

Christ Died on a Thursday.

Bible study for consideration..... By Pete McGregor.

It seems Jesus died on a **Thursday afternoon**, probably the 12th of April, 29AD by our modern calendar and the **14th day of Nissan minus 2 days** on the Hebrew calendar for that particular year. The reason for 12th of Nissan is because the Jewish religious leaders would most likely move the “Passover Memorial” back by 2 days if it fell on the **weekly fixed Sabbath day** to the **previous** Thursday. I assume this would also help keep other following Jewish festival dates for the year in synch with their Calendar. See notes below.

The year 29AD appears to be the correct fit **if** Jesus was born about 5BC. It also meshes with the Jewish date...14th Nissan 3789 (29AD) and would have been the day of preparation and first day of unleavened bread. See graph and notes below

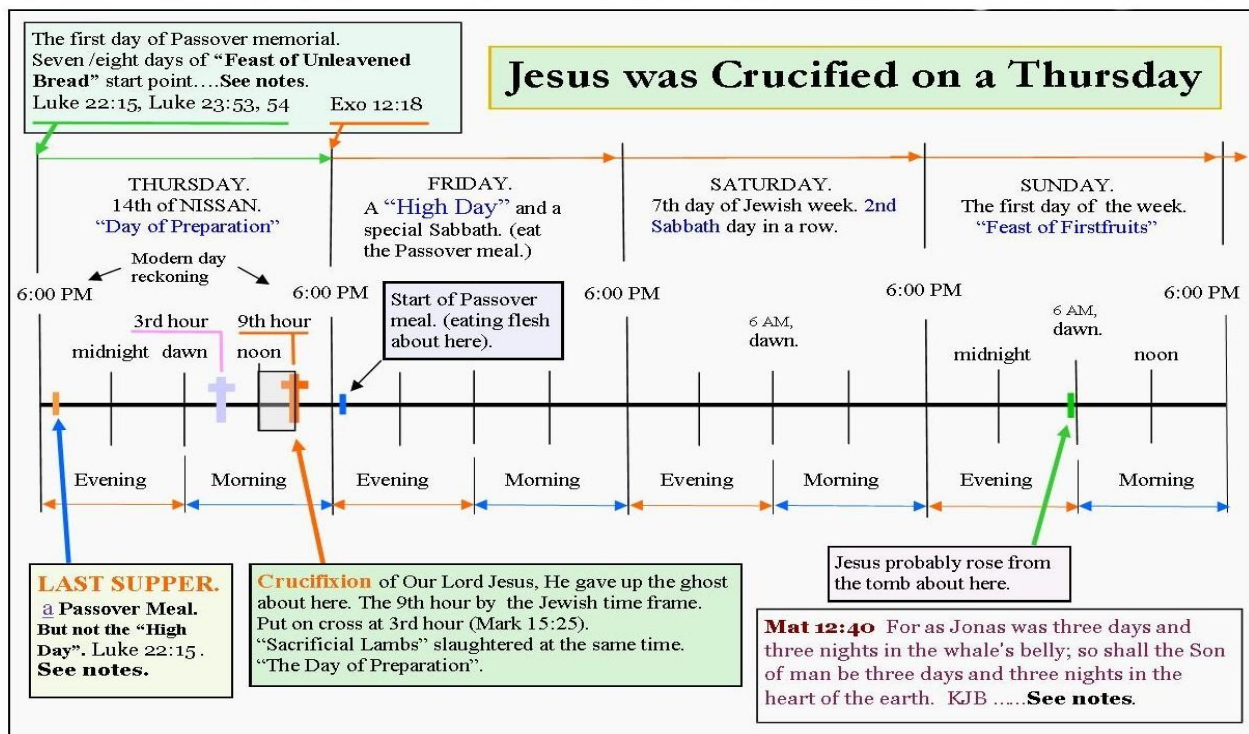
Luke 22:7... Then came the day of **unleavened bread**, when the passover **must** be killed... (day of preparation).

Earlier at the beginning of the same day (start of Thursday) which was the evening, Jesus ate the **“Last Supper”** with his disciples, a “passover meal”.... but not the “High Day” passover meal....

Luke 22:15 ...And he said unto them, **With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer:**

Jesus was crucified about the 3rd hour and gave up the ghost about the 9th hour. This would be **the same time** that the “Passover Lambs” were being slaughtered to eat after the 12th hour. He died about the 9th hour of the day by the Jewish reckoning of time, about 3:00 PM by our modern reckoning.

Note; scripture says ...in Genesis.....The “*evening and the morning*” were the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th ...day. So by our modern reckoning a Jewish day as the bible describes here starts at 6:00 PM and finishes at 6:00 PM.



Exo 12:6 And ye shall keep it up until the **fourteenth day** of the same month: and the whole assembly of the **congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening**.

Exo 12:7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

Exo 12:8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and **unleavened bread**; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.

Exo 12:18 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at **even**, **ye shall eat unleavened bread**, until the **one and twentieth day** of the month at even.

Exo 12:19 Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.

Luk 22:13 And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover.

Luk 22:14 And **when** the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him.

Luk 22:15 And he said unto them, **With desire I have desired to eat **this** passover with you **before** I suffer:**

Mar 15:25 And it was the **third hour**, and they crucified him.

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

Mar 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?

Mar 15:35 And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he calleth Elias.

Mar 15:36 And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take him down.

Mar 15:37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost. KJB

Notes.....**It is important to note** that scripture says Jesus rose **on** the third day not after....

Mat 20:19 **And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and **the third day** he shall rise again.**

So in reality Jesus was **not** a whole 3 x 24 hour days in the tomb.

He rose again **on** the third day, about 60-63 hours after death, with a starting point from when He gave up the ghost, or a little later, probably when the tomb was sealed.

Again, ...**Matthew 12:40** ...regarding “**Jonah** in the whale” appears to be used only in an **illustrative** way to the Pharisees looking for a sign, and not to be relied on as indicating that Jesus was going to be a **whole** 3 days in the tomb, because then, the Jonah verse would conflict with “**and the third day**” (that is **on** day 3 and not after) **he shall rise again**.

It seems that in the dispensation of time when Jesus lived on Earth, the “day of preparation” had been... loosely speaking **combined** with the “High Day”, calling both “the Passover”.

Further it is likely the “**preparation**” day plus the **7 days of “unleavened bread”** would generally be considered as the “Passover”, that is 1+7 days.

In the year that Jesus was crucified, starting on **Sunday** (Palm Sunday) through to **Wednesday at even** were the 4 days of observation to see if the sacrificial lambs were unblemished.

Next was **Thursday** the 12th /14th ...**most likely moved back from weekly Sabbath**.

Then that evening after Jesus died (about 6:00 PM) was the start of **Friday**, a special Sabbath, a “High Day”...the “**Passover**” and start of feast of unleavened bread as decreed in **Exo 12:18**.

The next day, **Saturday** was the usual fixed Saturday Sabbath. And then **Sunday** the Lord Jesus rose from the tomb, on the Jewish “Feast of Firstfruits”.

The Jews still had their temple in Jesus time, and how they observed Holy days would have been somewhat different to today’s Jewish rites and hard if not impossible to record accurately in our times.

Exo 12:3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, **In the tenth day** of this month(**Nissan**) they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of *their* fathers, a lamb for an house:....

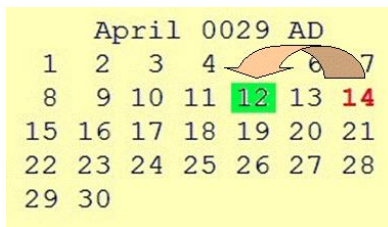
Exo 12:6 And ye shall keep it up **until the fourteenth day** of the same month: (**4 days**) and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it **in the evening** ...(afternoon of same day).

Luk 23:54 And that day was the **preparation**, and **the Sabbath** drew on (**the high day**)

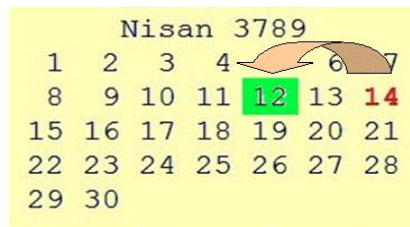
1Co 15:4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again **the third day** according to the scriptures:
(**Sunday morning**)

Mar 16:9 Now when *Jesus* was risen early the **first day of the week**, (**Sunday morning**) he appeared first to Mary Magdalene,...

Gregorian



Hebrew



Excerpt from Wikipedia.

If the day before Passover falls on Shabbat, most authorities rule that the fast is set for the **previous Thursday**, and this has become common practice.

~~~~~