

The Prophetic Month of Elul

By T.W. Tramm

THE biblical month known as Elul begins August 21 this year.

Here are 10 interesting facts about the month of Elul:

1. The name Elul originates from the Akkadian word “ulolo,” which means “harvest.”
2. Elul is the sixth month on the biblical calendar. In Scripture, the number six is associated with man, who was created on the sixth day and who will be redeemed after 6,000 years.
3. The constellation sign corresponding to the month of Elul is Virgo, the “Sign of the Woman” featured in Revelation chapter 12.
4. Elul, the sixth month, marks the halfway point of Earth’s yearly circuit around the Sun. It is the month of the autumnal equinox, when the prophetic summer harvest season turns to fall. Elul is thus a turning point, astronomically, agriculturally, and prophetically.
5. Traditionally, the first day of Elul marks the beginning of a 40-day period of repentance before the Day of Atonement, or Judgment Day, arrives. As part of this tradition, every day during the month of Elul, except for the Sabbath, a trumpet is sounded. The daily trumpet blasts are meant to awaken one’s spirit to the fact that judgment is near and time is short to draw close to God.
6. It is customary during the month of Elul to sign written communications with the blessing “K’tiva VaHatima Tova,” which translated means “a good writing and sealing [of judgment]” for the coming year. The theme of being sealed against judgment appears in the Book of Revelation where 144,000 sons of Israel are “sealed” by the Holy Spirit before God’s wrath is poured out (Rev. 7, 8).
7. The month of Elul is historically associated with financial crashes of biblical proportions, most recently two major crashes that occurred on Elul 29/Tishrei 1 in 2001 and 2008 (see Jonathan Cahn’s *Mystery of the Shemitah*).
8. Tradition holds that Elul is the month in which the king is in the field. At this time, the king is said to be most approachable, receiving anyone who wishes to meet with him with a smiling face and radiant countenance. Imagine the scenario: the common worker in the field, who sees the king as inaccessible and far removed, never expects that he will see or speak to him face-to-face in his own domain. Then one day, while the worker is engrossed in his menial tasks, he feels a tap on his shoulder. He turns around and, to his astonishment, sees the king standing above him! The surprise and awe felt by the

laborer in the field is comparable to that which many will feel when King Jesus suddenly appears, to reap the harvest of the earth.

9. Jews customarily read Psalm 27 each day from the first of Elul through the end of the fall festival season at Tabernacles. Psalm 27 pictures the Lord sheltering His people during the day of trouble: “In the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock” (Ps. 27:5).

10. Elul is known as the month of the bride. The bridal theme derives from the fact that the name Elul is an acronym for the oft-spoken phrase by the maiden in the Song of Solomon, ani ledodi vedodi li—“I am my Beloved’s, and my Beloved is mine.” Notably, the passages depicting the maiden awaiting or in the company of her beloved mention apples and grapes, fruits harvested mainly during the month of Elul (Song 2:3-5, 13).

In summary, Elul is—

- The sixth month
- A time of harvest
- Associated with the constellation Virgo
- A turning point
- A time to repent before judgment falls
- A time of trumpets sounding
- A time of financial reckoning
- A time when the King is in the field
- A season of coupling or marriage

Elul is thus an auspicious time, prophetically.

This year’s Elul 1 is particularly propitious as it marks the third anniversary of Jared Kushner’s flight to the Middle East to begin work on a peace deal between Israel and the Palestinians. On the same day, Elul 1, 2017, the Great American Eclipse cast its ominous shadow across the US.

Today, with two US-brokered peace deals on the table and more reportedly in the works, the eschatological themes of Elul seem more relevant than ever.

“Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief” (1 Thess. 5:1-4).

NOTES:

Headline: After Israel-UAE peace deal, Kushner indicates more Arab countries will follow