

# Newsbytes

The First Watch

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“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

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## Third Temple Calendar Launches This Saturday, On The ‘New Year Of Kings’

By Adam Eliyahu Berkowitz March 12, 2018 , 4:00 pm

“This month shall mark for you the beginning of the months; it shall be the first of the months of the year for you.” Exodus 12:2 (The Israel Bible™)



image:

<https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Third-Temple-Calendar.jpg>

Front cover of the “Kings’ Calendar” (Reuven Prager)

This Saturday will be the first day of the Hebrew month of Nissan, which according to the Bible is the first day of the year. This fact is only noted on the “King’s Calendar,” a new calendar

specifically designed for use in the Third Temple.

The calendar was created by Reuven Prager, a tailor who makes Biblically styled clothes in Jerusalem. Prager is a Levite and takes his Biblical identity seriously, using his skills as a tailor to create the banner of the tribe of Levi. Prager based the design on a description of the banner in Midrash Rabbah, an ancient collection of homiletic teachings. For 20 years, Prager has minted silver half-shekel coins, a Biblical donation that was used for Temple expenses.

As part of his passion for the Temple, Prager decided 36 years ago that he wanted to create a calendar for the Third Temple. But the project was so complicated and requires so much research that the first calendar is only coming out now.

“It’s a mind-blowing calendar for the Third Temple Era,” Prager told Breaking Israel News. “It’s the first of its kind and will be followed by calendar makers in future generations.”

The calendar is aesthetically pleasing, beautifully printed with images relevant to each month, but the calendar may not make sense at first glance to those unfamiliar with the Biblical system of dates. A Gregorian calendar goes from January to December. A Hebrew calendar usually begins in Tishrei, the seventh month in the Bible, which generally falls around September, and ends in the month of Elul.

The “King’s Calendar” begins in Nissan, referred to in the Bible as “the first month” since it is the month of the Children of Israel’s exodus from Egypt.

*This month shall mark for you the beginning of the months; it shall be the first of the months of the year for you. Exodus 12:2*

The upcoming new year begins this Saturday and is listed in the calendar as “New year for Kings Shekalim, Festivals, and Vows.” This title for the date is a reference to the description of the beginning of the month of Nissan in the Mishnah (oral law), which lists the first of Nissan as one of the four new years in the Jewish calendar.

The King’s Calendar tracks all the activities that took place in the First and Second Temples and which will be performed again when the Third Temple is built. This includes the Biblical feasts that are observed today, but the calendar also has many surprises, holidays and events that are only observed when a Temple stands in Jerusalem.

As the first month of the year, Nissan is particularly packed. The Korban Pesach (Pascal offering) is supposed to be performed on the 14th of the month, along with the Fast of the First Born, which is still observed today on the day before Passover. The calendar also notes that the barley for the Omer offering is reaped on the evening of the last night of Passover.

The first day of the month Sivan, the third month in the King’s Calendar, is noted for Trumat Halishka, the bringing of the silver half shekels to the Temple. The 15th of Av, the fifth month in the Temple calendar, is noted for being the last day of cutting wood for the Temple, and two weeks later, the first day of Elul marks the new year for the tithes of the cattle.

Since this is a calendar intended for the Third Temple, not all of the holidays are biblical in origin. The holidays pertaining to the modern state of Israel such as Yom Ha’atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) and Yom Hazikaron (Memorial Day) appear on the calendar, as does Jerusalem Day.

One unexpected date Prager included was Sigd, a holiday unique to the Jewish Ethiopians celebrated on the 29th of Cheshvan, the eighth month of the calendar. Its origins are unclear, but it is a fast day that symbolizes the acceptance of the Torah. It is now officially recognized as a holiday by the Israeli government.

## Powerful Earthquake in Mexico was a Rare “Bending Quake”

March 12, 2018                      newswweek.com

Six months have passed since a magnitude 7.1 earthquake struck Mexico City, toppling 40 buildings and killing over 300, but the memory remains fresh. Condemned structures dot many neighborhoods, their facades crumbling. And after an earthquake 225 miles away in Oaxaca state shook the capital city again on February 16, 2018, the city mayor said hospitals treated dozens of people for panic attacks.

Seismologists, too, are still studying the September 19 earthquake, trying to better understand what’s happening underneath Mexico City. Our new paper in Geophysical Research Letters brings critical findings to light.

Since the damaging quake, we have been analyzing data from the national network of seismological sensors, as well as high-quality GPS stations around the country. Together, these instruments

measure shaking across Mexico. We wanted to know what caused this magnitude 7.1 earthquake and whether a future shock could strike even closer to this city of 20 million. Here's what we learned.

## The Earth's trembling surface

People in central Mexico are accustomed to the ground shaking. Since 1980, 40 perceptible earthquakes have hit this region. The September 19 quake actually occurred on the 32nd anniversary of the magnitude 8.1 earthquake that killed at least 10,000 people in and around Mexico City in 1985.

That catastrophe marked an entire generation of Mexicans, including ourselves, back when we were just kids.

Now, as working seismologists, we have discovered that the 2017 earthquake, called Puebla-Morelos, was fundamentally unlike its 1985 predecessor. In fact, it was different than most big Mexican earthquakes, which typically happen along the country's Pacific coast, where two tectonic plates collide.

The Puebla-Morelos quake occurred well inland—just 70 miles south of Mexico City, in Puebla state. Since the 1920s, only five other large earthquakes have originated in central Mexico.

## How earthquakes happen

Most major earthquakes worldwide happen along the unstable intersections in the Earth's crust, where two tectonic plates—that is, the underground slabs that make up the planet's rocky shell—collide, one plate sliding beneath the other.

These are called subduction zones, and continued plate movements in those areas are responsible for the world's largest earthquakes – the kinds that occasionally rattle Alaska, Japan, Chile and Indonesia.

At most subduction zones, after one tectonic plate slides beneath a neighboring plate, it continues on a diagonal downward dive and sinks deep into the Earth's mantle.

Not in Mexico. There, the initial contact between the two tectonic plates – which collide off the country's southern Pacific coast—starts off normally enough, with the subducted plate sinking diagonally downwards.

But then, just as it begins to jut underneath the Mexican mainland, the plate—which is made of dense, heavy rocks—reverses course. It bends upward, sliding itself horizontally beneath the plate Mexico sits on top of. This setup continues for about 125 miles or so.

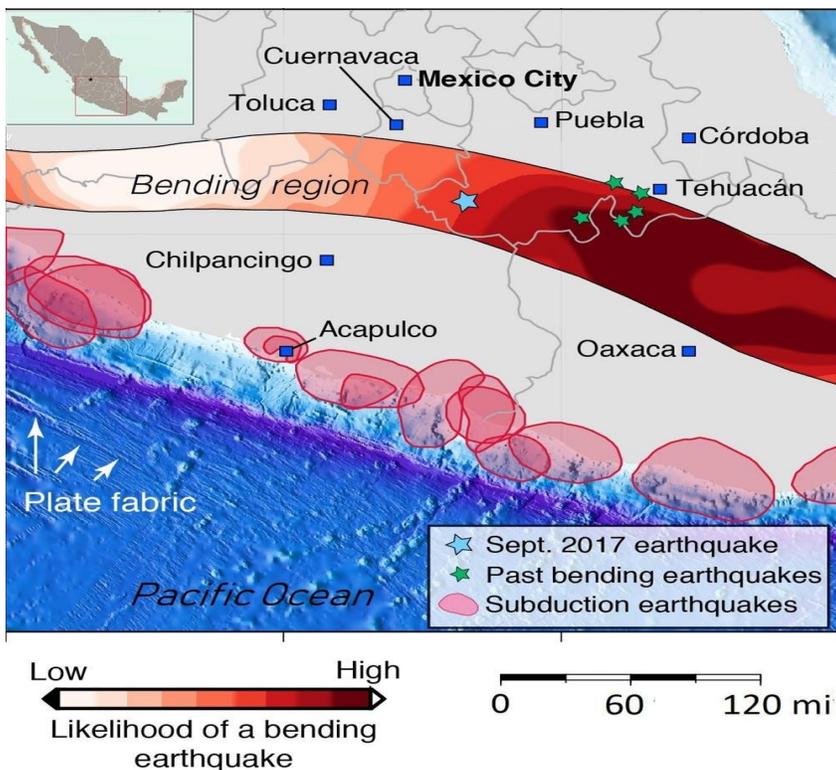
Then, underneath Puebla state—just south of Mexico City—at a depth of about 30 miles below ground, the subducted plate abruptly changes direction once more. It dives almost vertically downward, plunging itself deep into the Earth's mantle.

## What is a 'bending' quake?

When the plate bends downward, some of the rocks in the plate break. Think of a sturdy piece of wood. Flexed lightly, it bends. But when the flexing becomes too strong, it will splinter violently.

The zone of potential 'bending' earthquakes, where the subducted tectonic plate that runs beneath Mexico juts downward at a sharp angle, is a band spanning the country from center to south. Only five earthquakes have struck this region in the past century, including the deadly Sept. 18, 2017 quake that

killed 300 in Mexico City. Major earthquakes typically occur along the Pacific coast.



This is what causes “bending” earthquakes like Mexico City’s. After the bent tectonic plate snaps, seismic waves emanate outwards from the breaking point, causing the Earth to tremble. The closer you are to the epicenter, the stronger the shaking.

This kind of rare Mexican quake typically has a relatively lower magnitude than the more common Pacific coast variety. But that doesn’t mean the shaking above ground feels weak. Because “bending” quakes strike in Mexico’s densely populated central region, beneath the feet of many millions, the shaking can be very strong indeed.

And when they hit near Mexico City, as September 2017 demonstrated, the consequences can be devastating.

#### Defining the hazard zones

This same, unstable subducted plate runs underneath all central Mexico. And, thanks to previous studies, we know that it is bent across a large, continuous swath of central and southern Mexico.

It is here—from Michoacán state, part way up the Pacific coast, all the way down to southernmost Oaxaca—that bending earthquakes could occur.

But the tectonic plate’s bend, we learned, is only half of the story behind central Mexico’s shaking. The plate’s texture matters, too.

High-resolution images of the Pacific Ocean seafloor off Mexico’s coast reveals that the subducted plate there has a linear texture comprised of ridges, valleys and bumps. This ‘fabric’ continues when the plate slides beneath the Mexican mainland and then angles downward, plunging itself into deep into the Earth’s mantle. ‘Bending’ earthquakes are most likely to occur where the plate bends in the same northwest-to-southeast direction as its ridges and valleys run.

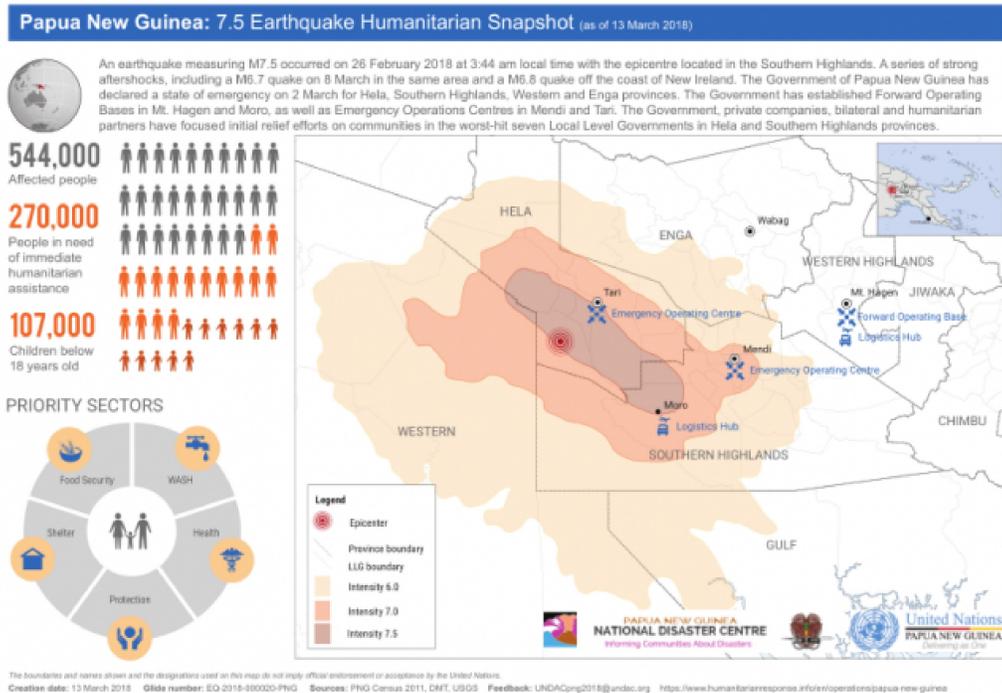
#### What’s in store for Mexico City?

The part of the plate bend near Mexico City, where the September 19 quake occurred, falls somewhere in between. The alignment between texture and plate is not perfect—but they’re off angle by just 20 to 30 degrees.

That means the capital could see another large quake. And, based on our analysis, the epicenter could actually be closer to the city: This volatile tectonic band extends as far north as the city of Cuernavaca, 30 miles from Mexico City’s southern edge. These findings are a step forward in understanding Mexico’s complex geology. But we still don’t know how often “bending” earthquakes might happen—whether once a century or every decade. Seismologists worldwide are still far from being able to predict where, when and how the next big one will strike.

# Papua New Guinea: 7.5 Earthquake Humanitarian Snapshot (as of March 13)

INFOGRAPHIC from UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Published on 13 Mar 2018



An earthquake measuring M7.5 occurred on 26 February 2018 at 3:44 am local time with the epicentre located in the Southern Highlands. A series of strong aftershocks, including a M6.7 quake on 8 March in the same area and a M6.8 quake off the coast of New Ireland. The Government of Papua New Guinea has declared a state of emergency on 2 March for Helia, Southern Highlands, Western and Enga provinces. The Government has established Forward Operating Bases in Mt.

Hagen and Moro, as well as Emergency Operations Centres in Mendi and Tari. The Government, private companies, bilateral and humanitarian partners have focused initial relief efforts on communities in the worst-hit seven Local Level Governments in Helia and Southern Highlands provinces.

## The Most Comprehensive Universal ID Card In The World

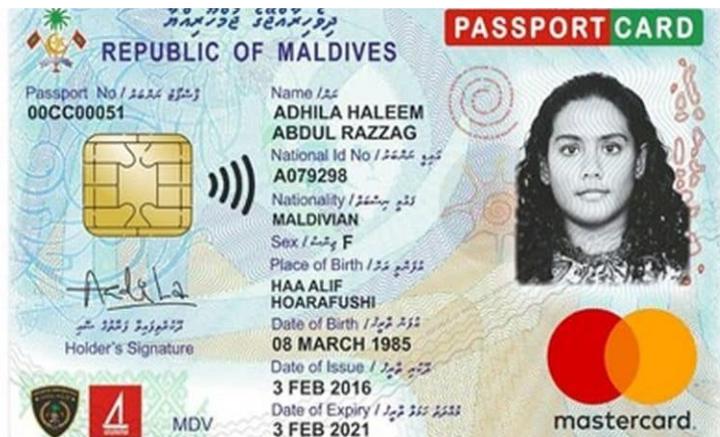


Image: DERMALOG Identificatoin Systems  
 WRITTEN BY: PRNEWSWIRE

Technocracy requires permanent, universal and unique identification of every person from birth up, and Germany's DERMALOG is leading the technology curve. The standard rationale for universal ID is that it prevents multiple identifications, fraud and convenience from having to carry multiple cards.

The Maldives are known for their nice beaches and wonderful holiday resorts on many islands. Now the Maldives have also become a place of innovation. Maldives Immigration has just introduced a new, very innovative type of ID card: It can be used for payments, but also serves as a national ID card, as a driver's license as well as a health card and insurance card. Last but not least it is also used like a

passport for easy travelling. This is why the new card is called "Passport Card". The innovative card and system was developed by Maldives Immigration, together with DERMALOG from Germany as the technology provider.



Citizens of the Maldives do not need to carry many cards around anymore. The famous islands are becoming a country where one single card serves for everything which matters, starting from payment up to driving, health, insurance, travelling and many more different applications. The new card is a so called "multi-purpose-card" which is very special in many ways.

Today most bank cards have a durability of maximum 3 years. The new card of the Maldives is the world's first bank card which is made of Polycarbonate material that can last up to 10 years. Furthermore it contains a unique combination of a called dual-interface chip for contactless and contact card reading. The new card is certified by the Bank of Maldives as well as by MasterCard, allowing the card to be used internationally like any other MasterCard.

What makes the cards more secure than any other payment card are the additional passport security features, which no bank card provides. This additional features allow the Maldives "Passport Card" to be used like a regular passport and works already at all borders of the Maldives, including the new electronic gates. The "Passport Card" is fully confirming to all international standards of a modern passport.

But the innovative Maldives card can also be used as a driver's license, health card or insurance card. The Controller General of Maldives Immigration, Mr. Mohamed Anwar says: "The door is open for many other government departments and private companies to use our new Passport Card in future. Research and development for the new card and it's system has been done in close cooperation with the German company DERMALOG, which is also known for it's innovative biometric systems." Gunther Mull, the CEO of DERMALOG, adds: "This is why the cards also contain 10 fingerprints for secure verification. Together with Maldives Immigration we are very proud about this very innovative and secure biometric card and system."

In future the Maldives might not only be known for of it's wonderful beaches, but also as a place where the future already starts today.

## 'Bookkeeper of Auschwitz' dies before starting sentence

Oskar Groening was sentenced to four years for his role as an accessory to the murder of 300,000 of the Auschwitz concentration camp's roughly 1 million victims.

BY REUTERS MARCH 12, 2018

BERLIN - The man known as the "bookkeeper of Auschwitz" who in 2015 became one of the last people to be convicted for crimes in the Nazi genocide of Europe's Jews during World War Two, has died aged 96, magazine Der Spiegel reported on Monday.

Oskar Groening was sentenced to four years for his role as an accessory to the murder of 300,000 of the Auschwitz concentration camp's roughly 1 million victims. He was in the hospital when he died and had yet to begin his sentence.

Spiegel said Groening died on Friday but prison authorities had yet to receive a death certificate. He did not take part in any killings himself but counted cash taken from victims on their arrival at the camp.

Groening's court battle was seen as one of the last major trials related to the Holocaust, during which some six million Jews were murdered by Adolf Hitler's regime. Despite his conviction, the start of his sentence was delayed by legal wrangling and his ill health.

He came to attention in 2005 after giving interviews about his work in the camp in an attempt to persuade Holocaust deniers that the genocide had taken place at a time when most Holocaust prosecutions still focused on leaders rather than rank-and-file perpetrators.

Groening admitted he was morally guilty for the work he carried out at Auschwitz, which included sending bank notes he found in Jews' luggage to SS offices in Berlin, where they helped to fund the Nazi war effort.