

Counting the Omer

The Creation story in Genesis, tells us that "God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day." (Genesis 1:5)

The Hebraic account of days continues in that manner. A day begins after sundown and continues until the next sundown. So the days of counting the Omer are observed at night. The blessing is recited every evening after sunset. And then there is meditation on the Scripture for the week.

The Blessing

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe, who sanctifies us through the commandments and commands us to count the Omer.

Today is Day ___#___ of the Omer.

Week 1 Day 1-Day 7

Joel 2:23-25a Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month. And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil. And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten,...

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Week 2 Day 8-Day 14

Habakkuk 3:17-19

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

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Week 3 Day 15-Day 21

Ezekiel 36:33-36 Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded. And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by. And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited. Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.

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Week 4 Day 22-Day 28

Isaiah 44:1-5 Yet now hear, O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen:
2 Thus saith the LORD that made thee, and formed thee from the womb, which will help thee;
Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jesurun, whom I have chosen. For I will pour water
upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed,
and my blessing upon thine offspring: And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows
by the water courses. One shall say, I am the LORD'S; and another shall call himself by the name
of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the LORD, and surname himself by the
name of Israel.

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Week 5 Day 29-Day 35

Hosea 14:1-7 O Israel, return unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. I will
heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him. I will be
as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. His
branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon. They
that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the
scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.

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Week 6 Day 36-Day 42

Amos 9:13-15 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the
reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet
wine, and all the hills shall melt. And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and
they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the
wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them
upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them,
saith the LORD thy God.

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Week 7 Day 43-Day 49

Joel 2:28-29 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young
men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I
pour out my spirit.

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