

## **Shabbat 250**

### **The National Shabbat! The Josiah Connection!**

**On July 4, 2026, our nation will commemorate and celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The journey toward this historic milestone is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead toward the future we want to create for the next generation and beyond.**

**This is called the Semiquincentennial, also called the Bisesquicentennial or Quarter Millennium! To commemorate this celebration President Trump did what no other president has ever done before: He formally recognized this Shabbat as part of America's 250th anniversary celebration. In an official White House proclamation recognizing Jewish American Heritage Month this past May 4th, President Donald Trump called on Americans to celebrate their "faith and freedom" and "especially on Shabbat to celebrate our 250th year." No polarizing politics or political theater. Just honor Shabbat! The moment Shabbat was publicly elevated within the America 250 narrative, both Jews and Gentiles reacted with genuine surprise and emotion. Especially after Charli Kirk's book: "Stop in the name of God" calling on all to keep and observe Shabbat! This marks the first time a sitting president has called on the nation to observe Shabbat. This is both historical and prophetic! But when God gives us an opportunity, it's not just a chance, it's a mandate. This is an invitation to grow, to obey, and to participate in something bigger than ourselves.**

**This initiative highlights the contributions of Jewish Americans throughout U.S. history, invoking figures such as Haym Salomon, a Revolutionary War financier, and referencing George Washington's 1790 letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island, which emphasized religious freedom and protection for Jewish citizens. Saloman helped convert French loans into hard currency by selling bills of exchange and also brokered large donations to the Patriot cause. This included a critical \$20,000 loan in 1781 that enabled George Washington's decisive Yorktown campaign, a turning point for American independence. From 1781 to 1784, Salomon helped provide over \$650,000 (\$15.1 million in 2025). Despite donating his entire fortune to the Continental Army and several Founding Fathers of the United States, Salomon died penniless in Philadelphia in 1785 due to the failure of government officials and private lenders to repay the debt they owed him.**

**Shabbat 250 also aligns with the Torah portion of Bamidbar. Bamidbar and Shavuot are connected because the wilderness journey and the giving of the**

**Torah are both about sanctifying the physical world through covenant and action. The altar, the wilderness, and the counting of the Omer all point to the same truth: the Torah is not just a spiritual ideal — it is lived in the everyday, in the physical, and in the choices we make each day.**

**The proclamation spread rapidly throughout the Jewish community, where people openly expressed disbelief that a sitting American president had formally inserted Shabbat into a national anniversary celebration. Our Jewish people have survived exile, persecution, pogroms, inquisitions, forced conversion, Yom HaShoah, the October 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 invasion, terrorism, and genocide yet because of our covenant relationship with Adonai we have been able to preserve our biblical identity and culture throughout the generations. Shabbat is the key pin of that relationship, the Keystone!**

This Shabbat 250. A national Shabbat has momentum, its gaining traction. There is an supernatural interests, I'm stunned to hear of so many people recently keeping Shabbat and the Feast Days! I'm pleasantly shocked at the positive response and reaction to this Shabbat! It's not just a passing trend, it's a resurgence of interest in the supernatural living God of Israel, including observance of Shabbat and the feast days, which reflects a deep-rooted human desire for Adonai. It reveals a strong undertow in our society; a cultural shift is occurring. This reflects a cultural desire for divine meaning and relationship with Adonai in an increasingly complex and confused world. Whether it's Shabbat or the feast days, or other spiritual observances, this Shabbat is offering all people that are seeking Him a way to connect to the Kingdom, find rest, and have hope and meaning. Just one of the numerous posts I've done his past week:

3,000 engagements. 231 comments. 750 shares.

A Sampling of comments:

I Became a Messianic 3 Years Ago. Best thing that ever Happen To Me. We Keep Shabbat and all The Feasts.

Amen! As Rome forcefully changed the Sabbath into Sunday now the time has come to change back to Sabbath because that is the true rest day blessed day according to the Bible.

As a Christian/Messianic Gentile, I have come to the realization that SHABBAT and the Lords Feasts (Moedim) is for ALL, both Jew & Gentile. Nowhere does it say that the Sabbath & Feasts are only Jewish. So we ought to all observe Shabbat weekly Friday to Saturday sundown

I'm American of Puerto Rican descent but I've always honored the Sabbath because as a child I grew up reading the Bible and feeling a natural calling. I have always supported Israel and have always known that I'm blessed and grafted spiritually by way of the Abrahamic lineage.

This spiritually is a step towards honoring God's ways in the Bible its not just for the Jewish people. God will see a nation of many kinds of people honoring his ways and spiritual laws say God will be for us now.

So is Sabbath Saturday or Sunday? Baby Christian here and have heard conflicting things. Please give scriptures to back up.

Reply (Seven other replies just like it)- The Creation narrative and Leviticus 23, and Exodus 20:8...to name a few.

**Shabbat is the cornerstone of our faith. The fourth of the Ten Commandments is:**

**Exodus 20:8.** "Remember the day, Shabbat, to set it apart for God.

**It is the one day in a week designated as a rest from the material concern and stresses of the week to instead concentrate on the spiritual purpose of life, to minister to and serve Adonai through the Torah and Mitzvot. Torah states in:**

**Deuteronomy 5:12.** "'Observe the day of Shabbat, to set it apart as holy, as ADONAI your God ordered you to do.

**We are commanded to remember the day, Shabbat! Remembering means much more than not forgetting to observe Shabbat. Shabbat is set apart, it's consecrated for God. It means to remember the significance of Shabbat, both as a commemoration of creation and as a set apart holy unto God. It's not just an understanding of what Shabbat is that brings the blessings, it's those who observe and keep! As Sha'ul said in:**

**Romans 2:13.** For it is not merely the hearers of Torah whom God considers righteous; rather, it is the doers of what Torah says who will be made righteous in God's sight.

**Shabbat is our weekly Moedim, a divine appointment, a feast with God. It is the time that we lay everything down from the week and the world, all of our concerns, worries, issues, and stress. All the things that we have allowed to occupy our time during the week, we lay them down to enter into God's presence.**

**Shabbat is our weekly reminder that we serve the God of creation. This isn't just an Old Testament concept:**

**Hebrews 4:9-11.** So there remains a Shabbat-keeping for God's people. <sup>10</sup> For the one who has entered God's rest has also rested from his own works, as God did from his. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, let us do our best to enter that rest; so that no one will fall short because of the same kind of disobedience.

**So why did President Trump pick this Shabbat? Because On Sunday, May 17, 2026, the National Mall will be the scene of a historic gathering as Americans of every background across the country prepare for the nation's 250th birthday with Scripture, testimony, prayer, and rededication of our country as One Nation to God. From morning fellowship in front of the U.S. Capitol to an evening filled with music anchored at the main stage on 12th Street, "Rededicate 250" will be rooted in giving thanks for God's presence and involvement in our national life throughout 250 years of American history and asking for his guidance for the next 250.**

**Three Pillars of the Day:**

**Pillar I — The Miracles that Made Us: A reflection on God's providence throughout 250 years, honoring the faith that inspired America's founders and has carried us forward in every generation since.**

**Pillar II — The Miracles Still in Our Midst: Personal testimonies of God's healing in our lives and in our land.**

**Pillar III — A New Birth of Faith and Freedom: A collective expression of gratitude for 250 years of freedom — and a unified moment of rededication asking for God's blessing, guidance, and grace for the next 250. This is monumental, and it has a strong biblical parallel. 250 in the Gematria means to change, altar, to light a lamp! This weekend may be a radical time of change, of a return to the light!**

**Adonai works in patterns. Historical events we read in the Bible serve as a prophetic outlines for current or future events. Adonai announced the end in the beginning:**

**Isaiah 46:10.** At the beginning I announce the end, proclaim in advance things not yet done; and I say that my plan will hold, I will do everything I please to do.

**When we look at the story of Yoshiyahu (Josiah) in II Kings 22-23, we see remarkable, divine parallel to events that are happening today. It is as though the story of Yoshiyahu is being repeated again in our time: the names have changed but the story remains the same. King Josiah's life is a powerful example of a heart fully devoted to God, even in the face of overwhelming opposition. He became king at just eight years old, inheriting a nation steeped in idolatry, corruption, and rebellion under his wicked father Amon and grandfather Manasseh. Yet from an early age, Josiah chose a different path, he "began to seek after the God of David" at sixteen, refusing to follow the sinful legacy of his ancestors. Yoshiyahu begins a restoration program to repair the Temple and reopen it to restart Temple worship unto Adonai. In this work the High Priest made a remarkable discovery:**

**II Kings 22:8.** Hilkiyahu the cohen hagadol said to Shafan the secretary, "I have found the scroll of the Torah in the house of ADONAI." Hilkiyah gave the scroll to Shafan, who read it.

**The moment of discovering the Torah is a supernatural, an awakening for the people of Judah. It's a divine reminder of the importance of The Word of God in their lives and that of Judah. Throughout scripture, the Word of God is consistently depicted as a guide, a source of wisdom, and a means of drawing closer to God. The psalmist declares in:**

**Psalm 119:105.** Your word is a lamp for my foot and light on my path.

**God's Word serves as a map and lamp for life. The rediscovery of the Torah underscores the absolute truth that God's Word is essential for spiritual renewal and guidance. What happens next is phenomenal:**

**II Kings 22:10-11.** Shafan the secretary also told the king, "Hilkiyah the cohen hagadol gave me a scroll." Then Shafan read it aloud before the king. <sup>11</sup> After the king had heard what was written in the scroll of the Torah, he tore his clothes.

**Yoshiyahu hears the words written in the Torah! The power and truth of Gods word led him to tear his clothes in repentance.**

**King Yoshiyahu hears the words of the Torah, which had been lost and forgotten in the temple, marking a pivotal moment for him and the Kingdom. The reaction of the king upon hearing the words of the Torah is one of profound conviction and repentance, symbolized by his tearing of his robes, a common act of mourning and penitence. This display of emotion demonstrates the depth of**

**Yoshiyahu's understanding of the gravity of the situation; the people had strayed from the ways of Adonai.**

**The Kings immediate response to the reading and hearing of the Torah is to seek guidance from Hilkiah the priest and other prominent figures. This shows his humility and acknowledgment of his need for spiritual guidance and direction from those who are well-versed in matters of the Lord. The king went up to the house of Adonai with all the men of Judah, and with him all the inhabitants of Jerusalem—the priests and the prophets and all the people, both great and small. Then he read OUT LOUD in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant which had been found in the house of the LORD.**

**II Kings 23:2-3.** The king went up to the house of ADONAI with all the men of Y'hudah, all those living in Yerushalayim, the cohanim, the prophets and all the people, both small and great; and he read in their hearing everything written in the scroll of the covenant that had been found in the house of ADONAI. <sup>3</sup> The king stood on the platform and made a covenant in the presence of ADONAI to live following ADONAI, observing his mitzvot, instructions and regulations wholeheartedly and with all his being, so as to confirm the words of the covenant written in this scroll. All the people stood, pledging themselves to keep the covenant.

**The nation rededicated itself, pledging themselves unto God! That's what's happening this Sunday in Washington, D.C.! Not long after this, Yoshiyahu physically acts upon the covenant and cleanses the land:**

**II Kings 23:4-7.** Then the king ordered Hilkiyahu the cohen hagadol, the cohanim of the second rank and the doorkeepers to remove from the sanctuary of ADONAI all the articles that had been made for Ba'al, for the asherah and for the entire army of heaven; and he burned them up outside Yerushalayim in the fields of Kidron and carried their ashes to Beit-El <sup>5</sup> He deposed the idolatrous priests the kings of Y'hudah had ordained to offer on the high places by the cities of Y'hudah and in the places surrounding Yerushalayim; he also deposed those who offered to Ba'al, the sun, the moon, the constellations and the whole army of heaven. <sup>6</sup> He took the asherah from the house of ADONAI to Vadi Kidron outside Yerushalayim and burned it in Vadi Kidron, stamped the ashes to powder and threw the powder onto the burial-ground for the common people. <sup>7</sup> He smashed the houses of the cult prostitutes that were in the house of ADONAI, where the women also wove garments for the asherah.

**When we reflect on King Yoshiyahu's life, it becomes clear that his legacy was not only built on his submission and obedience to Torah, but also on a deep, personal, covenant relationship with God. Yoshiyahu is a beacon of hope and**

**righteousness in a time when the people of Israel had strayed from their covenant relationship with Adonai. Just like America today! His authentic connection to God motivated him to invoke radical changes within the kingdom that were aimed at turning the people back to the rightful worship of the Lord God of Israel. It's recorded:**

**II Kings 23:25.** No previous king was like him; because he turned to ADONAI with all his heart, with all his being and with all his power, in accordance with all the Torah of Moshe; nor did any king like him arise afterwards.

**At twenty, Yoshiyahu launched sweeping nationwide reforms and Revival:**

**Idol removal: He destroyed Baal altars, Asherah poles, pagan shrines, and high places, even burning the bones of false priests.**

**Temple restoration: He repaired the house of God, which had been neglected for years,**

**True worship restored: He reinstated the Passover celebration exactly as commanded, ensuring worship aligned with scripture.**

**Let's look at the parallel between Josiah and America today! There was an "America Reads the Bible" Marathon hosted at the Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC, April 19-25, 2026. King Yoshiyahu did this with his people during his time II Kings 23:2. "he read in their hearing everything written in the scroll of the covenant that had been found in the house of ADONAI". Our national leader, President Trump and many other national leaders participated in the "America Reads the Bible" marathon reading the word of God out loud!**

**In Yoshiyahu's time, we see these steps unfold: first, the reading of the word; then repentance; then a RENEWING the covenant relationship with God. All of these steps laid the foundation for National restoration and revival in Israel. The nation turned back to God!**

**Here we are, tonight, right now gathering together at the Eastern Gate of America to honor and celebrate the National Shabbat Day, Shabbat 250. In the proclamation, the President stated:**

Throughout this historic year, we rejoice in the triumph of the American spirit and rededicate ourselves to the cause of liberty and justice for all. In special honor of

250 glorious years of American independence and on the weekend of Rededicate 250 — a national jubilee of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving — Jewish Americans are encouraged to observe a national Sabbath. From sundown on May 15 to nightfall on May 16, friends, families, and communities of all backgrounds may come together in gratitude for our great Nation. This day will recognize the sacred Jewish tradition of setting aside time for rest, reflection, and gratitude to the Almighty. I further call on all Americans to celebrate their faith and freedom throughout this year, during this month, and especially on Shabbat to celebrate our 250th year.

**This is a call from the top leader of our land to return to our nation’s foundations, to return to our Judeo-Christian roots, which form the basis for Western civilization. President Trump is calling on ALL Americans to observe a National Shabbat on May 16, the invitation is for ALL, even non-Jews, this is biblical and prophetic:**

**Ephesians 2:14-15.** For he himself is our shalom - he has made us both one and has broken down the m'chitzah which divided us <sup>15</sup> by destroying in his own body the enmity occasioned by the Torah, with its commands set forth in the form of ordinances. He did this in order to create in union with himself from the two groups a single new humanity and thus make shalom, **(Eirene: A state of national tranquility)**

**The One New Man, One New Humanity was just released upon our nation by our president, all who wish to participate to renew, refresh, and return to the God of Israel are welcome!**

**Author David Nekrutman said in his recent article, A National Shabbat: Why All Americans Should Mark the 250th.**

“However, if we are to truly honor the essence of the Sabbath and the spirit of this milestone, that celebration must extend its reach. This Sabbath should not just be a Jewish event; it should be a clarion call to non-Jews across the nation.’

**This captures the true historical foundation as well as the prophetic vision for the future. The prayer spoken at Jamestown Forst twice a day facing east towards Jerusalem that proclaimed: “That Jew and Gentile be reconciled together as one, that the days on iniquity come to an end and Gods glory be revealed upon all the earth!”. America has been waiting for 419 years for the prophetic moment!**

**The prophet Isaiah took this further, envisioning a day when the Sabbath would transcend tribal boundaries, he proclaims in:**

**Isaiah 66:23.** "Every month on Rosh-Hodesh and every week on Shabbat, everyone living will come to worship in my presence," says ADONAI.

**For a book that begins by rebuking Israel for a hollow observance of the Sabbath (1:13), it ends with a revolutionary, universal vision: Jews and Gentiles worshipping together as one, in His presence on Shabbat!**

**These two recent events, the America Reads the Bible marathon and now the call for a National Shabbat, are both following the pattern Yoshiyahu's restoration. First, a national reading of the word of God, and now a call from our President for a National Shabbat in honor of 250 years of our nation's existence. This is followed up on Sunday, May 17, 2026, the National Mall will be the scene of a historic gathering as Americans of every background across the country will come together to rededicate our nation back to Adonai for the nation's 250th birthday with Scripture, testimony, prayer, repentance, and rededication of our country as One Nation unto God.**

**Rededicate 250 will be rooted in giving thanks for God's providence and presence in our national life throughout that past 250 years of American history and asking for His providence and guidance for the next 250. Could it be that observing this "appointed time", a National Shabbat, be a precursor to and set the stage for a national renewal and revival?**

**It all depends on us, on our desire and zeal for Him, if our hearts are broken and contrite! Are we hungry enough to repent and return to the God of Israel and to His Word? Has our appetite for things in the world overshadowed our desire for Him? Are we weary enough of the ways of the world to turn our back on it and return to the kingdom of God? Are we ready to repent of our pride, independence, and selfish ways and declare our DEPENDENCE on the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? Are we ready to allow God to shine His Holy light on the dark places in our souls and repent, ask for His forgiveness, and turn from our wicked ways? We are one week before Shavuot!!!**

**I long for Him to pour out His spirit upon our nation, to sweep across it like a tsunami. Will we see a national revival and awakening. Will we see an outpouring of the Ruach HaKodesh, the Holy Spirit? Each one of us has a part to play. May we cry out for our nation and for our people to return to the living God of Israel. Let us prophetically usher this in from here, the Eastern Gate of America through decree and proclamation:**

**We Decree that God's Kingdom will be established here on earth so that Yeshua will soon return to establish His reign here on earth in Jerusalem; That Heaven & Earth will be one! [Ezekiel 40:1-2](#), [Revelation 21:1-2](#)**

**We decree the release and fulfillment of the "One New Man" with complete Unity between Jew and Gentile. That believers will be one, one bride, in one accord, worshiping God in Spirit and Truth. [Ephesians 2:12-15](#), [John 4:23](#), [John 17](#)**

**We Decree the release of a spirit of repentance and restoration upon America and the greater body of Messiah to remove the hindrance of Yeshua's return and release times of refreshing upon God's children. [Acts 3:20-21](#).**

**We Decree that the people of God will be set free from all religious yokes, bondages, and mindsets. [II Corinthians 4:5](#), [Galatians 2:18-19](#), [II Timothy 3:5](#)**

**We Decree that God's followers will move into new levels of accountability and Truth regarding God's word. [James 1:22](#)**

**We Decree that those who call upon the name of the Lord will receive the full Gifts of the Spirit and operate in their Power. [I Corinthians 14](#)**

**We Decree the restoration and release of signs and wonders into the Body of Messiah. [I Corinthians 1:22](#), [II Corinthians 12:12](#).**

**We Decree a release of the supernatural into the natural with healings and miracles. That God's people would be healed from all manner of sickness and disease and God's glory be revealed to the world. [Matthew 4:23](#), [I Corinthians 1:22](#)**

**We Decree and release an Apostolic Authority and Dominion over this region, the Eastern gate of America and It's birthplace. God has set us as the gatekeeper of the nation to root out, pull down, destroy, to throw down, build and to plant, denounce and remove every arrogance that raises up against the knowledge of God. [I Chronicles 26](#), [Jeremiah 1:10](#), [II Corinthians 5:10](#)**

**We Decree that Israel will be a light unto the Nations that the Gentile believers will provoke unsaved Jewish people to jealousy. [Isaiah 49:6](#), [Romans 11:11](#)**

**We Decree a return of what the enemy has stolen from us and repayment in double. [Exodus 22:7](#)**

**We Decree and proclaim the victory of the Son's of T'zyon over the Sons of Greece!! [Zechariah 9:13](#).**

**We Decree the release of God's Shalom and Blessings upon those who hold covenant with Him, obey Him, and call upon His name. [Deuteronomy 28:1-14](#), [Ephesians 3:6](#).**

**We Decree victory for those who hold covenant with God, obey Him, and call upon His name. [Leviticus 26:7](#), [Romans 8:27](#).**

**We Decree and release America to God and say this Nation belongs to You oh God! [Psalms 33:12](#), [Proverbs 14:34](#).**

**Please Pause this Sunday and pray for this nation, pray for Israel, pray for an awakening!**