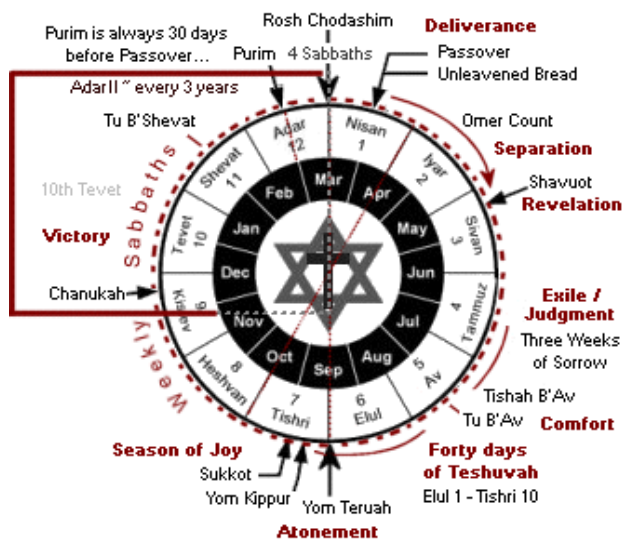


The Month of Kislev

[Rosh Chodesh](#) marks the start of a new month in the Jewish calendar. The Jewish sages metaphorically considered the lunar cycle to be a picture of ongoing "sacrifice and restoration." The renewal of the moon (i.e., the first crescent) was regarded as a kind of "rebirth" that issued from the previous service of the month (i.e., the moon's "self-diminution," or waning to complete darkness).

On the [Biblical calendar](#) the month of Kislev (כסליו) is the ninth month of the year (counting from the first month of Nisan), which this year begins **Thursday, 20 November 2025** and ends at **nightfall on Friday, 21 November 2025**.

The month of Kislev is one of the "darkest" months of the year, with the days progressively getting shorter and the nights getting longer. Indeed, the Winter Solstice often occurs during the last week of Kislev, and therefore the [week of Chanukah](#) (which straddles the months of Kislev and Tevet) often contains the longest night of the year. It is no wonder that, among other things, Chanukah represents an appropriate time to kindle the lights of faith - and to remember the Light of the World in the Messiah's advent to earth..



A Month of Dreams

Chodesh Kislev is sometimes called the "month of dreams" because the four [weekly Torah portions](#) for this month contain more dreams than any other in the Scriptures. No less than nine dreams (of the ten in the Torah) appear in the four portions of Vayetzei, Vayeshev, and Miketz - which are all read during the month of Kislev. In the Torah, the primary figure connected with dreams is Jacob's son Joseph, who was nicknamed by his brothers as "that dreamer" and who was later named "Decipherer of Secrets" (Tzofnat Paneach) by Pharaoh ([Gen. 41:45](#)). Joseph was able to authentically mediate the spiritual and the physical realms through the Spirit of God within him ([Gen. 41:38](#)). Prophetically Joseph represents Yeshua the "[disguised Egyptian](#)" who likewise was rejected and hated by his brothers - but who later became their savior (for more on this, see "[Mashiach ben Yosef](#)").

A Month of Hope

Some of the commentators think the name *Kislev* comes from a root (כסל) that means "trust" or "hope." In the Scriptures the root appears in several places, including: "And they placed in God their hope (כסלם)" ([Psalm 78:7](#)); and, "Did I place my hope (כסלי) in gold?" ([Job 31:24](#)).

Interestingly, the root can also refer to *foolishness*, suggesting that the wisdom of God (i.e., His "dream" for saving humanity through Yeshua) often appears as foolishness to men ([1 Cor. 3:19](#)). If Yeshua was born during [Sukkot](#) (i.e., Tabernacles), then it is likely that He was *conceived* during [Chanukah](#) - perhaps near the Winter Solstice itself. The true Light - that enlightens everyone - would shine in the darkest night of this world ([John 1:9; 1 John 2:8](#)).

***This year Chanukah begins Sunday, 14 Dec 2025 sunset - Monday, 22 Dec 2025 nightfall
25 Kislev - 2 Tevet***

Chodesh Tov to you all, *chaverim*. Remember that the Divine Light shines like a fire and yet does not destroy or consume. The light of God does not necessarily take away the darkness but always overcomes it and shines within it: "The darkness and the light are both alike unto Thee" ([Psalm 139:12; John 1:5](#)). May this month be one of blessing and the Presence of the Divine Light of Yeshua within your hearts ([John 8:12](#)).

Rosh Chodesh Blessing...

The following (simplified) blessing can be recited to ask the LORD God Almighty to help you for the coming new month:

יהי רצון מלפניך יהוה אלהינו
ואלהי אבותינו שתחדש עלינו חדש טוב
באדונינו ישוע המשיח אמן

ye-hee · ra-tzon · meel-fa·ney'·kha · Adonai · e·loh·hey'·noo
vei-loh·hey · a·voh·tey'·noo · she·te·cha·desh · a·ley'·noo · cho·desh · tov
ba'a·doh·ney'·noo · Ye·shoo'·a' · ha·ma·shee'·ach · A·men



"May it be Your will, LORD our God and God of our fathers,
that you renew for us a good month in our Lord Yeshua the Messiah. Amen."

