

# Rood Review

Restoring the Hebrew roots of the Christian Faith

March 2026

## Lazarus, Purim, and the Reversal of the Death Decree

When the miracle of Lazarus (aka Eleazar) is read through the lens of the biblical calendar, its meaning becomes far deeper than a simple act of compassion. In *The Chronological Gospels*, the raising of Lazarus is set in its proper historical and seasonal context, in the month of Adar, when the Jewish people were celebrating Purim.

Purim is not merely a festival of joy; it is a commemoration of a death decree reversed. In the book of Esther, the annihilation of the Jewish people was sealed by royal authority (Esther 3:13). Yet at the last possible moment, YeHoVaH overturned the decree.

The Hebrew phrase *nehafokh hu* — “it was turned upside down” — defines Purim (Esther 9:1). This same theme is powerfully enacted in the story of Lazarus (John 11:17-53).

Lazarus is beyond sick. He's been in the tomb for four days (John 11:39), the point at which Hebraic understanding declares death beyond dispute, which is exactly why Yeshua deliberately delays His arrival until Purim.

Yeshua chose the celebration of Purim, the celebration of YeHoVaH delivering his people from a royal decree of death in the book of Esther, to declare “I am the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25). Then, He reverses that decree as the King of kings: “Lazarus, come forth!” (John 11:43).

This miracle is Purim in flesh and blood — death overturned publicly, undeniably, and gloriously.

With Passover coming soon, the reversal of death for Lazarus foreshadows Yeshua's sacrifice that would again set YeHoVaH's people free and set the stage for judgment upon their enemies.

Purim celebrates deliverance from death; Passover reveals redemption through blood. Lazarus stands between them as a living testimony that the Almighty who reversed the decree in Persia is the same Holy One standing in Judea: Master of life, death, and the appointed times.

The calendar does not merely mark history; it reveals the Messiah.

*See you when the smoke clears,*



Michael J. Rood



# HOW TO PREPARE FOR PASSOVER

With Passover approaching, now is the time to prepare — not just practically, but also biblically. Scripture tells us the original Passover was a simple, urgent covenant meal on the night of the tenth plague. Israel was commanded to eat a roasted lamb, unleavened bread, and bitter herbs, with the blood of the lamb placed on the doorposts for protection (Exodus 12). There was no elaborate ceremony, only obedience, deliverance, and the lamb at the center.

## Clean Out The Leaven

Preparation begins with leaven. This is a good time to inventory your pantry and begin eating up foods that contain yeast or chemical leaveners such as baking powder. Removing leaven, symbolizing arrogance, pride, and selfish ambition, helps us physically engage with the spiritual message of humility and sincerity that defines the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

## Focus On Yeshua

This season is also an ideal time to focus on the Messiah's actions. In *The Chronological Gospels*, you can begin at event 151 and read through event 240, covering Passover through the Feast of Unleavened Bread. These 89 events are packed with pivotal teachings and fulfillments that spark meaningful discussion as the feast approaches.

## Watch The Barley Harvest In Israel

Finally, stay informed on the barley harvest in Israel — enough "aviv"-stage barley must be found before sunset, March 20 to theoretically make a bread "wave offering" (performed in Temple times) on the day of First Fruits, Sunday, April 5. Also, watch for the renewed moon report as the month of the Aviv approaches — because Passover is not only remembered, it is lived in real time.

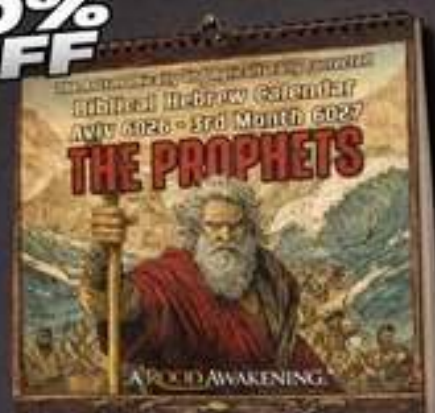
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## **FRIDAY, APRIL 3**

- 8:00 pm - *Shabbat Night Live Passover Preview*

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 4**

- 9:00 am - *Dr. Doug Hamp: "Ancient Rhythms for Modern Hearts" - PART 1*
- 10:00 am - *Allan Aguirre*
- 11:00 am - *Melissa Schilling Smith: "The Story of Salvation in Passover"*
- 12:00 pm - **LUNCH BREAK**
- 1:00 pm - *Adam Drissel: "What Being Israel Looks Like"*
- 2:00 pm - *Allan Aguirre*
- 3:00 pm - *Adam Drissel: "How We Make The Biblical Hebrew Calendar"*
- 4:00 pm - *Dr. Doug Hamp: "Ancient Rhythms for Modern Hearts" - PART 2*
- 5:00 pm - *Melissa Schilling Smith - "No Longer Foreigners: Passover and The Commonwealth of Israel"*
- 6:00 pm - *Kamal Saleem: Islamic Terrorism*
- 7:00 pm - *Best-Of Michael Rood Passover Meal Teaching*

## **SUNDAY, APRIL 5**

- 10:00 am - *Best Of Michael Rood: "What Is First Fruits?"*
- 11:00 am - *Matthew Vander Els*

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# DIVINE RESTART

How To Fast For 40 Days

Dr. Michael "Mio" Aesir

Wish you had a reset button for years of bad habits? You do — fasting is it! But an extended fast done wrong can be both difficult and dangerous.

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