

## **TEN MINUTES OF TRUTH:** **EASTER EXPLAINED**

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Hello. Does truth matter to you? If truth means anything at all, then I want to talk to you for just a few moments about a subject in Christianity that I think we need to reexamine. And it's concerning the very next season that's upon the Christian church—which is the season of Easter. We call it Resurrection Sunday. And I want to just ask you, have you ever examined and seriously considered why you celebrate Easter?

Now, it's no secret to many that follow our ministry here at First Harvest that we do not celebrate Easter and many people ask us, why do you not celebrate Easter Sunday? And actually, the better question I think is, why do *you* celebrate Easter Sunday?

The truth is Jesus Christ, Yahshua in his original name, did not resurrect on a Sunday. The church has taught us for years that he died on a Friday and rose on a Sunday. So, if we can prove to you real quickly that he did not rise on a Sunday, then you would have to ask yourself...why do you go to an Easter sunrise service.

Now you've got two choices here. Press the stop button and ignore what we're saying and just forget what we ever said to you, or, you have to keep listening and see if what you've been doing is the correct way.

So let's start with this. Yahshua died on a Friday according to church tradition and rose on a Sunday. Now we know what Jesus said—that he would give us one sign that he was the Messiah. Just one. They asked him what was the proof that—you are the Messiah. He said, listen, I'm not going to give you any other sign except one sign. He said, just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights, so will I be in the heart of the earth, for three days and three nights.

**Matthew 12:39-40**

**But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and there will no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly, so will the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**

I'm so glad he didn't say 'just three days' because that would give canon fodder to our opponents that say...when he said three days he meant any part of three days. But no, he clarified it...he said *three days and three nights*.

Now Yahshua, the Lord Jesus Christ (Yahshua is the original name of Jesus), was very careful to tell us how he tells time. He said in the word, is there not 12 hours in the day? Then 12 hours in the night. He knew how to tell time.

### **John 11:9**

**Jesus answered, are there not twelve hours in the day?**

So he knew what a day meant. Twelve hours in the day, twelve hours in the night. Put them together and you come up with 24 hours. So then, he says, I'm going to be in the grave 3 days (now he already told you that the days have 24 hours in them)... so if you multiply  $12 \times 3$ , what do you come up with? 36. Then he said, 3 nights, and that there was 12 hours in the night. Now you multiply those together and you get 36.  $(36+36)$  Add those together and you get *72 hours*.

He tells us emphatically how long he will be in the grave and if he's in there an hour longer or an hour shorter, then he is not the Son of God, the Messiah.

If you've ever discussed the scriptures with a Muslim, the first thing they will point to prove and discredit that Jesus was the son of God is the resurrection. They will tell you that, according to the church, he was only in the grave from Friday to Sunday. Now if you do the math, they would be correct. But you see, they're incorrect because there are some in God's church that know how to tell time. We know when he died and when he was resurrected.

If he died on a Friday at 3:00, and we know that to be the case (Christ supposedly died on Friday at 3:00)...they were in a hurry to bury him just before the sun set (he was buried just before sunset around 6:00 pm). Why? Because God doesn't tell time like we tell time. God's days start when the sun sets, not at midnight. Go read in the Old Testament, you'll find that from sunset to sunset is what the Almighty Yahweh considers a full day.

### **Genesis 1:5**

**And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.**

Now, we know that, and once you learn how to tell time, then you'll understand the Bible a whole lot better. So now, they had to bury him before the sun set because when the sun set, a new day began. But this was not just any day that was

beginning—it was what we call a *High Sabbath Day*. It was not the “weekly Sabbath”.

**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 day was an high day,)...**

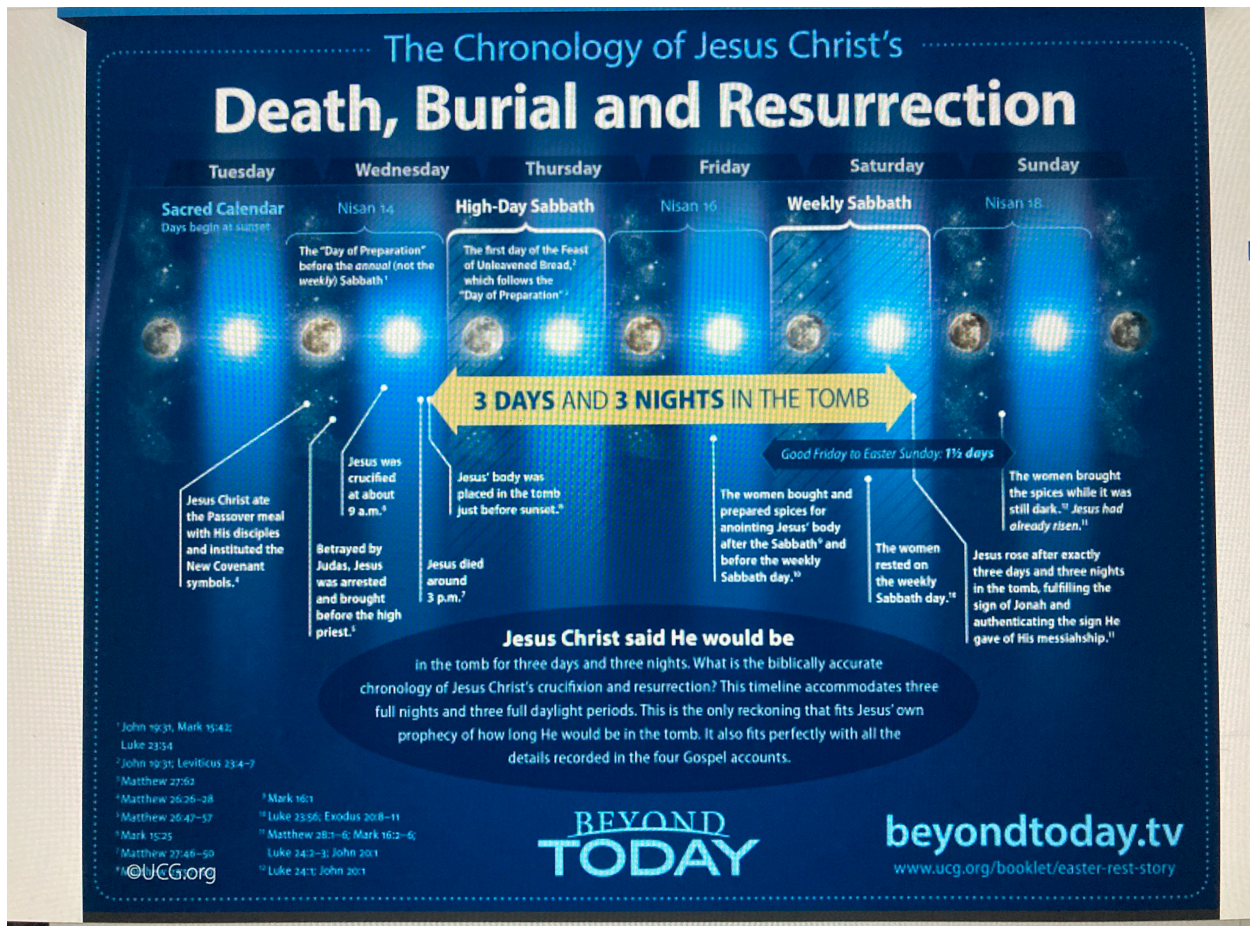
The next day was a High Sabbath. Now, what was a High Sabbath? It was a holy day. Every year, God gave them seven annual high sabbath days, or holy days. We know that Yahshua died on the Passover because the Bible said that was the day of preparation.

Now that’s where people get confused...they think they were preparing for the weekly sabbath which would’ve been Saturday. But no, they were preparing for the day after Passover which is a high holy day. Passover is not technically a Sabbath day. But the first day of Unleavened Bread is a high sabbath day. So they were quickly preparing to bury Yahshua before the sun set and a high sabbath day began.

Now, if the church is correct and that Yahshua died on a Friday...we bury him right before 6:00 on a Friday, and let’s go 24 hours later to 6:00 on a Saturday, that’s one day. The church says he rose early on a Sunday morning, which would’ve been 6 hours later, then you’ve got a day and not even a half a day—a day and 6 hours that he was in the grave in the heart of the earth. If that’s the truth, then he was not the Messiah! He did not fulfill the sign that he was the Son of God.

I’ll never understand how we can put Yahshua in the grave for a day and 6 hours and say he was in there 3 days and 3 nights. No, the truth is what I’m about to tell you. The truth is, in the year that Yahshua died, he died on a Wednesday which was the Passover day that year. He died as the “Passover Lamb”. And then they put him in the grave just before the beginning of Unleavened Bread (one of the 7 yearly feasts observed and celebrated, it was a ‘high holy sabbath’).

They put him in there right before their sun set that day which NASA has proven to us to be around 6:00 (NASA has all of this historical data of sunsets and sun rises). So we know when he was buried. Now, if you go from Wednesday evening at 6:00 to Thursday evening at 6:00, you’ve got him in there one day and one night. Now go Friday evening to 6:00. You’ve got him in there 2 days and 2 nights. Now go to Saturday evening just before sunset and you’ve got him in there for 3 days and 3 nights.



Perfectly. He rose at the 72 hours at the end. He rested on the Sabbath and rose at the end just before Sunday began. Ladies and gentlemen, friends from around the world, Yahshua did not rise on a Sunday morning. So why are you out celebrating his resurrection at a sunrise service on a Sunday morning? You may not like the answer but I will give it to you anyhow.

There's a custom in pagan tradition that celebrated the rebirth of the sun. It celebrated the birth and it celebrated the sun...it was the religion of Ishtar which originally was Ashtoreth. The religion of Ishtar worshipped the sun as they believed that Ishtar's little boy, her baby, was the son of Baal or the sun god.

And so they would gather every year in the morning on the day of the "sun" ... Sunday to worship the rising of the sun. And Yahweh forbids us to do these things. He forbids us to have anything to do with the heathen customs or the traditions of the pagans.

So I hope now that you understand why we do not gather to look at the sun and to venerate the resurrection when it did not happen that way. Hopefully that helps

you understand why we do not celebrate the pagan religion of Ishtar pronounced Easter in English. God bless you.

(video #95)