

A BIBLE TRUTHS SERIES

~::~ Special Report on ~::~

The Crucifixion and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

"3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He Rose When?"

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BIBLE TRUTH SERIES: The Crucifixion and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when?

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May Christ our Lord and Saviour be with you as you study his word in order to know the Truth - for "*the truth shall make you free*" (John 8:32)¹. Many people have questions concerning the following issues.

[Answers: Yes, No, No, No, No, No]

1. Was Jesus to be in the grave 3 days ... and 3 nights?
2. Did Christ rise from the dead on Easter Sunday?
3. Was the weekly Sabbath the day before he rose?
4. Was Jesus crucified on Friday, and is Friday to Sunday - three (3) days?
5. Are we to keep the day He rose from the grave, to honor His resurrection?

If "*the word is truth*" (John 17:17), you will want to know the whole truth regarding this matter. May "*the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the father of glory, give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him*" (Eph. 1:17).

Origin and Tradition of Easter

Consider the matter of Easter tradition. Tradition keeps "Good Friday" as the day Jesus was crucified, unto Easter Sunday as the day of resurrection. For those of you who are not familiar with this so-called Christian Holiday, we will review its origin here.

The Sumerians, peoples of ancient Sumer, believed that the universe was ruled by a pantheon comprising a group of living beings, human in form, but immortal and possessing superhuman powers. These beings they believed were invisible to mortal eyes, guided and controlled the cosmos in accordance with well-laid plans and duly prescribed laws.

One of the most beloved deities was the shepherd god Dumuzi, the biblical Tammuz. Dumuzi was originally a mortal ruler whose marriage to Inanna (the queen of heaven, goddess of love, procreation, and war) ensured the fertility of the land and the fertility of the womb. This marriage, according to a myth whose denouement has only recently come to light, ended in stark tragedy when the goddess, offended by her husband's unfeeling behavior toward her, decreed

¹ All Bible scripture is from the King James Version (KJV) unless otherwise noted.

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that he be carried off to the netherworld for six months of each year—hence the barren, sterile months of the hot summer. At the autumnal equinox, which marked the beginning of the Sumerian new year, Dumuzi returned to the earth. His reunion with his wife caused all animals and plant life to be revitalized and made fertile once again. Each new year the Sumerians celebrated the marriage between Dumuzi and Inanna. The high point of the celebration was a ritual wherein the king impersonated Dumuzi; Inanna was impersonated by one of her leading priestesses.²

Tammuz or Dumuzi, was also recognized in Babylonian, and Assyrian mythology, as a god of animal and plant fertility. The principal features of his cult were his all-important ritual marriage ceremony to the goddess of the harvest - Ishtar, in which the deities were represented by the king and high priestess. The annual lamenting of his early death (Lent), which marked the end of the spring season, is celebrated in connection with the new-year festival. Tammuz was the counterpart of the Phoenician fertility god known to the Greeks as Adonis.

Ishtar, was chief goddess of the Babylonians and the Assyrians and the counterpart of Astarte, a Phoenician goddess. The name appeared in different forms in every part of the ancient Semitic world. Ishtar (in Babylon) was a goddess worshiped in connection with the evening and morning eastern star³. As a goddess, Ishtar was the Great Mother, the goddess of fertility and the queen of heaven. Among the Babylonians, Ishtar was distinctly the mother goddess and was portrayed either naked and with prominent breasts or as a mother with a child at her breast. As goddess of love she brought destruction to many of her lovers, of whom the most notable was her consort Tammuz.⁴

Tammuz was killed by a wild boar. This is the connection with the observance of eating ham at Easter. The 40-day penitential season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday and concluding at midnight on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday, is the period of mourning for his death. At the end of this is Easter, when they eat the boar (*hog or ham*) in retribution. The early Christians claimed that the 40 days represent alleged 40 hours that Jesus spent in the tomb! This would put Christ's resurrection at approx. 7 a.m. on Sunday morning, if He died on the cross at 3 p.m. on Friday! An impossibility as will be shown in this study.

The so-called christian festival of Easter embodies a number of converging traditions. Most scholars emphasize the original relation to the Jewish festival of Passover, or Pesach, from which is derived Pasch, another name for Easter. The early Christians, many of whom were of Jewish origin, were brought up in the Hebrew tradition and regarded Easter as a new feature of the Passover festival. A commemoration of the advent of the Messiah as foretold by the prophets.

Scholars, however, accepting the derivation proposed by the 8th-century English scholar St. Bede, believe Easter probably comes from *Ēastre*, the Anglo-Saxon name of a Teutonic goddess of spring and fertility, to whom was dedicated a month corresponding to April. Her festival was celebrated on the day of the vernal equinox. Traditions, they say, associated with the

² Contributed by: Samuel Noah Kramer, "Sumerian Religion," Copyright (c) 1993 Funk & Wagnall's Corporation

³ East Star, Ishtar, (sound familiar?) < Easter >

⁴ "Ishtar," Microsoft (R) Encarta. Copyright (c) 1993 Microsoft Corporation.

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festival survive in the Easter rabbit, a symbol of fertility, and in colored Easter eggs. Originally they were painted with bright colors to represent the sunlight of spring, and used in Easter-egg rolling contests or given as gifts.

The Babylonians were sun worshipers, and in ancient Persia worship of the sun was an integral part of the elaborate cult of Mithras. The ancient Egyptians worshiped the sun god Ra. In ancient Greece the deities of the sun were Helios and Apollo. Sun worship persisted in Europe even after the introduction of Christianity, as is evidenced by its disguised survival in such traditional Christian practices as the Easter bonfire and the Yule log on Christmas.

These are therefore Pagan traditions. Being that they worshipped the sun, pagans desired this annual holiday (*originally "Holy-Day"*) to be on a Sunday. While those of Jewish origin celebrated the resurrection following the Passover festival, which, by following their lunar calendar, fell beginning the evening of the full moon in the month of Nissan. By their reckoning, Easter, from year to year, fell on different days of the week. Gentile Christians wanted to keep Sunday to commemorate the resurrection on the first day of the week, in accordance with what is now termed - Catholic tradition. The early church however, observed Passover – Not Easter.

Origin of Good Friday and Sunday worship?

Along comes Constantine the Great (about ad 274-337), Roman emperor (306-337), who was the first Roman ruler to be converted to Christianity. He was the founder of Constantinople (present-day İstanbul), which remained the capital of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire until 1453. It wasn't until Constantine convoked the Council of Nicaea in 325 that unanimously ruled that the Easter festival should be celebrated throughout the Christian world on the first Sunday after the full moon following the vernal equinox. If the full moon should occur on a Sunday that coincided with the Passover festival, Easter would be commemorated on the Sunday following. Coincidences of the festivals were thus avoided. Although criticized by his enemies as a proponent of a crude and false religion, Constantine strengthened the Roman Empire and ensured its survival in the East. As the first emperor to rule in the name of Christ, crowned by the roman catholic pope, he was a major figure in the foundation of medieval Christian Europe.⁵

Isn't it strange that the so called "Christian" holiday – Easter, being celebrated on Sunday, was not introduced into the Christian community until almost a full century after the crucifixion of Christ? Fact in point, it was introduced after all who had firsthand knowledge of the facts were all dead! In addition, Samuele Bacchiocchi, a scholar associated with the Pontifical Gregorian University Press in Rome, states in his book From Sabbath to Sunday p.201, "*There is a wide consensus of opinion among scholars that Rome is indeed the birthplace of Easter-Sunday. Some in fact, rightly label it as 'Roman-Easter'*". In his book Ecclesiastical History, he mentions that Eusebius (an early catholic historian) noted from Irenaeus (a 2nd

⁵ We learn in Prophecy (Rev. 2:12-17) that this was the era of Pergamos 313-538 A.D. (compromise of state and religion) when Constantine, following along with the Pope's usurped authority, mandated that Sunday is to be the new weekly Sabbath - instead of Saturday (7th day of the week) as maintained by Christ Jesus and the disciples.

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century bishop of Lyons) who traced the observance of Easter as a substitute for Passover back to the days of Sixtus bishop of Rome (116 – 126 AD).

Fixing a date for Easter was still a problem due to the discrepancy between the solar and lunar year. However, in 465, Pope Hilarius (461-463) commissioned the astronomer Victorinus who proposed a system of calculation that resulted in dispute even to this day, despite reform of the Julian calendar in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII by adopting the Gregorian calendar. In 1752, Great Britain and Ireland adopted the Gregorian calendar. Since then, Easter has been celebrated on the same day in the Western part of the Christian world.

This takes care of when and where Easter came from and why it is on Sunday! It was instituted by the Papacy. Remember, he who "*seeks to change times and laws*" is part definition of the False Prophet under the spirit of Antichrist. (For more info on this issue, download the Bible Truths report, "Saturday or Sunday - Which is the Sabbath?", soon to come at; www.homebiznet.nu/GodsPlan , Or write to Amazing Facts for booklet #7 [*see end of report for address*])

Now consider a few more questions. If God truly wants us to observe this usurped holiday, wouldn't it have been observed from the crucifixion? Perhaps even commanded by Christ? Or mentioned in prophecy? Actually – the day of His crucifixion is mentioned in prophecy as I will show you later. Moreover, do you think it is acceptable to God to take pagan customs and symbols and reinterpret them from a "Christian" perspective? (read Deut. 12:30-31) And what about Good Friday? Well, according to the Vatican in Rome, that's when Jesus was crucified - Right? We will compare that with the word of God in this study. We must also consider that Easter Sunday does not celebrate the resurrection of Christ. I believe that it in fact obscures the very point that Jesus said was the defining sign of His Messiahship.

Was Jesus To be in the Grave Three Days and Three Nights?

Next comes the issue of Jesus being in the grave. The only sign He gave that would prove He was Christ the Messiah, correlates to prophesy that must be fulfilled. If this point fails - so does the entire Bible and your faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God!

"But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: for as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly, so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." (Matt. 12:39,40)

There must be importance here as it was mentioned twice - "*three days and three nights*". The importance here is, that this scripture matches with Jonah 1:17 - "*Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.*" Note that we have 3 whole days, just as in Matthew (as referenced by the 3 nights also), not partial days, not two or four. Three (3) whole days witnessed by three (3) nights! A day and a night is one day!

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

Do you see the problem yet? Friday night and Saturday night is only two nights!?! Additionally, Friday to Saturday is only one day. Because remember, early Sunday morning, the 1st day of the week, he was already gone!!! Something's wrong here!?! Scripture and Prophecy just does not have this kind of discrepancy. Once again, we need to look closer at scripture for the truth. Lets look at when the Bible reads that these things took place.

To understand this thoroughly, we need to remember that first there was darkness (Gen. 1:2), then God made light (Gen. 1:3), and so "...*the evening and the morning were the first day*" (Gen. 1:5). In other words, a day actually begins at nightfall or sunset. That's why the Sabbath is observed from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset. "...*And the evening and the morning were the second day*" (Gen. 1:8) etc. This will become apparent as being very important later in this study.

Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread

So, in the four gospels, we find the accounts of Christ as the Passover Lamb (John 1:29, Rev. 7:10, 12:11, 13:8) sacrificed for us and in place of the sacrificial offerings. We are going to look at each one. But first, we also need to remember Leviticus 23 regarding the Sabbaths (*yes plural*). Here is outlined the weekly Sabbath and the annual Sabbaths. Let us review them. [You are encouraged to review them all in your Bible.]

Leviticus|23:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Leviticus|23:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.

Leviticus|23:3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the Sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

Leviticus|23:4 These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

Leviticus|23:5 In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the Lord's passover.

Leviticus|23:6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.

Leviticus|23:7 In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

Leviticus|23:8 But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

This also becomes apparent as being very important as we continue. Note therein however, that Passover is 1 day, the next day is the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread in which no work is to be done. Kind of like the weekly Sabbath (*Saturday*), only this is the first day of a Holy Week, an Annual Sabbath - a "High Holy Day". It always follows the Passover Day. The Passover is observed the evening before the actual day (when the day actually starts) and the feast is then eaten. This also facilitates that the actual day (daylight-day) of Passover is the day

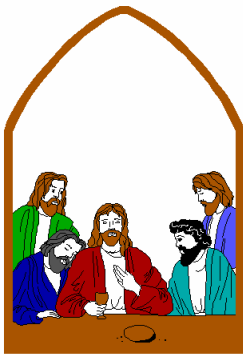
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of preparation for the Feast of Unleavened Bread - as the first day is the High Holy Day when no work can be done. Therefore food gathering and preparation is to be made for this day.

Matthew|26:17 Now the first day of the feast of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover?

This could not have been the "first day", as Passover would have passed.

Mark|14:12 And the first day of unleavened bread, when they killed the passover, his disciples said unto him, Where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover?



The Passover is not the first day of unleavened bread - perhaps this verse should read . . . "*And the Passover draweth nigh before the feast of unleavened bread.*" Indeed see the next verse below from Luke. The Passover day, however, was and is, even till today, considered part of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. See the following 3 verses.

Luke|22:1 Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover.

Luke|22:7 Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the passover must be killed.

Luke|22:8 And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat.

John|13:1 Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

John|13:2 And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him;

Was Jesus Crucified on Friday - and is Friday to Sunday 3 days?

This Passover, being one of the seven (7) annual Sabbaths, was the most Holy and precious one in the history of existence of man. It was on the 14th of Nissan, a Wednesday in the Jewish year 3790, or 30 AD, - the same as in the years⁶ 1996, 1999 and 2000! When Jesus, the lamb of God (John 1:29,36), died for the sins of this world. All of creation witnessed this most momentous event. Darkness came over the land, because there was a solar eclipse from 12:00 noon to approx. 3 p.m. when Jesus died . . . for You!

Matthew|27:45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

Matthew|27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli,

⁶ Coincidence? I don't think so, but perhaps that is another subject in Prophecy. See section Calendar Versions Explained.

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Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

Matthew|27:50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

Mark|15:33 And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

Mark|15:34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

Luke|23:44 And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.

Luke|23:45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.

Luke|23:46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

According to these scriptures, Jesus died on the cross at about the 9th hour or 3 p.m. (see Ninth Hour Defined p.19). This was the Passover, and the "day of preparation" for the Last Supper was the night before.

Luke|23:54 And that day was the preparation, and the Sabbath drew on.

Was the Weekly Sabbath the Day Before He Rose?

Now the next day is another "high day" or Sabbath (annual), as it is the 1st day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Review Leviticus 23 above. No work is done on this day - the 15th of Nissan - a Thursday in the Jewish year 3790. They wanted to bury the dead, this same Passover day, lest they still be on the cross on the next day - a "high day" which begins at sundown.

John|19:31 The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, for that sabbath day was an high day, besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.

Mark|15:42 And now when the even was come, because it was the preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, . . .

This follows what is being revealed in this report. Is there any doubt that the day of preparation is the day before the 1st day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. (see Lev. 23:5-7)

The chief priests and Pharisees went to Pilate seeking to seal the tomb of Jesus. This was to prevent anyone from stealing the body of Jesus and then claiming that he rose according to the Jonah related 3 day and 3 night prophecy previously noted.

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Matthew|27:62 Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate,

Matthew|27:63 Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again.

Matthew|27:64 Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first.

Matthew|27:65 Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can.

Matthew|27:66 So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.

It is obvious by Mat. 27:62 above, that these people didn't care about the High Holy Day (the 1st day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread). They were seeking to disprove Jesus as the Christ. Mary and Mary the mother of Jesus witnessed the burial (Mark 15:47). Luke 23:56 tells us the women returned home, bought (Mark 16:1) and prepared spices, ointments and perfumes.

Luke|23:56 And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.

This would not have been on Thursday as it was a high holy day, an "annual sabbath", in which no work could be done. All shops in Jerusalem would be closed. Wherefore, it must have been Friday, and before evening fell, which would of course then begin the weekly Sabbath - the day of rest. Notice they bought and prepared the spices and ointments - and then rested the 7th day, the weekly Sabbath.

"When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought perfumed oils with which they intended to go and anoint Jesus."

Mark 16:1 (*emphasis added*)

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Notice in Luke 23:56, that Sabbath was the weekly day of rest, the 7th day, the 4th commandment or Saturday. However, in Mark 16:1 above, we notice that it was after the Sabbath. This is key to understanding the truth. How could they have waited till after the weekly Sabbath to buy and prepare spices? It would then be Sunday - would it not? This could only mean what was stated in the above paragraph - that this day was Friday, during the day - before sunset, and after the "High Holy Day" - the 15th of Nissan, a Thursday.

This preparation of spices and ointments they did, of course, out of love, reverence and adoration of Jesus, even though his body had already been prepared by the mixture supplied by Nicodemus that weighed approximately 100 pounds (John 19:39). Perhaps - they would have continued to do this for a long time, for Mary was the mother of Jesus, who is the "son of God", King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, who ... now lay DEAD . . . for - - - How many days?

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

Imagine being separated from God for those three days and nights!!! He of course knew this was coming. To Jesus, this must have seemed like an eternity - during that time he was hanging on the cross, bleeding, and dying of a broken heart. "*MY GOD, My God - Why hast thou forsaken me?*" (Mat. 27:46, Mark 15:33) For these two heavenly beings, a Son and his Father, who have been together for - God knows how long, to be separated for any length of time was simply unthinkable. Nevertheless, He did this, because He knew that all prophecy must be fulfilled (Mat.26:56, Luke 24:44, Acts 3:18, 21). He even stated;

"...and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished. For he shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, and shall be mocked, and spitefully entreated, and spitted on. And they shall scourge him, and put him to death, and the third day he shall rise again." (Luke 18:31-33) Note: 3rd DAY not Night!

(see also Luke 24:46)

Did Christ Rise on Easter Sunday?

We have already discovered the origins of Easter Sunday. Now we have reached the next chapter in all four gospels. The next chapter in the history of man. The next chapter where most of the Old Testament prophecies are to be fulfilled (Luke 24:44-47) and the great hope of all Christendom. The resurrection of man, beginning with Christ Jesus. Notice how they all four begin. (*all emphasis added mine*)

Matthew|28:1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

Mark|16:2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

Luke|24:1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

John|20:1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

Now notice how it was - "*toward the end of the Sabbath*", - and . . . He was not there!?! Now think - traveling to, during the night, they did not see Him rise?!? Therefore, He had to have risen before that time, before the end of the Sabbath.

The only logical conclusion, therefore, must be that he rose on the 7th day - Saturday! What a perfect day (and time) for Christ Jesus to be resurrected. When everyone was home, all quite on the front (so to speak), no one working, most everyone resting, the tomb undisturbed - He rose From the dead!

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

By now you must be thinking, as I was, why did the women come to the tomb on Sunday morning? Certainly it was not to celebrate Easter. Or have Sunday worship! I light of my research and study, I could only conclude – it was because that was the first chance they had to embalm the body of Christ. (see Luke 24:1 above) Now wait - Hold on . . .

Now if he rose before Sunday, when did he rise on Saturday the Sabbath? Lets see . . . he died approximately 3 p.m. on Wednesday (Passover) the 14th day of Nisan, to Thursday (1st day of Feast of Unleavened Bread) 15th day of Nisan [one day]. To Friday the 16th day of Nisan [two days]. To Saturday (weekly Sabbath) the 17th day of Nisan [three days]. Three whole days right? Wednesday night . . . [1 nite], Thursday . . . [2 nites], Friday . . . [3 nites] - - - Three nights, therefore three whole days. My beloved brothers and sisters - I propose to you that He rose on Saturday 17th day of Nisan at approximately 3 p.m. Or the exact hour He was placed in the tomb, prior to sunset. It all fits! Thereby also fulfilling the Jonah - {3 day 3 night} - prophecy. Notice again the reprint of Luke 18:31-33 above, where He states that on the 3rd day He will rise! Not the 3rd night, but the 3rd day! Sunday - would have been the 4th day. Therefore, He had to have risen on the Sabbath - Saturday - the weekly day of rest. And yes, we are still commanded today to rest on the 7th day, which is Saturday. In fact, since it is the 4th Commandment, and Sin is the transgression of the law - - - Well - need I say more? (See James 2:10, and "Sunday Law" at www.homebiznet.nu/GodsPlan.)

Are We to Keep the Day He Rose From the Grave, to Honor His Resurrection?

Nowhere in the Bible is this mentioned. As was mentioned in the beginning of this study, the Catholic church brought it into being. This was to accomplish three things. No.1 by their own admission, to show and establish "her" ecclesiastical powers. No. 2 to bring the pagans and Jewish people into worshipping together. No. 3 to pay homage to the Roman Catholic church.

However, the Sabbath was made holy and was sanctified by God from the beginning when man was made (see Gen. 2:3). The Sabbath day is henceforth kept throughout the Bible. Even by Christ as well as the disciples. Only His people will keep the Sabbath unto the end as Christ revealed to John (Rev. 22:14). It was written in stone by the hand of almighty God himself. Why do you think it is the only commandment that begins with "Remember"? If it is only for the Jewish people, then the whole Bible is only for the Jewish people. However, this is the time of the Gentiles, and has been since the stoning of Stephen. (see Daniel's 70th Week below)

Other Considerations

Did you know that the phrase "third day" appears 52 times in the Bible?

Did you know that the phrase "three days" appears 64 times in the Bible?

Did you know that the phrase "three days and three nights" appears 4 times in the Bible?

Duality of Prophecy and Daniel's 70th Week

Have you ever noticed a duality to nature? You know, black/white, good/bad, positive/negative, god/devil, proton/neutron, light/dark, ad infinitum. Did you know that there is a duality to prophesy? That's one of the keys to understanding prophecy, scripture, parables, and therefore the Bible. Example:

- ◆ The earthly temple and heavenly temple.
- ◆ The earthly sanctuary and the heavenly sanctuary.
- ◆ The Sons of God - good and evil.
- ◆ The sacrificial lamb - earthly and Christ.
- ◆ The First Resurrection and the Second Resurrection.
- ◆ The First Death and the Second Death, etc.



In the 70-week prophecy of Daniel, we find that special attention is brought to the 70th week. This last week of prophecy is perhaps one of the most misunderstood in the entire Bible. Some "scholars" actually postpone this last week to some future end time event. Some say it is the last seven years being the tribulation at the end of time. However, they dispute even still whether Jesus will come during the end, the beginning, or the middle of that tribulation referring of course to Dan. 9:27.

The truth of the matter is that this portion of Dan. 9:27;

"And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week He shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease ..."



Refers to the ministry of Christ Jesus after His baptism by John the Baptist for seven years. But after 3 1/2 years He was crucified as the sacrificial lamb for the sins of the whole world. He was the last sacrifice and this put an end to the sacrificial offerings of Israel / the Jewish people for their sins⁷. From this moment forward, He said;

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them. And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." Heb. 10:16,17

Nevertheless, think of the duality of this prophecy the angel gave to Daniel. In the middle of the week He was cut-off, not only prophetically, but also literally! In the middle of the week - on Wednesday he died on the cross as scripture and prophecy proves in this study.

What about the other 3 1/2 years of his ministry? The Jews had up until the stoning of Stephen - 3 1/2 years after the crucifixion, to mend their ways (Dan. 9:24). This fulfilled the prophecy of Daniel's 70 weeks. Afterward, the disciples were to spread the gospel to the gentiles

⁷ This is where some people think the Law was done away with. My friends - get real. Read Matt. 5:18 and Luke 16:17 and James 2:10.

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

and the world. For full info on this prophetic time line, see Amazing Facts Study Guide No. 18. Note however, that from the time the decree to rebuild Jerusalem in 457 BC to when Jesus was baptized is 69 weeks or 483 years, which makes the year of His baptism in 26 AD when he turned 30, and the crucifixion in 30 AD, 3 ½ yrs later. (See Calendar p.17 & Email on p.26)

What is Inclusive Day Reckoning?

There is a hypothesis that the people in those times used "inclusive day reckoning". Or that the 3 day/3 night scenario was a Greek idiom. Meaning that a part of a day means a whole day. And if Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday, that Friday, Saturday and Sunday is 3 days! My dear Brothers and Sisters, we have already discovered, according to scripture and prophecy, that Jesus did not rise on Sunday! He was already gone. The Bible defines its own terms. Note Jesus was referring to Hebrew usage, not Greek. Moreover, even if you count Sunday, you can't get 3 nights from Friday to Saturday, because what we call Saturday night, he was already gone.

This line of reasoning is called "*fallacy of argument*". We use inclusive day reckoning today. If I said that, our President served from 1996 to 1999, we would know that to be 4 years. Or would you subtract and say - He only served 3 years? We would naturally include 1996 and 1999. Additionally, if today was Wednesday 3:00pm, and I told you to meet me back here at this spot in 3 days - When would you be back here to meet me? Probably Friday - Right?

However, if I told you to meet me back here at this spot after 3 days and 3 nights - When would you be back here to meet me? Probably Saturday at about 3:00pm - Right? You see my friends, there is a difference between "3 days", and specifically "3 days and 3 nights".

7 Reasons Inclusive Day Reckoning Does Not Work ...

In light of all that is mentioned herein about inclusive day reckoning, one might surmise, or suspect, that this hypothesis was put forth by the Catholic church (ie. Satan's church) in order to support and sustain their theology (ie. pagan worship) as in sun worship, and doctrine (ie. pagan holidays) as in Good Friday and Easter or modernization of pagan fertility goddess worship as previously herein documented.

1. It is not biblical. Inclusive Day Reckoning is not found in the Bible. As previously mentioned, it is only hypothetical as no one exists today that lived then to tell us whether it is so.
2. Christ Himself said – 3 Days **AND** 3 Nights, this explicitly excludes inclusive reckoning.
3. IF the Jewish people used it – it was probably by tradition. The disciples being Jewish got it wrong then and the Jewish people, for the most part, have it wrong today. Would you apply their tradition to God's prophetic fulfillment which specifically excludes it?

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

4. God is specific and exact in His timetable. He doesn't depend on Jewish or any of mankind's tradition. The heavenly and molecular clockwork prove this. "The heavens declare the glory of God" – Psalm 19:1.
5. It does not fulfill Daniel's prophecy (Daniel 9:27) as previously explained herein.
6. With inclusive day reckoning you don't have 3 days from Friday to Saturday, much less 3 nights – because remember, by Sunday Christ had already risen.
7. Wherefore it does not fulfill the prophecy of Christ in reference to Jonah as previously outlined herein (see page 6).

What about Luke 24:21

When Jesus, after He had risen, came to them on Sunday morning in Emmaus, they said;

*"But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel:
and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done."*

True, it had been three days since those things were done. Note the key word here is *since*. Since - means "time between then and now". Thursday, Friday & Saturday are 3 days between Wednesday and Sunday. Is this too elementary or what? Could it be also, that it was being referred to, and inferred as a matter of fact, that it indeed had been at least 3 days since - referring to the sign of Jonah, and prophecy by Jesus?

What about Mark 16:9?

In those days they did not use commas (punctuation). So here again, we need to take a closer look. At first glance, in the King James version, it seems to be telling us that Christ Jesus rose on the first day of the week. Here is how it reads;

*"Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to
Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils."*

Mark 16:9, KJV

Notice where the first comma is in this sentence. Is this scripture telling us that Jesus rose the first day of the week? Or is it merely saying that on the first day of the week that he had already risen? Notice the word "was". Past tense - Right? Read it again putting a pause where the commas are.

Now look at this version below;

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

"Now when Jesus was risen, early the first day of the week he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils."

Doesn't that sound and read better? More correct as to the rest of scripture? Therefore, scripturally correct? I propose so. So much so - that I dare anyone to say this verse supersedes all others, by way of a mere comma. Punctuation wasn't introduced until the 15th Century during the dark ages. Now let me show you something even more startling.

Look in your Bible, and reference this passage in Mark 16:9. Here is how the New King James version reads;

"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons."

New King James version

This was found in "The Inspirational Study Bible", Max Lucado General Editor, Word Bibles Publishing - Dallas, London, Vancouver, Melbourne. I'm not knocking Mr. Lucado, don't get me wrong. Many people fall victim by following the Papacy. What??? Don't believe me - that he indeed is following the Catholic faith!? What's so strange about that you ask? He is a Protestant and well known among the Protestant and Methodist circles. Compare my friends, his version with the Catholic version . . .

"Jesus rose from the dead early on the first day of the week. He first appeared to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven demons."

THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE,
© 1970 CATHOLIC BIBLE PUBLISHERS, Wichita Kansas
by License of Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington D.C.

Does this version, as well as Max Lucado's version, both read as though Christ our Lord and Saviour rose from the dead on Sunday? Thereby sustaining their Sunday worship? And therefore is the Papacy correct in changing the Law of God almighty - the 4th Commandment - of Saturday the Sabbath to Sunday the New Sabbath? Beware my Beloved Friends - the time is coming when you will be asked to make a choice. And on that day you may indeed have to take a stand, or either, you have already made your decision - and I pray it's not too late for you!

The New King James Version and the "Triquetra" Symbol

Allow me to bring up one more thing regarding the New King James version. I noticed on this Max Lucado Study Bible I received as a gift, (God Bless my Sister), that inside on the title page is the symbol of the "triquetra". This is a pagan symbol, a Masonic symbol of freemasonry, a cryptic symbol of [Three Times Three] and is also 666 linked together. Texe Marrs is President of Living Truth Ministries and publisher of their newsletter FLASHPOINT. In (Vol. 97-3) it reads as follows;

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

"[Three Times Three] handclasp is performed in the Royal Arch Degree by three brothers of the Lodge. Incredibly, it is during this grotesque ritual that the Masonic initiate learns the true name of the Masonic god, nebulously referred to by Masons as the 'Grand Architect of the Universe.'

In this secret ritual, however, the Masonic Lodge reveals that the actual name of their deity is *Jahbuhlun*. This repugnant name is obtained by combining the name of Jehovah, or Yahweh, with the names of the Philistine god, *Baal*, and the Egyptian god, *On* (the Egyptian sun god). Thus, Jah-baal-on, or Jahbuhlun. . . [You] will also find this symbol illustrated in Harry E. Wedeck's occult classic volume, Treasury of Witchcraft."

Additionally, you will also find this symbol on the cover and at the beginning of each chapter of The Aquarian Conspiracy, by New Age leader Marilyn Ferguson. It is also the symbol of the "Black Madonna", said to be a direct link to the pagan Earth goddesses and the archetype of the sensual, uninhibited woman. Moreover, it is used on a prototype new "smart card" recently unveiled by MasterCard, Visa, Citibank, and Chase Manhattan. The triquetra symbol is all over the face of the card so that when a picture goes onto it, you have this 666 symbol on your forehead.

So, you see brothers and sisters, this is a sign of the Aquarian Conspirators; the symbol of the worshippers of the Black Madonna; a symbol of the New Age movement; the symbol plastered on the new ID cards; and a *NKJV* logo!!! Could it be the very mark signifying the name of the Beast? Go to <http://triquetra.netgate.net> , also Gail Ripplinger has a stunning 3-hour video set, "*King James Bible Perfection vs. New Bible Version Perversion*". She is also author of the book, "*New Age Bible Versions*" [see footnote⁸ to order].

Is it any wonder that Christ our Lord bodes us to be watchers in these last days - so that we are not caught unawares? Read: Mark 13:35, 14:38, Luke 21:36, 1 Cor. 16:13, 1 Pet.4:7, Col. 4:2, 1Thes. 5:6, 2 Tim. 4:5, and Rev. 3:3. My friend this is why I am sharing this with you!

The Calendar Versions Explained

The following down to Letters From the Editors p.25 are from websites noted in the footnotes. What about the Jewish calendar and the month of Nissan? How do we know that the 14th of Nissan was on a Wednesday? Below is a partial reprint of that year.

⁸ In her video she reveals that billionaire Rupert Murdoch, owner of Fox TV's *Simpsons* and *Married with Children* programs, is also the owner of the printing rights to the *NIV* of the Bible. And how high-ranking Catholic Cardinal Martini now edits the Greek text underlying both *New International* and *New American Standard* versions. Video also exposes (1) Dr. Martin Woudstra, a supporter of the homosexual movement, was in charge of the translation for the *NIV*'s Old Testament; (2) How the *NKJV* logo is the ancient symbol for the pagan trinity of false gods; (3) That there is a multitude of mistranslations and omissions in the new bible versions. To Order, Call (800) 234-9673

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

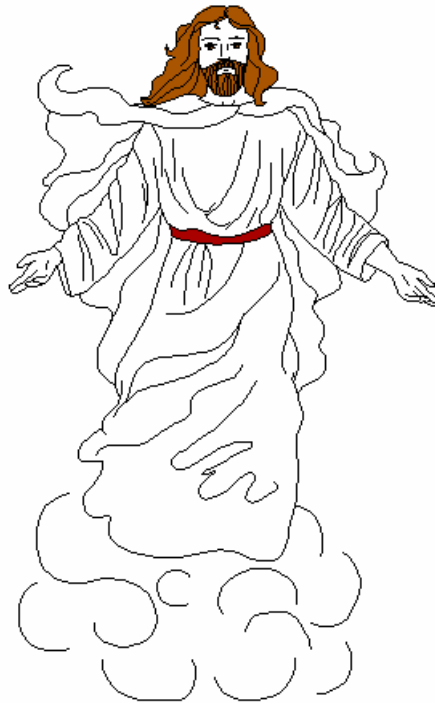
Hebrew Year: 3790; Days in year: 354; [Civil year: 30 A.D.];
<snip>

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
NIS					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
IYA							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
SIV	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30					

<snip>



Hebrew Calendar

At the time of the flood, Hebrews used a calendar whose months were all thirty days in length⁹. This practice was continued

⁹ It is written in Genesis (see the following verses in footnote next page) that the seventeenth day of the seventh month was one hundred and fifty days after the seventeenth day of the second month. (One hundred and fifty days divided by five months equals thirty days per month.)
 Book 7, Verse 11: In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.
 Book 8, Verse 3: And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated.
 Book 8, Verse 4: And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

even after the waters had receded. Enoch then took his people to task for not using a solar calendar that contained exactly 52-weeks in a 364-day year, which he claimed was the actual annual duration¹⁰.

A great influence was exerted on the Hebrew calendar during Babylonian exile, which began in the sixth century B.C. When Israelites returned to the Holy Land from Babylon, they returned with what was essentially their captor's lunisolar calendar¹¹.

This calendar is still in use in our time, more than two thousand years after Babylonian civilization came to an end. Even today, after considerable evolution, the Jewish religious calendar is Babylonian down to the very names of its months. It was not until the fourth century of this era that the Hebrew Calendar became more or less fixed. It is now both the official calendar of Israel as well as the liturgical calendar of the Jewish faith.

Except for the Sabbath, which is their only named day, Hebrews number days rather than naming them. Day one begins at nightfall on the Western calendar's Saturday and ends at nightfall the next day. Their seventh day is called Sabbath and begins at sunset of the Western calendar's Friday. Like each of the numbered days, it also ends at the following nightfall.

Most Hebrew years now consist of twelve lunar months. Beginning with Tishri, they are either thirty or twenty-nine days long. With these lengths, months approximate the mean period of the lunation cycle. Month names are Tishri, Heshvan, Kislev, Tevet, Shevat, Adar, Nisan, Iyar, Sivan, Tammuz, Av and Elul.¹² (There are alternate ways of spelling these names.)

Heshvan and Kislev have a varying number of days. In a "complete" year Heshvan has thirty days rather than twenty-nine. In a "deficient" year Kislev has twenty-nine days rather than thirty. With these exceptions, Hebrew month lengths alternate between twenty-nine and thirty days.

Twelve lunar cycles are about eleven days short of a tropical year. But every nineteen years, solar and lunar cycles repeat a phase relationship to each other. This is called the Metonic Cycle after a Greek named Meton, though Babylonian astronomers had known the relationship before Meton's time.

To ensure that religious festivals will occur in their appropriate seasons, an attempt was made in recent centuries to adjust the calendar to the solar year. This was done by adding an extra month unto each leap year (named Adar II). In the Jewish calendar, a leap year occurs in the 3rd, 6th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 17th, and 19th year of each 19 year cycle.¹³

¹⁰ The Book of Enoch. Chapter 74, Verse 12: And the sun and the stars bring in all the years exactly, so that they do not advance or delay their position by a single day unto eternity; but complete the years with perfect justice in 364 days. In 3 years there are 1,092 days, and in 5 years 1,820 days, so that in 8 years there are 2,912 days.

¹¹ Asimov, Isaac. The Near East: 10,000 Years of History. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1968. p. 114.

¹² Doggett, L.E. Calendars and their History.. P. Kenneth Seidelmann, Editor. Sausalito, California: University Science Books.

¹³ From the WWW site at; http://www.rescol.ca/collections/art_context/tcalen.htm

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

Hebrews number years from what they believe to be the time of creation. According to their calculations, **that event occurred 3,760 years before the Christian era.** For a scholarly description please visit the Hebrew Calendar Science and Myths site at; (<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/1584/#08>).

For more Calendar information, I refer the reader also to the following page; (<http://www.greenheart.com/billh/linked.html>).

The Ninth Hour Defined

From the remotest time to the present the Israelites have computed the day (yôm) from sunset to sunset, or rather from sunset to the appearance of the first three stars which marked the beginning of a new day [Cf. Lev. 23:32; II Esd. (Nehem.) 4:21; etc.]. Before the Babylonian exile the time between sunrise and sunset was divided into "morning", "midday", and "evening" (Ps. 54:18; Heb. 55:17); but during the stay in Babylon the Hebrews adopted the division into twelve hours (Cf. John 11:9), whose duration varied with the length of the day. On an average, the first hour corresponded to about 6 a.m.; the third hour to 9 a.m.; the end of the sixth to noon; while at the eleventh the day was near its close. Earlier than this division of the day by hours was that of the night into three watches: the first till midnight; the second or middle watch (cockcrow) till 3 a.m.; and the third or morning watch till about 6 a.m.¹⁴

Century and Millennium

"Everybody" knows that January 1, 2000 is the start of a new century, the 21st. They are wrong! Circa 525 C.E. the years started to be numbered from the date of Jesus' birth as computed by the religious people. They called it A.D. (Anno Domini -- the year of the lord) and some years latter, the years before are called B.C. (Before Christ). Before the change the years were numbered as such and such year of the reign of some king or emperor or from founding of Rome. The scholars made conversion tables for the old way of naming the years.

Things start numbering from 1, including years, not at 0, no matter what the computer scientist says. The day after December 31, 1 B.C. is January 1, 1 A.D. This means from 5 B.C. to 5 A.D. is 9 years not 10, there is a missing year, the year 0. Also the century 1 (the first 100 years) as commonly accepted starts at year 1 and goes through the year 100. The second century (second 100 years) is from year 101 through 200. Etc. Also the first 1000 years (millennium) would be 1 AD to 1000 AD, 2nd millennium from 1001 AD to 2000 AD and the 3rd millennium from 2001 AD to 3000 AD.

Latter scholars recomputed the date Christ could be born and found they had set the date of Christ Birth by at least 4 years too late and many believe it may be 6 years late. By then most people had changed their calendars and so the error is just ignored. The Bible reports the Magi

¹⁴ From the Catholic Encyclopedia, copyright © 1913 by the Encyclopedia Press, Inc. Electronic version copyright © 1996 by New Advent, Inc.

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

arrived in Jerusalem to discuss with King Herod, the star announcing the birth of a new king and they had come to pay their respects. Well, Herod died 4 B.C. by our method of computing dates.

The Magi had to have travel time to get to Jerusalem based on the time the Magi saw the star, Herod killed all Jewish children that were 2 years or younger. So if we allow 1 year for travel (half age of the children) and Herod dying in 4 B.C., the birth of Christ has to be at least 5 BC. Normally, it is reported that Christ was born about 4 BC. It is strange that the computed date of Christ's birth is 4 B.C. (4 years Before Christ)! Anglican Archbishop James Ussher in 1650 stated that Christ was born on October 23, 4 BC.

To avoid the confusion with B.C. and A.D. when A.D. actually is incorrectly identifying the starting date, people are starting to use C.E. (Common Era) and B.C.E. (Before Common Era) to refer to the date of the start of our calendar.

But if we go by latest day for the Birth of Christ, the first century is from 5 BC to 96 AD, and the 21st century starts on January 1, 1997. If we consider that Christ was born in the fall (the shepherds were in the fields watching their flocks), the 21st century will be in the fall of 1997, which is the latest the 21st century could start. In fact, if we count the years, the second millennium will end October 22, 1997 and the third millennium began on October 23, 1997.

Gregorian calendar:

The Gregorian calendar is a modified version of the Julian calendar. The only difference being the specification of leap years. The Julian calendar specifies that every year that is a multiple of 4 will be a leap year. This leads to a year that is 365.25 days long, but the current accepted value for the tropical year is 365.242199 days.

To correct this error in the length of the year and to bring the vernal equinox back to March 21, Pope Gregory XIII issued a papal bull declaring that Thursday October 4, 1582 would be followed by Friday October 15, 1582 and that centennial years would only be a leap year if they were a multiple of 400. This shortened the year by 3 days per 400 years, giving a year of 365.2425 days.

Another recently proposed change in the leap year rule is to make years that are multiples of 4000 not a leap year, but this has never been officially accepted and this rule is not implemented in these algorithms.

Valid Range - 4714 B.C. to 9999 A.D.

Although the software, at this web site, can handle dates all the way back to 4714 B.C., such use may not be meaningful. The Gregorian calendar was not instituted until October 15, 1582 (or October 5, 1582 in the Julian calendar). Some countries did not accept it until much later. For example, Britain converted in 1752, The USSR in 1918 and Greece in 1923. Most European countries used the Julian calendar prior to the Gregorian.

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

Julian calendar:

Julius Caesar created the calendar in 46 B.C. as a modified form of the old Roman republican calendar which was based on lunar cycles. The new Julian calendar set fixed lengths for the months, abandoning the lunar cycle. It also specified that there would be exactly 12 months per year and 365.25 days per year with every 4th year being a leap year.

Note that the current accepted value for the tropical year is 365.242199 days, not 365.25. This led to an 11 day shift in the calendar with respect to the seasons by the 16th century when the Gregorian calendar was created to replace the Julian calendar.

The difference between the Julian and today's Gregorian calendar is that the Gregorian does not make centennial years leap years unless they are a multiple of 400, which leads to a year of 365.2425 days. In other words, in the Gregorian calendar, 1700, 1800 and 1900 are not leap years, but 2000 is. All centennial years are leap years in the Julian calendar.

The details are unknown, but the lengths of the months were adjusted until they finally stabilized in 8 A.D. with their current lengths:

January	31
February	28/29
March	31
April	30
May	31
June	30
Quintilis/July	31
Sextilis/August	31
September	30
October	31
November	30
December	31

In the early days of the calendar, the days of the month were not numbered as we do today. The numbers ran backwards (decreasing) and were counted from the Ides (15th of the month - which in the old Roman republican lunar calendar would have been the full moon) or from the Nonae (9th day before the Ides) or from the beginning of the next month.

In the early years, the beginning of the year varied, sometimes based on the ascension of rulers. It was not always the first of January. Also, today's epoch, 1 A.D. or the birth of Jesus Christ, did not come into use until several centuries later when Christianity became a dominant religion.

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

Valid Range - 4713 B.C. to 9999 A.D.

Although the software can handle dates all the way back to 4713 B.C., such use may not be meaningful. The calendar was created in 46 B.C., but the details did not stabilize until at least 8 A.D., and perhaps as late as the 4th century. Also, the beginning of a year varied from one culture to another - not all accepted January as the first month.

Jewish calendar:

The Jewish calendar is based on lunar as well as solar cycles. A month always starts on or near a new moon and has either 29 or 30 days (a lunar cycle is about 29 1/2 days). Twelve of these alternating 29-30 day months give a year of 354 days, which is about 11 1/4 days short of a solar year.

Since a month is defined to be a lunar cycle (new moon to new moon), this 11 1/4 day difference cannot be overcome by adding days to a month as with the Gregorian calendar, so an entire month is periodically added to the year, making some years 13 months long.

For astronomical as well as ceremonial reasons, the start of a New Year may be delayed until a day or two after the new moon causing years to vary in length. Leap years can be from 383 to 385 days and common years can be from 353 to 355 days. These are the months of the year and their possible lengths:

	COMMON YEAR	LEAP YEAR
1 Tishri	30 30 30	30 30 30
2 Heshvan	29 29 30	29 29 30 (variable)
3 Kislev	29 30 30	29 30 30 (variable)
4 Tevet	29 29 29	29 29 29
5 Shevat	30 30 30	30 30 30
6 Adar I	29 29 29	30 30 30 (variable)
7 Adar II	-- -- --	29 29 29 (optional)
8 Nisan	30 30 30	30 30 30
9 Iyyar	29 29 29	29 29 29
10 Sivan	30 30 30	30 30 30
11 Tammuz	29 29 29	29 29 29
12 Av	30 30 30	30 30 30
13 Elul	29 29 29	29 29 29
	--- --- ---	--- --- ---
	353 354 355	383 384 385

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

Note that the month names and other words that appear in this file have multiple possible spellings in the Roman character set. I have chosen to use the spellings found in the Encyclopedia Judaica.

Adar II, the month added for leap years, is sometimes referred to as the 13th month, but I have chosen to assign it the number 7 to keep the months in chronological order. This may not be consistent with other numbering schemes.

Leap years occur in a fixed pattern of 19 years called the metonic cycle. The 3rd, 6th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 17th and 19th years of this cycle are leap years. The first metonic cycle starts with Jewish year 1, or 3761 to 3760 B.C. This is believed to be the year of creation.

To construct the calendar for a year, you must first find the length of the year by determining the first day of the year (Tishri 1, or Rosh Ha-Shanah) and the first day of the following year. This selects one of the six possible month length configurations listed above.

Finding the first day of the year is the most difficult part. Finding the date and time of the new moon (or molad) is the first step. For this purpose, the lunar cycle is assumed to be 29 days 12 hours and 793 halakim. A halakim is 1/1080th of an hour or 3 1/3 seconds. (This assumed value is only about 1/2 second less than the value used by modern astronomers -- not bad for a number that was determined so long ago.) The first molad of year 1 occurred on Sunday at 11:11:20 P.M. This would actually be Monday, because the Jewish day is considered to begin at sunset.

Since sunset varies, the day is assumed to begin at 6:00 P.M. for calendar calculation purposes. So, the first molad was 5 hours 204 halakim after the start of Tishri 1, 0001 (which was Monday September 7, 3761 B.C. by the Gregorian calendar). All subsequent molads can be calculated from this starting point by adding the length of a lunar cycle.

Once the molad that starts a year is determined the actual start of the year (Tishri 1) can be determined. Tishri 1 will be the day of the molad unless it is delayed by one of the following four rules (called dehiyyot). Each rule can delay the start of the year by one day, and since rule #1 can combine with one of the other rules, it can be delayed as much as two days.

1. Tishri 1 must never be Sunday, Wednesday or Friday. (This is largely to prevent certain holidays from occurring on the day before or after the Sabbath.)
2. If the molad occurs on or after noon, Tishri 1 must be delayed.
3. If it is a common (not leap) year and the molad occurs on Tuesday at or after 3:11:20 A.M., Tishri 1 must be delayed.
4. If it is the year following a leap year and the molad occurs on Monday at or after 9:32:43 and 1/3 sec, Tishri 1 must be delayed.

Glossary

dehiyyot - The set of 4 rules that determine when the new year starts relative to the molad.

halakim - 1/1080th of an hour or 3 1/3 seconds.

lunar cycle - The period of time between mean conjunctions of the sun and moon (new moon to new moon). This is assumed to be 29 days 12 hours and 793 halakim for calendar purposes.

metonic cycle - A 19-year cycle which determines which years are leap years and which are common years. The 3rd, 6th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 17th and 19th years of this cycle are leap years.

molad - The date and time of the mean conjunction of the sun and moon (new moon). This is the approximate beginning of a month.

Rosh Ha-Shanah - The first day of the Jewish year (Tishri 1).

Tishri - The first month of the Jewish year.

Valid Range

Although the software at this website (*see footnote this page*) can handle dates all the way back to the year 1 (3761 B.C.), such use may not be meaningful.

The Jewish calendar has been in use for several thousand years, but in the early days there was no formula to determine the start of a month. A new month was started when the new moon was first observed.

It is not clear when the current rule based calendar replaced the observation-based calendar. According to the book "Jewish Calendar Mystery Dispelled" by George Zinberg, the patriarch Hillel II published these rules in 358 A.D. But, according to The Encyclopedia Judaica, Hillel II may have only published the 19-year rule for determining the occurrence of leap years. I have yet to find a specific date when the current set of rules were known to be in use.¹⁵

Letters from the Editors

Furthermore, of interest to the Reader of this report, would be some commentary I received by Email regarding some of these sites listed, where calendar information was obtained for this report, and by which they agree that these past times are hard to pin down for accuracy. Therefore, I offer the following reprint of those Emails. Our Email address was rdc1228.
(*emphasis mine*)

¹⁵ From the WWW [Calendar Conversions Overview](http://genealogy.org/~scottlee/cal-overview.html) at <http://genealogy.org/~scottlee/cal-overview.html>

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

The following Email is a response from Alan D. Corre, Dept. of Hebrew Studies, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee.

Date sent: Mon, 12 Apr 1999 09:27:13 -0500 (CDT)
From: Alan D Corre <corre@csd.uwm.edu>
To: rdc1228@earthlink.net
Subject: Re: Calendar - Wrong . . .

On Sun, 11 Apr 1999 rdc1228@earthlink.net wrote:

> Alan D. Corré,
>
> Your calendar is way off. How do I know?
>
> Pope Gregory XIII (1502-1585) ordered that Thursday,
> Oct. 4, 1582 should be followed by Friday Oct. 15 in
> order to adjust the calendar to the vernal equinox.
> This was the only change in our calendar since the time of
> Augustus Caesar.
>
> Your calendar shows Oct. 4, 1582 as falling on a Monday!?!?
>
> Does this also mean that the Jewish calendar is off also.
>
> Please explain and/or tell me wherre I can find an accurate
> calendar for the year 30 A.D., the time of crucifixion of
> our Lord Jesus Christ.
>
> Thanks!
> Stephen R. Renfrow
> SRR/arr

If you check my introduction to the calendar

<http://www.uwm.edu/~corre/calendar.html>

you may find that things are not as bad as you think. In my calendar, October 15, 1582 occurs on a Friday. Dates before that are given as if the Gregorian calendar had been in effect at that time, and the introduction provides a table which indicates that by subtracting 10 from the previous date, October 14, you get October 4. I did this for simplicity, because the Gregorian calendar was adopted at different dates by the various European countries. So the calendar is Gregorian throughout, even though the Gregorian calendar was not actually in use at that time.

In the early years of the Christian era it seems to me that the calendar was intercalated on an ad hoc basis by the Roman authorities, so it is not really possible to get a sure correspondence of

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

dates at that time. It seems probable too that the Jewish calendar was also intercalated (by adding a month) on the basis of naturally occurring phenomena (such as birth of lambs) in early times, which would suggest that Jewish calendar dates are similarly impossible to predict.

Thank you for writing. If you look in the Yahoo search engine you can find various other calendars in their reference section.

***** NEXT EMAIL *****

Date sent: Sun, 11 Apr 1999 13:00:42 -0400 (EDT)
From: Remy Landau <rlandau@freenet.toronto.on.ca>
Subject: Re: question regarding jewish calendar
To: rdc1228@earthlink.net

Dear Stephen,

There is no real way of determining the true historical day of the event you are seeking. No one can essentially put forward the exact number of days that elapsed between that event and some known historical factual date such as October 15, 1582.

Consequently, the best that can be done under the circumstances, is to freeze the known calendar rules for both Hebrew and Gregorian calendars, and then extend the FORMAL calendar computations into the past. That is the convention used in the web page. As such, all of the dates found in the web page are based on a constant rule pair of calendars.

With these conventions in place, then we find 14 Nisan 3790H corresponds to Wednesday April 3, 30g.

Regards From Remy Landau
Downsview, Ontario, Canada

On Sun, 11 Apr 1999 rdc1228@earthlink.net wrote:

> In looking at your web site, Hebrew Calendar Science and
> Myths, I don't see any reference to the change in the
> calendar.
>
> Remember when:
>
> Pope Gregory XIII (1502-1585) ordered that Thursday,
> Oct. 4, 1582 should be followed by Friday Oct. 15.
> This was the only change made in our calendar since the
> time of Augustus Caesar.

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

- >
- > How does one calculate the affect of this on these web
- > sites using simple math?!?!?
- >
- > I'm trying to find out what day the 14th of Nissan was in
- > the civil Year 30 A.D. when Christ died on the cross.
- > By my calculations (using the Bible) it would have been
- > on a Wednesday.
- >
- > I'm trying to find this on a Jewish calendar to corroborate
- > it. Any help would be appreciated.
- >
- > Thanks!
- > Stephen R. Renfrow
- > SRR/arr
- >

***** NEXT EMAIL *****

The following is a response from Bill Holon to an inquiry made after visiting his website which is all about time and calendars.

Date sent: Tue, 13 Apr 1999 08:36:34 -0700
From: Bill Hollon <billh@greenheart.com>
Send reply to: billh@greenheart.com
To: rdc1228@earthlink.net
Subject: Re: Accurate Dates?

rdc1228@earthlink.net wrote:

- > Perhaps you can help me out!
- >
- > I'm trying to find out what day the 14th of the first month
- > was in the Jewish year 3790 when Christ died on the
- > cross. Some say this was the month of Nissan. However,
- > in Leviticus 23:4-7 we find it is the first month?!?!?
- > So was it Tishri or Nissan? when passover occured!?!?
- >
- > By my calculations (using the Bible) it would have
- > been on a Wednesday.
- >
- > I'm trying to find this on a Jewish calendar to corroborate
- > it. I get conflicting reports that there really can be

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

- > no accuracy as to this date. Any help would be
- > appreciated.
- >
- > Thanks!
- > Stephen R. Renfrow
- > SRR/arr

Sorry to say it, Stephen, but I agree with those who say " there really can be no accuracy as to this date" as far as the month is concerned. That's because the Hebrew calendar has had intercalary months inserted on an irregular and inconsistent basis for a long time.

However, you may be correct as to the day being Wednesday. The weekly cycle has not been broken. Perhaps you could get some help at the following URL:

<http://emr.cs.uiuc.edu/home/reingold/calendar-book/java/applet/display.html>

Bill H.

Los Angeles <http://www.greenheart.com/billh>

***** END of EMAIL RESPONSES *****

Many sincere professing Christians will say that they attend Easter sunrise services to honor Christ Jesus and His resurrection, not to worship the sun god. However dear brothers and sisters ... ask yourself is it acceptable in the eyes of God to take pagan customs/symbols and mold them, into a Christian perspective? Did God not warn the Israelites as they prepared to enter the land of Canaanites?

“Take heed ... that you do not inquire after their gods, ... you shall not worship the Lord your God in that way. Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it.”

Deut. 12:30-32

God pleads with all those who profess to be His people, to come out of spiritual Babylon and worship the Creator as He commands .. in spirit and in truth – Amen!?!

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

In the beginning was mentioned; "*the truth shall make you free*". Free of what you might have asked. Ignorance (*mentioned 17 times in the Bible* [KJV]) of truth, unlearned of scripture, ignorant of many a mystery. Hopefully after this study, this topic will no longer be a mystery. That is our goal in the Bible Truth Series. Moreover, a foundation of error leads to further error in understanding and misapplication of prophecy and of the bible in general.

Now ask yourself, Was the Papacy correct for instituting Sunday worship and making it the new Sabbath? For only "*fools despise wisdom*" (Prov. 1:7). I just want to know the truth - how about you? I hope you have received enough information to make an intelligent decision.

THE UNDENIABLE AND INDISPUTABLE SCRIPTURAL FACTS:

- I. Passover is always on the 14th of Nisan - Lev. 23:5
- II. The very next day, the 15th of Nisan, is always the first day of Unleavened Bread - Lev. 23:6, in which now work is to be done - Lev. 23:6.
- III. Christ was the final sacrificial Passover lamb - John 1:29, Rev. 7:10, 12:11, 13:8.
- IV. It was prophesied for Christ to be killed in the midst of the week – Daniel 9:27.
- V. Christ was to be in the grave 3 days and 3 nights - Matt. 12:39,40.
- VI. Christ had to be and was buried prior to sundown on the 15th of Nisan, a High Holy day, by reason of No. II above – John 19:31.
- VII. Christ was buried on Passover day and the next day no work could be done. But on the 3rd day, the day after the high holy day, the women bought and prepared spices and ointments – Luke 23:56, which was prior to the weekly Sabbath – Mark 16:1 (the weekly Sabbath being the 4th day using inclusive day reckoning).
- VIII. Christ rose at the end of the weekly Sabbath day prior to sunrise on Sunday – Matt. 28:1, John 20:1.
- IX. Wherefore He was in the grave for 3 days and 3 nights and self fulfilled His prophesy in Matthew 12:40.

In accordance with the above, Sunday would be day 5 using inclusive day reckoning. Wherefore Christ had to have risen prior to Sunday, and is therefore my conclusion that He was buried on Wednesday the 14th of Nisan just before sunset the eve of Thursday, and He rose at the same time He was buried, 3 days and 3 nights later on the 17th of Nisan in the Hebrew year 3790, a Saturday in the year 30 AD just before Sunset the eve of Sunday.

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

God's Saving Grace & His Love

So just how does one become "saved" from eternal death, and become by faith - a "Son of God"¹⁶? You have to Ask!!! You have to make the decision to live life eternal. Jesus saved the whole world - all you have to do is;

1. **Accept it** . . ask Christ Jesus into your Heart . .
2. **Repent** . . of your sins - seriously and sincerely . . and
3. **be Baptized** by full immersion and under God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the power of the Holy Spirit [will come upon you].



Your sins will be washed clean by the blood of Christ Jesus - AND - most important of all, your name will be in the "Lamb's Book of Life". If your name is not in the Book my Friend - you will be cast into the "Lake of Fire", and you will cease to exist - forever. Do you have any doubt that your name is in the Book? Is your name in the Book?

If you will do these things above, then you will be forgiven and your eternal life with God will begin right now! You're a "Babe in Christ". Read the Bible, Learn, and get to know Christ Jesus and the Father who sent him. For a good start on your way to study God's word and the way through Christ Jesus to get to heaven, write to;

**Amazing Facts That Affect You
P. O. Box 909
Roseville, California 95678 - 0909**

And ask for Key Study Guide No. 1. It's yours **FREE for the asking**. But you must be willing to Learn. You must desire to make a change for the better. You must want to come to know Christ Jesus. Moreover, if you think you do - you better pray in earnest that you come to know him better - because soon you will be tested. Mark my words! It is designed this way because If you don't you're already dead. You may be walking - but you're the walking dead.

That means that this reality in which we now live, is the only Heaven you will ever see! However, for the rest of us, this is the only Hell we will ever see. For we are not of this world (John 17:16). It is up to You! Jesus wants you to come home!!!

Start living life -- right . . . **NOW!**

¹⁶ See 1 John 3: 1, 2

3 Days & 3 Nights in the Grave . . . and He rose when? (cont.)

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Stephen R. Renfrow
(772) 343-7754
Member/Deacon:
Seventh-day Adventist - Jupiter, Florida

Email: webmaster@homebiznet.nu
WWW: The HOME BIZ NETWORK
www.homebiznet.nu/GodsPlan

May God Bless You and your endeavors to Learn and Know the Truth. Share the Love of Christ Jesus with everyone you know. Time is shorter than you think! Are you ready? Is your Father/Mother ready? Brother/Sister ? Relatives? Associates/Co-workers? Ask - and you shall receive, seek and you shall find. In this day, people are looking for "Spiritual Guidance" and answers. Give it to them. Ask them if they believe in a "Supreme Being", Creator of all that is? If they answer yes - tell them to start by reading the four gospels. *"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."* (1 Thess. 5:21) and do it with the word of God - Amen!

He is calling out His people (2 Cor. 6:17, Rev. 18:4) - into the Remnant Church (Rev.22:14).

And He pleads with mankind ...

"If you love me keep my commandments" John 14:15

**\\\\\\\\\\ END OF REPORT **

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