

WAS YESHUA / JESUS BORN ON

December 25th

**OR at Succoth סוכת in the Hebrew
month of Tishrei (around the
beginning of October)?**



The early Christians did not celebrate Jesus' birthday. People first thought about doing this around 300 years later, by the time the church was losing the connection to its Jewish roots. Different dates were proposed in March, November and January. The earliest mention of December 25 was in the year 336. This was also the date for a pagan celebration of the sun god called the 'Birth of the Unconquerable Sun', at a time when the days got longer after the shortest day of the year on December 21st. Not really a good choice, but it does fit in with the way society celebrates Christmas today.

Christmas as promoted in our culture is all about eating and drinking, spending loads of money we can't afford on presents we don't need and a mythical person called Santa Claus who does not really exist. All this is quite pagan and nothing to do with the meaning of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection from the dead.

Jesus (Yeshua to give Him His Hebrew name) was born Jewish and the events of His life fitted in with the prophecies of the Messiah. There is good evidence that he was born at the time of the Jewish festival of Succoth (Tabernacles) in the Hebrew month of Tishrei which corresponds to late September, early October:

Reasons for this as follows:

- Shepherds would be more likely to abiding in the fields at this time of year rather than the cold month of December.**
- Romans more likely to organise a census at this time of year rather than December when the roads may become clogged up with mud from the rains.**
- In Luke chapter 1 Zechariah (father of John the Baptist) serves as a priest in the 'divisions of Abijah' most likely in the Hebrew month of Sivan / June. His wife Elizabeth then becomes pregnant according to word given to him by the Lord in the temple. In the sixth month of her pregnancy (most likely in December) the angel announces to Miriam / Mary that she will become pregnant 'by the Holy Spirit'. Nine months later (September / October) she gives birth to Jesus.**
- The idea of the Lord 'tabernacling' with humanity in a temporary body, as taught in John's Gospel chapter 1, ties in with the concept of dwelling in temporary booths at Succoth.**

More details on this in our article
[‘When was Jesus born?’](#) available at
www.messiahfactor.com

We will be speaking about this on:

[Sunday 21st December at 11 am](#)

- The conception of the Saviour as recorded in **[Luke Chapter 1](#)**. Remarkable connection to the promise given to David in **[1 Chronicles 17](#)**. Also the virgin birth prophecy of **[Isaiah 7.14](#)**.

[December 21st at 6.30pm](#)

- The birth of Yeshua / Jesus at Bethlehem. Exploring the Succoth versus December 25th connection.

Talks recorded and posted on our website at
www.bridgelane.org.uk

Meetings at:

[THE BRIDGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP](#)
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