Yeshua Born on Sukkot!

Yeshua’s very presence while he was here on earth was a type and shadow of YHWH dwelling with us, is just one of the many indicators of the time of His birth...

*isa 7:14* Therefore YHWH himself will give you people a sign: the virgin will become pregnant, bear a son and name him ‘Immanu El [El is with us] See *Matt 1:23*

*Mat 1:21-23* She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Yeshua, [which means Yah saves,'] because he will save his people from their sins." All this happened in order to fulfill what YHWH had said through the prophet, "The virgin will conceive and bear a son, and they will call him 'Immanu El.' (The name means, "God is with us.")

The final fulfillment of Sukkot...

*Rev 21:1-4* Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had passed away, and the sea was no longer there. Also I saw the holy city, New Yerushalayim, coming down out of heaven from Elohim, prepared like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne say, "See! Elohim’s Sh’khinah is with mankind, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and he himself, Elohim-with-them (Immanu’el), will be their Elohim. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will no longer be any death; and there will no longer be any mourning, crying or pain; because the old order has passed away."

There is a lot of scriptural language in the Brit Chadesha that points to His birth during Sukkot, but also there is scriptural evidence through the priesthood that pins the time line to Sukkot...

*Deut 16:15* Seven days you are to keep the festival for YHWH your Elohim in the place YHWH your God will choose, because YHWH your God will bless you in all your crops and in all your work, so you are to be full of joy!

A Jewish prayer on Sukkot... “shabatot lim’nuchah u mo’adim l’sim’chah u z’manim l’sason t yom [ha-shabbat hazeh v’et yom] chag hasukot hazeh z’man sim’chateinu” or in English... “Sabbaths for rest, and appointed festivals for gladness, festivals and times for joy this day of [Sabbath and this day of] the festival of Sukkot, the time of our gladness” Sukkot is a time of great joy!

*Luke 2:9-10* when an angel of YHWH appeared to them, and the Sh’khinah of YHWH shone around them. They were terrified; but the angel said to them, “Don't be afraid, because I am here announcing to you Good News that will bring great joy to all the people.

*Luke 2:9* is using “Sukkot language” and there are more hints at sukkot in 2:7...

*Luke 2:7* and she gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him in cloth and laid him down in a feeding trough, because there was no space for them in the living-quarters.
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**Gen 33:17** Ya`akov went on to Sukkot, where he built himself a house and put up shelters for his cattle. This is why the place is called Sukkot (shelters).

The word used here for “Shelters” is Sukkah in Hebrew...

The key to calculating the date of the birth of Messiah is Luke 1:5 where we learn that Zechariah the father of Yochanan was a priest of the course of Abijah. (Read 1 Chron 24:10, then Luke 1:5)

The priests became to numerous to all serve at the Temple all the time, so they were divided into 24 courses (1Chron 24). Each course served for two weeks each year, once in the former rain (first half of the year) and once in the latter rain (second half of the year). There were also three weeks in which all the priests were required to serve, these were the three pilgrimage festivals (Deut 16:16). 24Cohanim X 2 services = 48 plus three (Weeks where all serve at the feasts) = 51. 51 weeks is 357 days fitting nicely within the 360 day lunar year.

The course of Abijah is the eighth course (1Chron. 24:10) which serves the tenth week during the former rain portion of the year (this is because during Passover and Shavuot all for the priests serve together Deut 16:16). Zechariah had his vision while serving in the course of Abijah in the tenth week (It will become apparent that he was serving his first course not his second as the timing will show as we progress). Thus Zechariah’s vision took place during the 10th week of the year (The religious year beginning at Abib around 14 days before Passover).

We must add two additional weeks before Yochanon (John) could be conceived, due to the purity laws (Lev. 12:5; 15:19, 25). So Yochanon was conceived in the 12th week of the year. He was born about 40 weeks later during the 52nd week of the year (12 + 40 = 52) which brings us to Passover. Thus Yochanon was born at Passover, the very time that Elijah was, according to Jewish tradition, supposed to appear. (Mal 4:5 & Mat 11:14)

Yeshua was conceived 6 months (about 25 weeks) after Yochanon's conception (Luke1:26 & 1:36). This means Yeshua was conceived around the 37th week around Chanukah. This would mean the light of the world was conceived during the festival of lights! Yeshua was born 40 weeks later (around week 77 that is week 25 of the following year) this brings us to the time of the fall feasts.

There are several clues that Yeshua was born at Sukkot:

1. Bethlehem was "booked solid." This would not have been due census which would have taken place over the period of a year. Every Jew was required to come to Jerusalem for Sukkot (Deut 16:16) this would have over run Jerusalem as well as Bethlehem just five miles away.

2. Yeshua was born in a “manger” or stable. The Hebrew word for "stable" is "sukkah" (as in Gen 33:17) so it is likely that Yeshua was born in a Sukkah/booth.

3. If Yeshua was born on the first day of Sukkot then he would have been circumcised on the "eighth great day" a festival following Sukkot. This day was the original "Simchat Torah" (Rejoicing in the Torah) So Yeshua would have entered the covenant on the day of "rejoicing in the Torah."
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4. When the angels appeared to the shepherds they made a statement which closely echoes the ancient Sukkot liturgy "...behold, we have come to declare to you glad tidings of great joy." (Luke 2:10-11)

5. Sukkot is symbolic of Elohim dwelling in a "tabernacle" (body?) with us.

6. Not to mention the astronomical happens during Sukkot that would have appeared over Bethlehem at His Birth. That’s a topic for another time!

Shabbat Shalom! Written by Jesse Ḥimango Tabernacle of David Ministries 9-21-13