

Week #: 3 Text: ----- Title: Jewish Fast: Tisha B'Av
Songs: Here I Am to Worship
Holy Spirit
Videos: _____

What Is Tisha B'Av?

Tisha B'Av, the 9th day of the month of Av (Jul. 21-22, 2018), is the saddest day on the Jewish calendar, on which we fast, deprive ourselves and pray. It is the culmination of the Three Weeks, a period of time during which we mark the destruction of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

The 9th of Av, Tisha b'Av, commemorates a list of catastrophes so severe it's clearly a day set aside by G-d for suffering / mourning.

What Happened on 9 Av

- 1313 BCE: The spies returned from the Promised Land with frightening reports, and the Israelites balked at the prospect of entering the land. G-d decreed that they would therefore wander in the desert for 40 years. (Numbers 13)
 - Picture this: The year is 1313 BCE. The Israelites are in the desert, recently having experienced the miraculous Exodus, and are now poised to enter the Promised Land. But first they dispatch a reconnaissance mission to assist in formulating a prudent battle strategy. The spies return on the eighth day of Av and report that the land is unconquerable. That night, the 9th of Av, the people cry. They insist that they'd rather go back to Egypt than be slaughtered by the Canaanites. G-d is highly displeased by this public demonstration of distrust in His power, and consequently that generation of Israelites never enters the Holy Land. Only their children have that privilege, after wandering in the desert for another 38 years.
- In 423 BCE the destruction of the First Temple:
 - Destruction of First Temple by the Babylonians, under Nebuchadnezzar. About 100,000 Jews killed during invasion. Exile of remaining tribes in southern kingdom to Babylon and Persia.
 - The Second Temple fell to the Romans in 70 CE, unleashing a period of suffering from which the nation has never fully recovered.
- The Bar Kochba revolt against the Romans in 133 CE
 - When the Jews rebelled against Roman rule, they believed that their leader, Simon bar Kochba, would fulfill their messianic longings. But their hopes were cruelly dashed in 133 CE as the Jewish rebels were brutally butchered in the final battle at Betar on the 9th of Av.
 - The Temple Mount was plowed one year later on the same date.

- In 1290, Jews expulsion from England's Jews and the
- In 1492 was the banishment of all Jews from Spain – the Spanish Inquisition.
 - In 1492, the Golden Age of Spain came to a close when Queen Isabella and her husband Ferdinand ordered that the Jews be banished from the land. The edict of expulsion was signed on March 31, 1492, and the Jews were given exactly four months to put their affairs in order and leave the country. The Hebrew date on which no Jew was allowed any longer to remain in the land where he had enjoyed welcome and prosperity was the 9th of Av.
- World Wars I and II, and thus also the Holocaust, began on the 9th of Av.
 - German declared war on Russia, catapulting the world into the Great War (World War I) on the 9th of Av.
 - Historians conclude that World War II was actually the long drawn-out conclusion of World War I that began in 1914.

Jews see this as another confirmation of the deeply held conviction that history isn't haphazard; events – even terrible ones – are part of a Divine plan and have spiritual meaning. The message of time is that everything has a rational purpose, even though we don't understand it.

Hebrew Year	Common Year	
		History of Events on Tisha B'Av (9th of Av - Jul. 21-22, 2018)
2448	1312 b.c.	Spies return from 40 days in Israel with evil reports of the Land of Israel. Jewish people cry in despair, give up hope of entering the Land of Israel.
3340	421 b.c.	Destruction of First Temple by the Babylonians, under Nebuchadnezzar. About 100,000 Jews killed during invasion. Exile of remaining tribes in southern kingdom to Babylon and Persia.
3830	70 a.d.	Destruction of Second Temple by Romans, under Titus. Over 2,500,000 Jews die as a result of war, famine and disease. Over 1,000,000 Jews exiled to all parts of the Roman Empire. Over 100,000 Jews sold as slaves by Romans. Jews killed and tortured in gladiatorial "games" and pagan celebrations.
3892	132 a.d.	Bar Kochba revolt crushed. Betar destroyed - over 100,000 killed.
3893	133 a.d.	Turnus Rufus ploughs site of Temple. Romans build pagan city of Aelia Capitolina on site of Jerusalem.
4855	1095 a.d.	First Crusade declared by Pope Urban II. 10,000 Jews killed in first month of Crusade. Crusades bring death and destruction to thousands of Jews, totally obliterate many communities in Rhineland and France.
5050	1290 a.d.	Expulsion of Jews from England, accompanied by pogroms and confiscation of books and property.
5252	1492 a.d.	Inquisition in Spain and Portugal culminates in the expulsion of the Jews from the Iberian Peninsula. Families separated, many die by drowning, massive loss of property.
5674	1914 a.d.	Britain and Russia declare war on Germany. First World War begins. First World War issues unresolved, ultimately causing Second World War and Holocaust. 75% of all Jews in war zones. Jews in armies of all sides - 120,000 Jewish casualties in armies. Over 400 pogroms immediately following war in Hungary, Ukraine, Poland and Russia.
5702	1942 a.d.	Deportations from Warsaw Ghetto to the Treblinka concentration camp begin.
5749	1989 a.d.	Iraq walks out of talks with Kuwait.
5754	1994 a.d.	The deadly bombing of the building of the AMIA (the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, Argentina) which killed 86 people and wounded some 300 others.

