

How Long Was Jesus Supposed to Be Buried?

• Matt 12:38-41 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." 39 But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. 40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

How Long Was Jesus Supposed to Be Buried?

• Jonah 1:17 Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

How Long Was Jesus Supposed to Be Buried?

• Commentators who try to justify a Friday-to-Sunday crucifixion and resurrection say that in the Greek language in which the New Testament was written, the expression "three days and three nights" found Matt 12:40 can mean three periods, either night or day periods, but they do not deny that in the Hebrew language in which the book of Jonah was written, the expression "three days and three nights" means a period of 72 hours...three twelve-hours days and three twelve-hour nights.

So, how long was Jesus to be buried?

3 Days AND 3 Nights!!!
72 hours total

This was the only sign He would give to prove that He was the Messiah!!!

What Mainline Christianity Teaches – Not 3days/3nights



<u>Luke 23:54</u> That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near.

<u>Luke 24:1-4</u> Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning (when the sun had risen, Mrk 16/2), they,... came to the tomb....did not find the body...

Some Basic Scriptural Facts

- Day begins in the evening:
 - Gen 1:5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.
- Each Day and Night has 12 hours each:
 - John 11:9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day (daylight NIV)?

Some Basic Scriptural Facts

- There were two Sabbaths during the week of the crucifixion/burial (High Sabbath & Weekly Sabbath):
 - John 19:31 Therefore, because it was the <u>Preparation Day</u>, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day),...
 - <u>Lev 23:4-8</u> On the <u>fourteenth day</u> of the first month...is the <u>Lord's Passover</u>. 6...on the <u>fifteenth day</u> of the same month is the <u>Feast of Unleavened Bread</u>...a <u>holy convocation</u>; you shall do <u>no customary work on it</u>....The seventh day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it."

• Matt 27:57-66 Now when evening had come, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. 58 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given to him. 59 When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, 60 and laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed.

• 61 And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb. 62 On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, 63 saying, "Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise.' 64 Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last deception will be worse than the first."

• 65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how." 66 So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.

• Matt 28:1-6 Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.

• 5 But the angel answered and said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

• Luke 23:50-24:1 Now behold, there was a man named Joseph, a council member, a good and just man. 51 He had not consented to their decision and deed. He was from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who himself was also waiting for the kingdom of God. 52 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. 53 Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. 54 That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near.

• 55 And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. 56 Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

• <u>Luke 24:1-3</u> Now on the <u>first day of the week</u>, very early in the <u>morning</u>, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. 2 But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. 3 Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

• John 19:31-42 Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. 32 Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. 33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break, His legs. 34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

• 35 And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. 36 For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not one of His bones shall be broken." 37 And again another Scripture says, 'They shall look on Him whom they pierced." 38 After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus.

• 39 And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. 40 Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury. 41 Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. 42 So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.

• John 20:1 Now the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

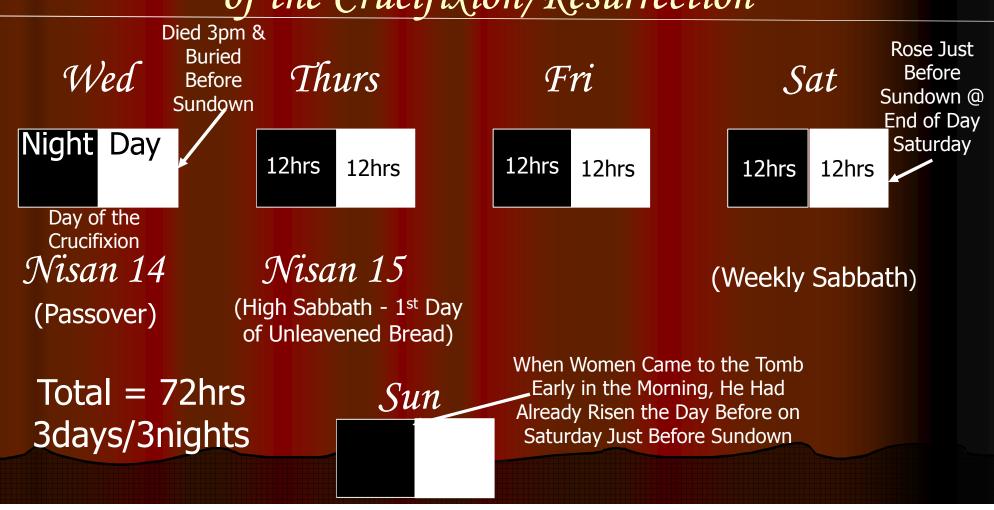
More Facts Concerning Crucifixion & Burial

- In order for Jesus to be the Messiah, He had to be crucified, buried, and resurrected on feast days. Jesus was crucified on Passover (14th), buried on the Feast of Unleavened Bread (15th) and resurrected at the close of the Sabbath (probably right before sunset).
- Had to be in the grave for 3 days and 3 nights like Jonah was in the belly of big fish.

More Facts Concerning Crucifixion & Burial

- The only way that Jesus could be in the tomb for the required full three days and three nights (a 72-hour period) is if He was crucified on Wednesday and resurrected at the close of the weekly Sabbath right before the beginning of the first day of the week (Sunday).
- According to Edward M. Reingolds' classic work, "Calendar Book, Papers, and Code", that date is Wednesday, April 3, in the year A.D. 30. Jesus was crucified on this date and resurrected at the close of the Sabbath (Saturday pm) on April 6.

The Real Story of the Crucifixion/Resurrection



Why Does This Matter?

• Ezek 8:16-9:1 So He brought me into the inner court of the Lord's house; and there, at the door of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the temple of the Lord and their faces toward the east, and they were worshiping the sun toward the east.

Why Does This Matter?

- 17 And He said to me, "Have you seen this, O son of man? Is it a trivial thing to the house of Judah to commit the abominations which they commit here? For they have filled the land with violence; then they have returned to provoke Me to anger. Indeed they put the branch to their nose. 18 Therefore I also will act in fury. My eye will not spare nor will I have pity; and though they cry in My ears with a loud voice, I will not hear them.
- Easter Sunrise Service



- God is a type of "husband" and church is a type of "wife".
- As a husband, what would you think if your wife as you for permission to have in your bedroom a picture of her boyfriend.
- God does not want us to have no other gods except Him.

Summary

• Passover fell on a Wednesday in 30 A.D. the year of Jesus' crucifixion. Thursday was an annual Sabbath, the first holy day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Jesus was buried just before sunset on Wednesday afternoon, and was in the tomb Wednesday night, Thursday, Thursday night, Friday, Friday night, and Saturday – three days and three nights, just as He promised. He was resurrected just before sunset on Saturday afternoon, exactly 72 hours after His burial. On Sunday morning, when the women came at dawn to embalm His body, He was already gone....He had already risen.