## When Shall We Renew The Year?

אַרְבָּעָה רָאשֵׁי שָׁנִים הֵם: בְּאֶחָד בְּנִיסָן רֹאשׁ הַשְּׁנָה לַמְּלָכִים וְלָרְגָלִים. בְּאֶחָד בְּאֱלוּל רֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה לְמַעְשֵׁר בְּהֵמָה. רַבִּי אֶלְעָזָר וְרַבִּי שִׁמְעוֹן אוֹמְרִים: בְּאֶחָד בְּתִשְׁרֵי. בְּאֶחָד בְּתִשְׁרֵי רֹאשׁ הַשְּׁנָה לַשָּׁנִים וְלַשְּׁמִטִּין וְלַיוֹבְלוֹת, לַנְּטִיעָה וְלַיְרָקוֹת. בְּאֶחָד בִּשְׁבָט רֹאשׁ הַשְּׁנָה לָאִילָן, כְּדִבְרֵי בֵית שַׁמַּאי. בֵּית הִלֵּל אוֹמִרִים, בַּחֵמִישָׁה עָשָׁר בּוֹ.

There are four new years: The first of Nisan is the new year of the kings and of the festivals. The first of Elul is the new year for tithing cattle. Rabbi Eleazar and Rabbi Shimon say: the new year for tithing cattle is the first of Tishrei. The first of Tishrei, they all agree, is the new year of the years, of the sabbatical years, and of the Jubilees, of planting and of tithing vegetables. The first of Shevat is the new year of the trees, according to the school of Shammai. The school of Hillel says that the new year of the trees is the fifteenth of that month. (Mishnah Rosh Hashanah 1:1)