

THREE THINGS I REFUSE TO BE DOGMATIC ABOUT:

- THE CALENDAR
 - THE NAME
 - THE NATURE OF ELOHIM
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Why? One day, for sure, the knowledge of Yahweh will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. *Habakkuk 2:14*

The interpretations of those three topics create such division, but there may not be any of us have it totally correct. Let us show humility toward one another as we wait for the day when Yahweh will get us all unified with the complete knowledge that He will in that day provide.



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Why These Three Topics Matter

- These three areas cause more division than almost anything else.
- Yet the Tanakh does not give complete, technical definitions and Torah for any of them.
- We all believe we are right — but we have all been wrong before.
- Humility is not weakness; it is obedience yielding to the will of Yahweh.
- This teaching is about holding conviction without pretending to be infallible.

The Calendar — What I Believe and Why I'm Not Dogmatic

My Belief

For over 30 years, I have kept the same calendar:

- The year begins with the **first visible crescent** *after* the Spring Tequfah
- The crescent must be **locally sighted**
- No barley requirements
- No calculations
- No Jerusalem-only sighting

Why This Year 2026 Is Unusual

Many groups who once kept this same method have changed theirs this year. We are in the minority — not because we changed, but because others did. Although we are finding several groups and Ministries who are also keeping a late Passover this year 2026. And we are hearing reports that some who have kept the early Passover date are questioning their reasoning and are admitting that they may be off a month.

Our early Spring Feast Dates for 2026

- **Passover:** Sabbath, May 2, 2026
- **Unleavened Bread:** May 3–9

Why I Use a Local Sighting

Numbers 15:2–3 says:

“When you come into the **land of your dwellings...**”

This means:

- Wherever Israel lives, that land becomes the place where Yahweh expects obedience.
- Therefore, the new moon that governs the feasts is the moon **over the land where we dwell**.
- The Torah does **not** require a Jerusalem sighting. There is no definite Torah as some claim that the moon must be sighted or present first in Jerusalem.

Why I’m Not Dogmatic

- Every method being used by others as well as ours has strengths and weaknesses.
- Everyone believes they are right.
- We have all been certain before and later realized we were wrong on other subjects.
- If that was true then, it can be true now.

Yahweh Will One Day Unite Us

Isaiah 66:23, Zechariah 14:16–19, Ezekiel 45–46 — one unified calendar in the future.

The Name — What I Believe and Why I’m Not Dogmatic

My Belief

I use the Name **Yahweh** because:

- It aligns with ancient inscriptions
- It is the most excepted extended form of the YHWH, the Tetragrammaton.

But I do not claim absolute certainty.

It's Not Just about Pronunciation and Spelling — It's Also An English Rendering

- “LORD” is a substitution for Ha Shem, the Name
- Even Ha Shem is a substitute for the use of the Name
- “Jehovah” is a medieval hybrid
- Some names and titles like “God and Lord” have questionable pagan origins

The Commandment

Exodus 20:7 warns against:

Bringing His Name to nothing.

This includes:

- hiding it
- replacing it
- falsifying it
- substituting it

Avoiding Substitute Names

Exodus 23:13 warns:

“Do not speak the names of other elohim.” Unless we are speaking of the names of the other Elohim as in warning or teaching as did the prophets, we are not use these terms, titles and names in our everyday language and especially in worship and extra specially important as in directing the use of such terms, titles and names toward the One Most High Yahweh Elohim.

Even if none of us have the Name perfect:

At least we, who claim to be Torah observant, are not or should not be using substitute titles possibly derived from the nations.

Why I'm Not Dogmatic

- The Tanakh does not preserve the vowels so we are not certain on what vowels to use
- English spellings are approximations
- Every pronunciation today is a reconstruction
- Humility demands we admit the possibility of error

Yahweh Will Restore the Name

Zephaniah 3:9 — a pure language, unified pronunciation.

Zechariah 14:9 — “Yahweh shall be one, and His Name one.”

The Nature of Elohim — What I Believe and Why I’m Not Dogmatic

My Belief

Yahweh is the **one true Elohim**, incomparable and without equal.

What “Elohim” Actually Means

It is a **category**, not a name or even a title for:

- Yahweh
- angels
- spirits
- even foreign “gods” the elohim of the nations

All of these can be called *elohim* because it means: **A being whose home is the unseen realm.**

The Accusation: “Elohim Is Pagan”

This is false.

Why?

1. The root *El* is what the dictionary calls **Proto-Semitic**, older than Canaanite religion but having a common ancestry with the Semitic languages.
2. The Tanakh uses *elohim* over 2,600 times — including in the Ten Commandments.
3. It is a **category, a word or term**, not a pagan name.
4. Exodus 23:13 forbids the use of the **names** of pagan deities — it does not forbid the use of the word *elohim*. No Torah against using that term.
5. Pagans used similar words because they spoke related languages — not because Israel borrowed from them.

Why I'm Not Dogmatic About Elohim's Nature

- The Tanakh gives boundaries, not just philosophies of what we might think or believe
- It describes Yahweh by actions, not theories of his actions or deeds
- Later in post Tanakh era, there were added Greek concepts the Tanakh never uses
- We have all been wrong before on other subjects

The Day of Full Knowledge — is our Prophetic Hope

Habakkuk 2:14

“For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh, **as the waters cover the sea.**”

In that day:

- It will be harder to find a dry spot at the bottom of the ocean **than a place where the truth of Yahweh is lacking.**
- The calendar will be unified.
- The Name will be restored.
- The nature of Elohim will be understood clearly.
- Every question will be settled by Yahweh Himself.

Conclusion — Conviction With Humility

We hold our convictions firmly. But we refuse to be dogmatic where the Tanakh is not completely clear. We have all been wrong before on other subjects even though at the time we thought we knew the truth of the matter — and we must admit we could be wrong now. One day Yahweh will unify us in the calendar, the Name, and the understanding of who He is. Until that day, let **humility** be a driving force in our lives thru and by the power of Yahweh.

The following is the post that was published with the Facebook meme

There are three areas where I hold very strong convictions — but not dogmatism: The Calendar, the Name and the nature of Elohim. Many have their own strong convictions on these three topics, some of which agree, some disagree and a few vehemently oppose those who do not side with their views. But during all my years abiding in what has come to be known as Hebrew Roots, I have come to see that these three subjects create the greatest disunity, but this is not just isolated to that movement but across the board within the sects of Judaisms, Messianics as well as others who think of themselves as Torah observant. With the exception of the nature of the Elohim, Christianity is for the most part oblivious to the other two.

When it comes to the Scriptural calendar, for over 30 years we've kept the same calendar: the first visible crescent after the Spring Equinox Tequfah, sighted locally which this year fell after sunset on April 18th. That marked the first day of the first month of the new year. We haven't changed, even though some groups this year have shifted from their previous calendar stance. We are not alone this year keeping a later Passover, for there are several other groups that are keeping it as we are. It is most certain that there was a lot of confusion this year on the calendar and many admittedly, who adhere to their form of the calendar were all over the place in their decision making concerning it and we have heard of reports that some, who kept that early Passover have admitted that maybe they were a month off.

Our observance of Passover this year is today's Sabbath, May 2, 2026 with Unleavened Bread May 3–9. Numbers 15:2–3 says we keep Yahweh's commands in the land of our dwellings, which is why we use a local sighting — not a Jerusalem only sighting of which there is no direct command for. But the interpretation of the calendar by others sometimes differs, it is by their personal conviction and reading of Torah have they come to their conclusions. They sincerely believe they are correct, just as I also sincerely believe I'm correct. Such an impasse! But guess what.....we all may be incorrect! Therefore, who am I to be dogmatic about the calendar. All we each can do is follow our convictions as we read the Torah instructions until the day when Yahweh will get us all on the same page, and that, He will do most assuredly! Isaiah 66:23, Zechariah 14:16–19, Ezekiel 45–46 — one unified calendar in the future! That day has not yet come and thus there are disagreements.

I also use the Name Yahweh, not because I claim perfect pronunciation or perfect English spelling. Not because I'm a linguistic expert, for I most certainly am not! Because I refuse to replace Ha Shem with names and titles He never gave us. Yahweh

is the most excepted extended form of the Tetragrammaton, the YHWH which gives us consonants only with no provided vowels. For now, I will go with Yahweh and let the linguistic experts fight it out amongst themselves!

The commandment warns us not to bring His Name to nothing (Exodus 20:7), and we are told not to speak the names of other mighty ones (Exodus 23:13). Even if none of us have the Name perfect, at least we, the Torah observant believers are not using substitute names and titles with questionable origins. Presently, just about every time I turn around, I see someone has come up with another extended form of YHWH. The day will come when Yahweh will bring unity concerning His name. Zechariah 14:9 — “Yahweh shall be one, and His Name one.” Zephaniah 3:9 — a pure language, unified pronunciation and spelling. That day has not yet come and thus for now there are disagreements upon Ha Shem.

I believe Yahweh is the one true Most High Elohim — incomparable and without equal. The word Elohim is not pagan as some have surmised; it is a Hebrew word used thousands of times in the Tanakh, the Hebrew Scriptures. Heathen and pagan cultures used similar words because they spoke related Semitic languages, not because Israel borrowed from them.

In recent times I am learning that the term “elohim” is not a title, but it is a category of the invisible unseen populated world that surrounds us. There may very well be millions upon millions of elohim, but there will always be the one Most High Yahweh Elohim.

But this topic of the nature of Elohim is a subject of much disagreement. Most Christians believe there are three in what they call the trinity which is borrowed from the heathen world, while most Messianic and Hebrew Roots believe there is one Elohim, but they believe He is Yahshua, Yahweh come in the flesh, which comes from New Testament theology and not from a Tanakh only worldview. Some believe there are two Elohim, the Father and the Son, while those in Judaism, Karaism and in a Tanakh only view believe He is the One Elohim Yahweh and none other. There is much division on the nature of Elohim, but most assuredly we will one day all know the truth of this nature of the Elohim and of the elohim. That day has yet to come as is obvious that even we who claim to be Torah observant often disagree with one another on this topic as we lack the full and complete knowledge of it.

We may disagree on these three topics today, but the prophets promise a day when the knowledge of Yahweh will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea (Habakkuk 2:14). In that day, it will be harder to find a dry spot at the bottom of the ocean than a place where His truth is lacking. That day has yet to come and thus due to our lack of

complete knowledge, we often disagree.

Until then, we should hold strong to our convictions, but with humility. Not to deny our strong convictions on these subjects, but to sincerely admit that in the past we have been found to be in error on other subjects, we may still be incorrect today on these subjects also. And yet if we are Torah observant, keeping covenant with the Most High Elohim, walking in His ways to the best of our understanding, repenting when we discover sin and error, always moving forward in our relationship with Him and one another, we will be blessed with a knowledge far above and beyond those who are rejecting His Torah instructions. Let us reach past our present differences and humbly admit we just do not know everything.....YET!