He told him that the day, which preceded the exodus, was the fourteenth day of the first month; and that forever thereafter; they were to commemorate the Passover on that very night each year, the night following the fourteenth day.

Thus was the Lord re-establishing the creation calendar, reaffirming that the year begins on the day of the vernal equinox, on which spring, the first season of the year, commences, and on which the sun and the moon were created (the fourth day from the beginning of creation) -- the only point in time at which, in the very nature of things, the year could begin.

And so it is that the Passover, the Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles (the three most important feasts in the year), besides other feasts, are controlled by the solar year and by the lunar month; the weekly Sabbath by the day on which creation began; and the year itself by the vernal equinox, the immovable sign-post."



BENJAMIN RODEN'S COMMENT ON ANSWERER BOOK 3, PAGES 10,11

Many have tried to make a **perfect calendar** (some just recently) in this imperfect world with approximately 365 1/4 days in the year. No one has been able to accomplish the perfect calendar, **as yet**, since the flood. At the time of the flood, the natural thermostatic system that **encircled the earth was broken down**, and the resulting ice slightly moved **the earth off its axis**. See Ps. 82:5; 2 Sam 22:8; 9 Tr. 24:1.

In the beginning, the sun and moon were created on the fourth day (Gen. 1:14-19). At this time, **the day and night were equal.** The **first new moon** was on the <u>very day</u> of the **Vernal Equinox**, the **fourth day** of the week. 3 Ans. Book p. 11. Since the flood, <u>the new moon varies</u>. Here it is seen that <u>God created this world in the Spring of the year</u>. When Christ ascended to Heaven and offered the wave-sheaf early the morning of Abib 18, **re-creation began**. Since then, salvation has been sure; until then it was not.

On the day of the Vernal Equinox, the New Year and the first month should begin. However, since the new moon marks the months, no one is able to make a perfect calendar now, starting the calendar year on the day of the Vernal Equinox March 20-21. Since 1959, we have used the Jewish Calendar and have found it to be correct with God's Calendar, thus far. Hence, in accordance with the Jewish Calendar, Passover is Friday, April 16, 1965, in the evening. The Jewish Calendar was with God's Calendar this month, March. Therefore, we anticipate it will be in harmony with Creation's Calendar in April.



BENJAMIN RODEN'S COMMENT ON ANSWERER BOOK 3, PAGES 10,11

Speaking of calendars, we are all well aware of much talk about <u>changing our present calendar</u>; **so that we cannot tell the correct day for the Sabbath**, God's people are not to despair, as we can be well assured that the Lord will look after His own.

There is always a bright ray of hope. It is not at all improbable ---- if either the "great earthquake," Rev. 11:13; "and an earthquake," Rev. 8:5; or "the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth." Rev. 12:16, can be classified as the Church of Laodicea, as well as a shaking or purification in the church of Laodicea (E.W. 270-2,3), like it was in the days of Moses, when the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the false prophets, office-seekers, and self-promoters (G.C. S. 33:2) ---- for the Lord to set the earth back on its axis as it was originally.

In this case, then, it would be possible to make the perfect calendar. The year and the first day of the first month of the year would always start, as in Creation, on the very day of the Vernal Equinox... "on which Spring, the first season of the year, commences, AND ON WHICH THE SUN AND THE MOON WERE CREATED (THE FOURTH DAY FROM THE BEGINNING OF CREATION)...THE ONLY POINT IN TIME AT WHICH, IN THE VERY NATURE OF THINGS, THE YEAR COULD BEGIN." 3A11:0.



BENJAMIN RODEN'S COMMENT ON ANSWERER BOOK 3, PAGES 10,11

In this way, if the present calendar is changed, God's people could always use the unvarying sign-post of the Vernal Equinox (on the fourth day of the week) to know the date of the Sabbath, and all the feast days. As long as the earth is out of its course (Ps.82:5), with the "foundations destroyed" Ps. 11:3, God's beloved saints can only "Flee as a bird to your mountain" Ps. 11:1, if the Calendar is changed.

"They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course." - Ps 82:5

"Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of heaven moved and shook, because he was wroth. " - 2 Samuel 22:5

One thing is certain: the false prophets, self-promoters, and office seekers, with their spurious calendars, only have a very short time to engage in their crafty work. We can be sure of one thing - these skillful artisans, with their archaic devices, will come to naught, along with their ingenious schemes."

In the meantime, God has given the honest a sign by which to test the true prophetic voice. "The typical temples represent both sections of the church, with two divine laws namely, moral and ceremonial. Thus, the 'woman' represents a church that keeps the 'commandments of God – moral law, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ' – ceremonial law, or the plan of salvation revealed in the light of 'The Spirit of Prophecy.' (Rev. 12:17)" 2 S.R. 268:2.



BENJAMIN RODEN'S COMMENT ON ANSWERER BOOK 3, PAGES 10,11

"This system of worship, therefore, is truly the Righteousness by faith that brings the Righteousness of Christ in the people of God. Let us now, with ears wide open, hear the crier's bell." 2 T.G. 37:24. "Here is what Inspiration itself has to say concerning the prophet's means of taking his message to the church:

"Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that <u>publisheth</u> peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.' Nah. 1:15." General Conference Special 37; G.C.S.r 34,35.

Years ago, V.T. Houteff wrote, commenting on the statement, "The Lord shall take the reins in His Own Hands." T.M 300.

"The foregoing prophetic statement reveals two definite things. First, that the Lord is not (in his day) holding the reins in His Own Hands (setting up His Kingdom); and, second, that at some time He will do so. That is, as God is not now ruling the denominations through its present organization, He must reorganize it." The Symbolic Code, Oct-Dec., 1938, page 5.



BENJAMIN RODEN'S COMMENT ON ANSWERER BOOK 3, PAGES 10,11

"Therefore the Lord's taking the reins In His Own Hands is the beginning of the establishing of His everlasting Kingdom, just prior to His visible coming in the clouds." Ibid. page 6:4.

These statements by the Lord's servant, V.T. Houteff, make it quite clear that, when the Lord begins to set up His Kingdom, He will take the reins in His Own Hands. <u>At that time the Lord's message</u>, through Inspiration, <u>publishes peace</u> and calls for Judah to keep...

GOD'S SOLEMN FEASTS

"Here you see that the announcement of this long-expected event is to be <u>made by someone's publications</u>. Moreover, he publishes peace, and thus announces the restoration of the Kingdom. This is the <u>only peace</u> that the world can have. There is to be no other. Those who <u>keep God's solemn feasts</u> and <u>perform their vows</u> shall have <u>this peace</u>. None others shall." 2 T.G. 42:41.

...Christ was the one who instituted the Lord's Supper; and, if we are to stay in harmony with type in our antitypical teachings, the Truth tells us Inspiration would call another movement as an antitype of Christ's work (12 S. Code 1, page 6:0). This movement, called forth by Inspiration, would give the knowledge of how and when to observe this ordinance in the same manner as Christ, our example; hence Israel, the Church, is rescued from its Egyptian and Babylonian bondage of tradition.