

Can the Day of Christ's Crucifixion and Resurrection be Proven with the Bible?

Almost all self-professed Christians will excitedly share that Jesus was crucified on 'Good Friday' and resurrected on 'Easter Sunday.' Is there any proof of that and if so, is it in the Bible?

This short writing is not to find out where Good Friday and Easter Sunday originated from. This is a study guide from the Bible regarding the timing of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Please read ALL Scripture for yourself. The best way to learn is to prove it for yourself. 1 Thessalonians 5:21

We will start in the Old Testament as a basis to the study

Leviticus 23: 2. "Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, '*Concerning* the appointed feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are My appointed feasts...

5. In the fourteenth *day* of the first month, between the two evenings, between sunset and dark is the LORD'S Passover,

6. And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD. You must eat unleavened bread seven days.

7. On the first day you shall have a holy convocation. You shall not *do any servile work therein*,

Also see **Exodus 12:12-20 & Numbers 28:16-18, 25** regarding these two feasts.

So we can conclude that Passover takes place "between the two evenings" the evening prior to the 1st day of Unleavened Bread and the 1st day of Unleavened Bread is a holy convocation/Sabbath – regardless of what day it falls on.

The Passover meal with Jesus and the apostles, commonly referred to as The Last Supper. All three gospel accounts confirm this took place as part of the Passover.

Matthew 26:17-30

Mark 14:1-26

Luke 22:1-20

Crucifixion of Jesus- Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23 & John 19

We all know the story. After the Passover meal, Jesus and His apostles were praying in Gethsemane and Jesus was taken into custody. He is then put on trial, sentenced to death and hung on the cross. "And at the ninth hour..." Jesus died on the cross (**Mark 15:34-37**).

(Ninth hour)

Strong: G1766

Original: ἕννατος

Transliteration: **ennatos**

Phonetic: **en'-nat-os**

Thayer Definition:

1. ninth

- a. the ninth hour corresponds to our 3 o'clock in the afternoon for the sixth hour of the Jews coincides with the twelfth of the day as divided by our method, and the first hour of the day is 6 A.M. to us.

Now, we have established that the Passover is the 14th day of the first month and the next day (the 15th) at sundown is the 1st day of Unleavened Bread, a holy day, also referred to as a “holy convocation” or a Sabbath. Christ’s death occurred prior to sundown at the “ninth hour” or approximately 3pm -

Matthew 27:57. And **when evening was coming on**, a rich man of Arimathea came, named Joseph, who was himself a disciple of Jesus ([A Faithful Version](#))

Matthew 27:62. Now on the next day, which followed the preparation *day*, the chief priests and the Pharisees came together to Pilate, ([A Faithful Version](#))

Preparation day – Passover, not being a Sabbath or Holy Convocation, is a preparation day for the 1st day of Unleavened Bread. So when Matthew is referring to “the next day,” it is the 1st day of Unleavened Bread prior to sundown otherwise it would be a holy day/Sabbath/holy convocation.

- *This Sabbath was not the 7th day weekly Sabbath. This Sabbath was the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread—a holy day Sabbath and fell on a Thursday* ([A Faithful Version Bible](#)) – Meaning Wednesday at sundown until Thursday at sundown in the year of Jesus’ crucifixion in 30 AD.

Article fully explaining the year of Jesus’ crucifixion -

[extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://cbcg.org/franklin/WhytheCrucifixionofChrist31AD.pdf](https://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://cbcg.org/franklin/WhytheCrucifixionofChrist31AD.pdf)

Mark 15: 42. Now **evening was coming**, and since it was a preparation (that is, the day before a Sabbath) / The Passover. ([A Faithful Version](#))

Luke 23:53. And after taking it down, he wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb hewn in a rock, in which no one had ever been laid.

54. Now it was a preparation day [Passover], and a Sabbath **was coming on**. [1st Day of Unleavened Bread, a Sabbath day].

([A Faithful Version](#))

**Key words “evening was coming” and “Sabbath was coming on.”

John 19: 31. The Jews therefore, so that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the Sabbath ★This Sabbath was not the 7th day weekly Sabbath. *This Sabbath was the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread—a holy day Sabbath and fell on a Thursday (See Appendix J and Appendix S of AFV).*, because it was a preparation day (for that Sabbath was a high day), requested of Pilate that their legs might be broken and the bodies be taken away. ([A Faithful Version](#))

They wanted Jesus and the two criminals off the cross ASAP because they cannot work on a Sabbath/Holy day/Holy convocation – Refer back to Leviticus 23 if anyone has questions.

Conclusion –

Mark 16: 1. Now when the Sabbath [1st Day of Unleavened Bread] had passed, Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James; and Salome bought aromatic oils, so that they might come and anoint Him. [This was Friday, the preparation day for the weekly Sabbath. At sundown they began the weekly Sabbath, which they honored and then,...]

2. And very early on the first day of the weeks ([see explanation](#) below), at the rising of the sun, they were coming to the tomb;

([A Faithful Version](#))

“...first day of the weeks ...” *This literal translation of the Greek words $\mu\iota\alpha \sigma\alpha\beta\beta\alpha\tau\omega\upsilon\upsilon$ or $\mu\iota\alpha \tau\omega\upsilon\upsilon \sigma\alpha\beta\beta\alpha\tau\omega\upsilon\upsilon$ shows that the day which followed the weekly Sabbath was the first day of the seven-week count to Pentecost, thus identifying this day as the Wave Sheaf Day (Lev. 23:10-11, 15-16). The [ascension](#) of Jesus Christ on that day fulfilled the offering of the wave sheaf for all time. (A Faithful Version)* – Ascension to Heaven to be presented to God the Father, not rising in the tomb.

Key words – “the Sabbath had passed,” and “very early on the first day of the weeks.” Also, “at the rising of the sun...” Early in the morning. Had to be Sunday as Jesus had already risen. He was already gone. They observed an empty tomb according to the Bible. The first day of the weeks, Sunday, is the day He ascended into heaven to be accepted by the Father as the perfect sacrifice.

In addition, please read, Matthew 28:1-6 and Luke 24:1-6 which all confirm the apostle's observed an empty tomb. Jesus had already risen.

What have we proven?

Jesus could not have been crucified on a Friday.

The weekly Sabbath was and still is Friday at sundown until Saturday at sundown.

Unless Jesus lied, He had to have resurrected at the same time as He was laid in the tomb - three days and three nights prior. We know from the Bible that Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus buried Him prior to sundown, prior to the 1st day of Unleavened Bread. So we can conclude, Jesus resurrected just prior to sundown on a Saturday.

Matthew 12: 38. Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Master, we desire to see a sign from You."

39. And He answered *and* said to them, "A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, but no sign shall be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet.

40. For just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights, in like manner the Son of man shall be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights.

([A Faithful Version](#))

So if Jesus was in the tomb three days and three nights and He resurrected on Saturday prior to sundown (The weekly Sabbath), He had to have been crucified on a Wednesday (30 AD) and died at around 3pm and was placed into the tomb prior to sundown. However, His empty tomb was not discovered until Sunday morning by Mary Magdalene. He had risen after 3 days and 3 nights, as He stated.

Wednesday prior to sundown until Thursday prior to sundown (day 1 - 1 day and 1 night)

Thursday prior to sundown until Friday prior to sundown (day 2 - 1 day and 1 night)

Friday prior to sundown until Saturday prior to sundown (day 3 - 1 day and 1 night).

Additional reading detailing the exact amount of time Jesus spent in the tomb -

<https://www.cbcg.org/booklets/the-day-jesus-the-christ-died/chapter-6-jesus-in-the-tomb-three-days-and-three-nights-and-the-resurrection.html>

Explanation of "the first of the unleaveneds" from [Matthew 26:17](#) Now on the first of the unleaveneds, the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, "Where do You desire that we prepare for You to eat the Passover?"

(A Faithful Version)

This phrase has caused some confusion. It is certain that this phrase does not refer to the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, because the

Feast of Unleavened Bread begins after, not before, the Passover. As recorded in the Gospels, "the first of the unleaveneds" was the day that the lambs were killed. Those who obeyed God's ordinances in Exodus 12 and kept the domestic Passover killed their lambs at the beginning of the 14th of Nisan. Those who followed the traditions of Judaism killed the lambs at the temple on the afternoon of the 14th. The Gospel writers were clearly referring to the 14th, and not to the 15th, as "the first of the unleaveneds." In New Testament times, this term was commonly used for the 14th day of the first month.

"In the first century, it was commonly known that 'the day of the unleaveneds' in Luke 22:7 (Also Matthew 26:17) was the 14th Passover day. G. Amadon, in an article entitled, 'The Crucifixion Calendar,' pointed out the error of those translators who translated this verse to read 'the first day of the festival.' [The following words are cited from this article.] 'But on what authority should the Hebrew translators, as Salkinson and Delitzch, introduce the word change [a Hebrew word for "feast"], into these texts when the corresponding Greek has no word for "feast," and speaks only of the "first of the unleavened bread"—a common expression for the Jewish 14th with practically all first century writers'" (Journal of Biblical Literature, vol. LXIII, 1944, pp. 188-189, emphasis added).

([A Faithful Version - Fred Coulter](#))

Let's continue this as a group discussion.

Lastly - Group question – why didn't Mary Magdalene anoint Jesus' body during the daytime on Friday?