

The Significance of the 2014-15 Blood Moon Tetrad and Israel's relationship with God... in this Season of the Lord's Return

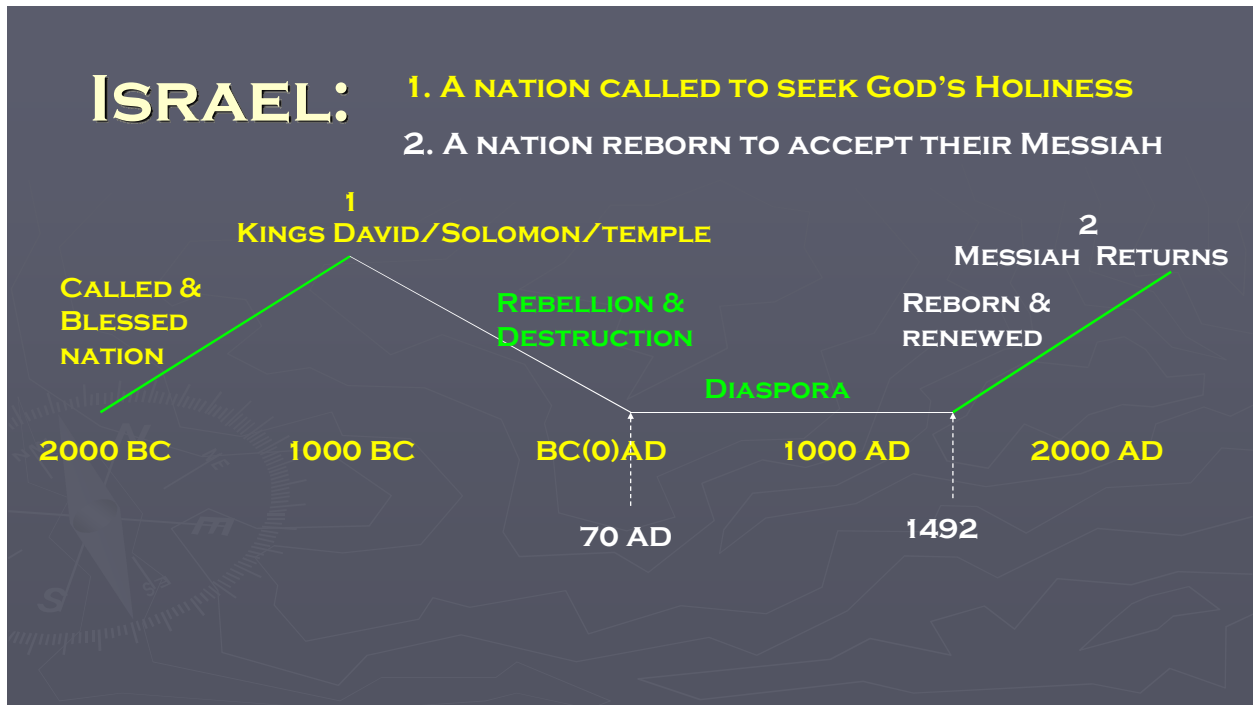
By Jim Dodge

1. Israel and the "Blood Moon" Tetrads

The Tetrad mania got going in 2008 when Pastor Mark Biltz discovered a rare astronomical pattern of four sequential lunar eclipses falling on Jewish feast dates. The last three such events occurred in 1493-94, 1948-49 and 1967-68 and the next and most recent one happened during the Jewish feasts of Passover and Tabernacles in 2014 and 2015. According to Dr. David Reagan of Lamb and Lion Ministries, Biltz initially began teaching that the Second Coming of the Messiah might occur in the fall of 2015 and his theory soon became an internet sensation. While his Second Coming theory could not be supported and was later dismissed and even denied, Biltz nevertheless has continued to link the 2014-2015 Tetrad to end time eschatology, first with Israel and the Jewish feasts and then with Israel and the Shemitah cycle as revealed by Jonathan Cahn in *The Harbinger* and *The Mystery of the Shemitah*. But, I believe that, so far, he has failed to tie Israel and its connection with the feasts and the Shemitah in this current Tetrad with any end time prophecy or "season of the Lord's return" event. While Biltz determined that the three most recent tetrads falling on Jewish feast days occurred during or shortly after significant events relating to the Jews and Israel, he came to this conclusion without doing the required in-depth research to determine if there was a historical or other relationship between Tetrads and Israel. It has become clear from the research done for this paper, that there is a significant historical relationship between Israel and Tetrads falling on Jewish feast dates, and it involves far more than just the four most recent Tetrads.

In his book, *Four Blood Moons*, Pastor John Hagee cautiously concludes that the 2014-15 Tetrad is "an omen of a major development that will most likely have a significant impact on the Jewish people." While I believe this statement is true, it does not go far enough. Important questions are: How exactly is a Tetrad linked to important historical or scriptural events affecting Israel? Is the connection between these Tetrads and Israel, positive, negative or mixed and if so, why? These are questions this research attempts to answer (See note 2 for additional information on Lunar Eclipses and Tetrads).

After reviewing Biltz' and Hagee's evidence and conclusions, I decided to find out if there was a correlation between Tetrads and significant events in Israel's history that might support the premise that Tetrads occurring on the Jewish feasts today are significant with respect to Israel, and if so, is the correlation positive, negative or undetermined? To begin, I put together a simple graphic that broadly reflects what Israel's four thousand year history looks like based on the important issue of the Jewish people's relationship with God. The graphic below shows roughly what that relationship looked like over four thousand years of history:



The graphic begins with God’s call to Abraham in about 2000 BC. It is divided into four major parts. The period from 2000-1000 BC, depicted by the inclined green line, reflects Israel’s rise from God’s call to Abraham’s to become a “called and blessed” nation that culminated in the reigns of Kings David and Solomon and the dedication of the first Temple. The period from 1000 BC to 70 AD, depicted by the falling white line, depicts Israel’s descent to destruction and includes the divided kingdom, the Babylonian captivity, and finally, the destruction of the second Temple and the beginning of the Diaspora. The period from 1 AD to about 1500 AD, depicted by the flat white line, includes the period of the worst part of the Diaspora and the scattering of the Jews throughout the world. Normally, I would extend the Diaspora line to the mid nineteenth century, but based on the potential significance of the 1493-94 Tetrad, I stopped the line at the discovery of the New World and the 1493-94 Tetrad. In 1492, about the same time Columbus sailed on his voyage to discover the New World, Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain issued the decree that banished all Jews (who would not convert to Catholicism) from Spain as their last refuge in the Old World. In Europe, this marked the beginning of the Spanish Inquisition.

Thus, the discovery of the New World provided a clear glimmer of hope for a people who, until that time, had no hope. Beginning in the sixteenth century, Jews from around the world began to migrate to the Americas, and by the end of WW II, the largest population of Jews in the world lived in the United States. The fourth segment of the graph, depicted by a second green line rising, shows the 500 plus year period from 1500 to the present, as God’s chosen people began once again the climb to ultimately become the “called and blessed” nation that God told Abraham in Genesis 12 & 15 that it would one day become. I’m calling this 500 year period the time of Israel’s restoration.

In order to find out if there was a connection between Tetrads and early Jewish history, I focused primarily on the Tetrad history for the 2000 year period from God's call to Abraham to the destruction of the second Temple (2000 BC to 70 AD) to see if the history of Blood Moon Tetrads might correlate with significant dates and events in Israel's 2000 year rise and fall from God's grace. I depended on James Ussher's chronology in his Annals of the World to determine the key dates for significant events in Israel's history. What follows is what I discovered about Tetrads and Israel's history based on Ussher's chronology and data from the NASA Lunar Eclipse website:

Starting with the most recent period, between the time of Christ and the present there have been 87 Tetrads, seven of which coincided with Jewish feast dates. The last four (1493-94, 1949-50, 1967-68 and 2014-15) are the focus of current Blood Moon books and movies. The three Tetrads that occurred between 135 and 1400 AD, during the Diaspora, had no associated Jewish history to compare with so I discounted the Tetrads occurring in the Diaspora from the analysis and began Israel's restoration line with the 1493-94 Tetrad.

For the 1000 year period between Solomon's reign in 1000 BC and the time of Christ there were 32 tetrads.

Note: It should be noted that dates for Jewish feasts are not accurately determined before the Common Era. Moreover, since Jewish feasts did not exist until after the Jews entered the Promised Land in the mid fifteenth century BC, I initially did not attempt to determine which Tetrads fell on Jewish feast dates for the 2000 years between Abraham and Christ. But, it became clear in my research that Tetrads with eclipses occurring in the March-April and September –October timeframes in the same year coincide with the dates for the Jewish feasts because the feasts are tied to the full moons on the lunar calendar and total lunar eclipses only occur during a full moon.

I used the following dates from Ussher to compare the Tetrad history with significant Jewish historical events between 1000 BC and 70 AD:

975 BC – The divided Kingdom

721 BC – Destruction of the Northern Kingdom

607 BC – Initial Babylonian siege on Jerusalem (beginning of 70 year Babylonian captivity)

589 BC - Fall of Judah & destruction of Jerusalem

537 BC- End of Babylonian captivity

536 BC –First return to Judah from captivity and rebuilding of the Temple

454 BC – Artaxerxes decree to Rebuild Jerusalem

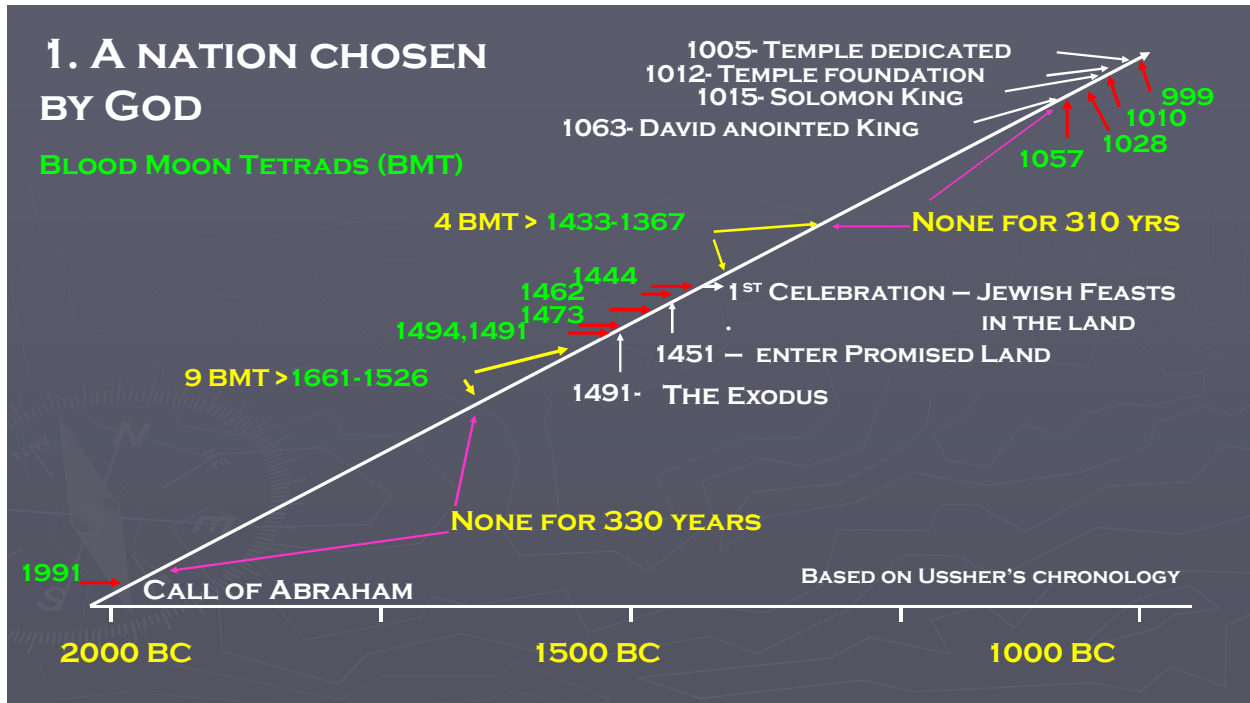
04 BC – Dedication of Herod's temple

70 AD – Destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem

After comparing the above dates with the dates with the 32 Tetrads that occurred during this 1000+ year period (1000BC – 70 AD), it was clear that there were no Tetrad correlations within ten years of any of the above dates. Importantly, there is no Tetrad associated with the birth, life or crucifixion of the Messiah. Thus, for this period of Israel's decline to destruction and the Diaspora, there was no clear

connection between Tetrads and the significant events (mostly negative) in this period of Israel's history.

Finally, I looked at the period 2000 BC to 1000 BC, from the time of the Call of Abraham to the First Temple. What I discovered for this period was truly remarkable. There were 21 tetrads between the time of Abraham and King Solomon. Again, I used key dates based on Ussher for this period and matched them with the Tetrad history. The graph below shows the Tetrad history (green) with Ussher's dates (white) for Israel during this period.



The first Tetrad recorded on the NASA website was in 1991-90 BC that occurred at about the time Abraham would have been about 60 years old based on the Jewish chronology and Dr. Henry Morris' genealogy of the patriarchs in his New Defenders Study Bible. After the 1991-90 BC Tetrad, there was a 330 year gap with no Tetrads. Between 1661 and 1526 BC (135 years) when the Hebrews were in Egypt, there were nine Tetrads. The period of the Exodus includes the forty years of preparation in the desert and the entrance to and conquest of the Promised Land. During this 50 year period, from 1494-1444 BC, there were five Tetrads associated with significant dates and events for Israel:

<u>Date/Event</u>	<u>Tetrad</u>
<1491 - God's call to Moses (burning bush)	1494-93
1491 - Exodus from Egypt, Red Sea crossing	1491-90
1490-51 - Mt Sinai, 40 years in the Wilderness	1473-72, 1463-62
1445 - Joshua divided the land among the 12 Tribes	1444-43

None of the above Tetrads appeared to fall on Jewish feast dates, but these events took place before the institution of the Jewish feasts in the land. I noted too, that, like the current Tetrads of interest, a

Tetrad seems to appear after or during the time of the event, but not before it. After the 1444 BC Tetrad, there are four Tetrads between 1433-1367 (75 years) during the period of the Judges. Then, there is another gap of 310 years with no Tetrads. Finally, from the time when David was anointed king by Samuel in 1063 BC to the dedication of the first temple in 1004 BC there are four Tetrads in 1057-56, 1028-27, 1010-09 and 999-998 respectively. Incredibly, all four of these Tetrads occurred during the March/April and Sept/Oct Jewish feast date cycles.

<u>Date/Event/ BC</u>	<u>Tetrad</u>
1063, 1055 – David anointed by Samuel, becomes king	1057-56 (Feast dates)
1048 - Jerusalem becomes Israel’s capital	- -
1034 - Birth of Solomon	1028-27 (Feast dates)
1014, 1012 - Solomon king, Temple foundation laid	1010-09 (Feast dates)
1004 - Temple dedicated	999-98 (Feast dates)

So, for Israel’s first two thousand years as God’s chosen people, the relationship between Tetrads and key events in Israel’s history reveals:

The dates for the important events marking Israel’s rise from obscurity to glory during the first thousand years (2000-1000 BC) reveals steady, but positive advancement towards God’s goal of holiness for His people. The alignment of Tetrads and key events during this period of Israel’s rise is remarkable. After God’s call to Abraham, there are two 300+ year gaps with no Tetrads, each followed by a concentration of Tetrads. The first being the 50 year period (1494-1444) covering the Exodus and the entering and conquest of the Promised Land, and the second was the 60 year period (1060-999) highlighted by the reign’s of David and Solomon and the building and dedication of the first temple. Remarkable is the fact that while the Tetrads during the first period of the Exodus did not appear to fall on Jewish feast dates (the feasts were not being celebrated yet), all four of the Tetrads during the period of kings David and Solomon and the temple fell on Jewish feast dates.

During Israel’s second millennium (1000 BC-70 AD), the important events marking Israel’s fall from grace and destruction that led to the Diaspora were negative events, both for Israel and with respect to Israel’s relationship with God. Importantly, there was no connection between the Tetrads and the important dates for Israel during this one thousand plus year period of decline. Therefore, it appears that Tetrads were important positive signs for Israel during its first 1000 year rise to holiness, but Tetrads had no significance with respect to important historical dates and events (mostly negative) during Israel’s thousand plus year fall from grace from 1000 BC to the destruction of the Temple (70AD).

I believe the above clearly shows a positive relationship between God’s heavenly sign of a Tetrad of lunar eclipses, especially those falling on Jewish feast dates, and important events in Israel’s rise to its spiritual pinnacle from 2000 to 1000 BC. This seems to confirm that Mark Biltz was on to something when he discovered the relationship between Tetrads appearing on Jewish feast dates and important events during Israel’s current period of restoration because the three Tetrads falling on Jewish feast dates to date each point to a significant positive event affecting God’s relationship with Israel, and this coincides with parallel events during Israel’s first rise between 2000 and 1000 BC.

It should not be a surprise, at least for Bible scholars, that God would use historical events and the associated Tetrads in Israel's first rise to glory (2000-1000 BC) as a template that enables us to see and understand His plan for Israel and its relationship to God during the nation's current restoration to holiness. If this is true, and I believe it is, then the Tetrads falling on Jewish feasts since 1493 are indeed the heavenly sign that ties these parallel periods in Israel's history together. If we take a close look at the events that correlate with the Tetrads during Israel's first rise, they clearly point to God's relationship with Israel. This relationship has two aspects or dimensions; one is physical and the other is spiritual. On the timeline below, I combined the significant events and associated Tetrads for the two critical periods in Israel's first rise (1994-1444 & 1060-999 BC) and then assigned a physical, spiritual or combined label to each event. The table below is what was used to develop a comparable table of significant events with the Tetrads for Israel's current restoration to God's holiness:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Israel's first rise to holiness with Physical and Spiritual dimensions</u>	<u>Tetrad</u>
1991 BC	- God chooses Israel to become His holy nation (Call to Abraham) – Spiritual	1991-90
1491 BC	- God's call to Moses - delivers Israel from bondage – Physical & Spiritual	1491-90
1490-51 BC	- God leads Israel (God and Israel against the world) Physical & Spiritual	1473-72, 1463-62
1445 BC	- God leads Israel to possess the land – Physical	1444-43
1063 BC	- Throne of David established - Physical & Spiritual	1057-56-JF
1045 BC	- God makes Jerusalem His dwelling place – eternal Capital - Spiritual	1028-27-JF
1012 BC	- God's house – the first Temple built in Jerusalem - Physical	1010-09-JF
1004 BC	- God's house is dedicated by the nation – Spiritual	999-98-JF

On this template, the aspect or dimension of God's relationship with Israel appears in bold print. I added the year 1045 BC which is the year that the Ark of the Covenant was first brought to Jerusalem for what was to become God's dwelling place. This was three years after David made Jerusalem his Capital. Even though this event was not directly associated with a Tetrad, it marked Jerusalem's beginning as a major, even pivotal, player throughout both periods of Israel's rise.

In my search of the scriptures to find a prophetic basis for the development of a template for Israel's current restoration that would be comparable with one above, I discovered an incredible parallel in Zechariah's prophetic view of the end times as revealed in chapters 11-14. Chapter 11 addresses Israel's rejection of the Messiah that led to destruction and the Diaspora; Chapter 12:1-9 deals with Israel's physical restoration to the land and Jerusalem following the nation's rebirth in 1948; Chapters 12:10-14 and chapter 13 address Israel's spiritual restoration; and chapter 14 addresses the final siege of Jerusalem, the Second Coming of the Messiah and the Millennial Kingdom. Zechariah's prophetic summary is unusual because it spans a period of time that includes both pre-Tribulation and Tribulation events, in contrast with passages like Ezekiel 38-39 - a pre-Tribulation event, and the Tribulation events described in Revelation 6-19. Thus, Zechariah 11-14 provides the perfect foundation to analyze Israel's restoration template that is described below:

Date	Template for Israel's Physical and Spiritual restoration – Zech 11-14,	Tetrad
33 AD	- Ch 11 – Messiah is rejected resulting in Israel's destruction > Diaspora	--
1492	- Discovery of the New World - A glimmer of hope in a dark time	1493-94-JF
1948	- Ch 12:1-9 - Physical restoration of Israel Physical	1949-50-JF
1967	- Ch 12:1-9 - Physical restoration of Jerusalem Physical	1967-68-JF
2015?	- Zech 12:3 – Abandonment by Allies (Israel's Spiritual Wakeup) Both	2014-15-JF
TBD	- Ch 12:10-14, Ch 13 - Spiritual restoration/salvation of Israel Spiritual	Tribulation
TBD	- Ch 14: 1-2 – Final siege of Jerusalem Physical	Tribulation
TBD	- Ch14:3-8 – Second Coming of the Messiah Physical	Tribulation
TBD	- Ch 14:9-21 – Millennial Kingdom of the Messiah Physical & Spiritual	Millennium

(JF = Jewish feasts)

On this template, the nation's rejection of the Messiah in 33 AD is included because it is the starting point in Zechariah's prophecy. With this addition and inclusion of the first three restoration Tetrads (1493-94, 1949-50, 1967-68), we see that the present 2014-15 Tetrad falls midway between the key events on the template. The final four events shown as TBD (To Be Determined) occur during the Tribulation and the Millennium. I did not include the third temple that is prophesied to be rebuilt just before or early in the Tribulation because I don't believe it represents a positive spiritual event on Israel's restoration journey to the recognition of Jesus Christ as their Messiah. Since the timing for the last four events that lead to Israel's spiritual restoration is well established in the Tribulation timeline, I believe that the 2014-15 Tetrad is likely the final Tetrad God will use to point to a positive restoration event for Israel before the Tribulation begins. The NASA Lunar Eclipse page seems to confirm this since the next Tetrad to appear on Jewish Feast dates is not until 2061. Based on research that follows and the critical world political events happening during this current Tetrad, I don't believe we have that much time remaining before the Messiah returns.

2. What is the Significance of the 2014-15 Tetrad for Israel in these End Times?

Based on the relationship between the major events in Jewish history between 2000 and 1000 BC and the positive physical, spiritual or combined impact the blood moon tetrads that generally followed these events had on Israel's climb from obscurity to the occupation of their land in a state of spiritual holiness with God by the time of the first Temple (1000 BC), then a strong case can be made that the first three of the blood moon tetrads appearing in the last 500 years: 1493-94 (Israel's preservation); 1949-50 (Israel's restoration to the land) and 1967-68 (re-occupation of Jerusalem) are remarkably similar in timing and appearance with the tetrads and key events that appeared during Israel's first rise to holiness.

But, after the appearance of the 1967-68 Tetrad, Israel was back in the land and Jerusalem was once again the nation's eternal capital. So the question is: What does the **Four Blood Moons** DVD reveal about the significance of the 2014-15 Tetrad?

Rabbi Riskin says that the heavenly signs are telling us that this is the time for great things to happen

and that **Christians and Jews must come together and unify against the forces of evil in order for a peaceful world to exist.** The stars, sun and moon are telling us that the time is ripe for redemption.

Is it true or even possible that Jews and Christians can unify and live together in a peaceful world between now and the time of Christ's return? This is not prophesied to happen in Scripture. What Jews must do is recognize Jesus Christ as the true Messiah and we know that will not happen until the end of the Tribulation when the remnant of Jews finally recognizes Christ as their true Messiah (Zech 13:9).

Eric Stakelbeck says: "We haven't seen these blood moons since 1967 when Israel conquered its enemies. It's a similar situation today." ... As the 2014-15 Blood Moon Tetrad appeared, all Israel's enemies are lining up against it. We've seen the rise of ISIS and the return of Russia. It was unthinkable that Iran could have nuclear weapons, but the US was instrumental in making the Iran nuclear deal happen. **There is a war coming and these latest blood moons may be telling us that it is time to prepare for war.**

While it is true that war is coming, it is not clear that the conditions and signs highlighted by Stakelbeck can be linked with the appearance of the 2014-15 Tetrad. All of these events are prophesied to happen in scripture but, again, they are not linked to the appearance of these latest blood moons. What is significant is the convergence of all the signs coming together, including the appearance of heavenly signs like the blood moons, that when combined, seem to clearly point to the nearness of the events leading up to the Day of the Lord. While war was linked with Israel's re-birth as a nation and with the capture and re-occupation of Jerusalem- God's holy city, the two main events that define Israel's physical restoration: rebirth of the nation and the reoccupation of Jerusalem happened by 1967, fifty years ago. The coming wars will not be linked to Israel's physical restoration to the land because Israel is back in the land.

Mark Biltz and Rabbi Scheinberg emphasize that this is the first time in history (2014-15) that a Tetrad appeared during a Shemitah year, so **this is added proof that something dramatic is about to happen.**

Rabbi Scheinberg closes with this statement: The Blood Moons represent **God saying to us "Wake up! It's time to change."**

If Rabbi Scheinberg is referring specifically to the Jews with this statement, then I believe his may be the most accurate interpretation of what the 2014-15 blood moon tetrad may represent – a Spiritual Wakeup Call for the Jews.

While not mentioned in the **Four Blood Moons**, others have claimed that the 2014-15 Tetrad may be linked to the physical and spiritual re-appearance of the third Temple and resumption of sacrificial offering. The third Temple is clearly prophesied in Scripture (Dan 9:26-27 and elsewhere). But, there are problems attempting to link the 2014-15 Tetrad with the third Temple. The first is that the tetrad has passed and there is not yet a third Temple. The second is that the physical and spiritual appearance of the third Temple represents a return by the Jews to historical religious practice – with a focus on God and ritual sacrifice and not on the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Christ's sacrifice on the cross eliminated the requirement for animal sacrifice and Old Testament religious practices. We know from Scripture that it

won't be until the remnant of the Jews has been refined in the fire at the end of the Tribulation that they recognize Jesus Christ as their true Messiah (Baruk Haba Bashem, Adoni) and the Jews will finally, spiritually be restored to a state of holiness acceptable to God.

With the above in mind, what do I believe the 2014-15 Tetrad could represent? The tetrad appeared during a remarkable anti-spiritual period in history. Anti-Semitism, religious persecution (against both Christians and Jews) and apostasy in the church today are at all time highs. Importantly, during the eight years of the Obama administration, the strong and unique bond between the U.S. and Israel that both blessed our nation and helped to protect Israel against the rest of the world was broken... possibly beyond repair. Obama's nuclear deal with Iran and the December 2016 passage of UN Resolution 2334 set the stage for the isolation of Israel by the rest of the world in ways that cannot simply be remedied by a change in administration. Zechariah 12:3 is clear that Jerusalem will be a "cup of trembling" from the time of its re-occupation by the Jews until Christ returns. Even today, there are indications that President Trump will continue to pursue a Palestinian state at Israel's expense. The one positive sign this past year was Trump's promise to move the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv back to Jerusalem if elected. But, as this is written, it is looking more and more like this will, like others before it, become a broken campaign promise.

Today, there is a growing and significant, but still small, number of Messianic Jews, both in Israel and around the world. But, these will be taken up in the Rapture with the church. The vast majority of the Jews in Israel are secular or traditional (non-Messianic). If the blood moon tetrad pattern that marked Israel's first physical and spiritual rise is being repeated in our time, then the 2014-15 Tetrad must be a spiritual sign for Israel. And, because we know that Israel as a nation will not attain spiritual fulfillment until just before Christ returns at the end of the Tribulation, then the most recent tetrad can only be viewed as a "heads up" or a "wake-up call" for the Jews ... and it will go unheeded. Rabbi Sheinberg is probably right in recognizing that God is telling the Jews to "Wake up! It's time to change."

It is clear from Scripture that there will not be a dramatic spiritual change that causes the Jews to recognize Jesus Christ as their Messiah before the Tribulation begins. Importantly, from the NASA lunar eclipse website, there will not be another Blood Moon Tetrad like 2014-15 until 2061-62, so even if there is another tetrad sign that marks a spiritual change the Jews, it would have to appear during or after the Tribulation when such a change will take place. By then, there will be no one left on the earth looking for a heavenly sign marking a change in the spiritual state of the Jews.

God gives us heavenly signs to mark important dates and events in His plan, even if they are not recognized or heeded. The 12 August 3 BC Venus Jupiter conjunction that gave the world a "heads up" that the Messiah was coming soon, was only recognized and acted on by a small cadre of wise men. The star that appeared on the day of Christ's birth is recorded nowhere in secular history, but only in the Bible, yet history records that when the star appeared, the world was clueless. Such may be the case with the 2014-15 Blood Moon Tetrad. If this Tetrad is a true wakeup call for the Jews, they should know from their history that just as it was during the time of the Exodus with Moses and Joshua: It will once again be: **God and Israel against the world** (Josh 1:1-9). Maranatha