

The Only Sign of Christ

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The Messiah



Many believe that Jesus was crucified on Friday and rose on Sunday. Does this fulfill the only sign of the Messiahship of Christ?

The Bible says---that two Marys came to see the sepulchre Saturday afternoon. "In the end of the Sabbath" and the tomb WAS empty.

The angel rolled back the stone and sat upon it and said, "He is not here: for He is risen" (Matt. 28:1-6).

The Sabbath ends at sundown. See Lev. 23:32. "In the end of the Sabbath" would be before sundown Saturday afternoon.

The Preparation day was not Friday.

The Passover was a sabbath which comes once a year on the 15th day of the first month and was an High Sabbath Day (John 19:31) and by coming that way a certain day of the month, it came on a different day of the week each year---like our 4th of July does, and on the year that Jesus was crucified, the preparation day came on Wednesday---the day before the Passover---which came on Thursday (John 19:14). This can be proved by counting three days before the time Jesus rose.

Figures do not lie, and Jesus would not lie, and the Bible does not

lie in Matt. 28:1-6 when it says the two Marys found the sepulchre empty in the "end of the Sabbath."

We do not wish to confuse the high day Sabbath with the Sabbath of the Commandment which is the seventh day. At this time, the high day Sabbath was on Thursday, the Passover Sabbath. This day is always celebrated on the fifteenth day of the first month. Numbers 28:16 tells of the Passover being on the 14th day (the day on which Jesus was crucified), and the 17th and 18th verses tell us that the 15th day was a day of holy convocation or a Sabbath. The 14th day is the Passover when the Lamb was slain and eaten. Christ is our Passover.

Jesus was in the tomb all night and day of Thursday, (the high day Sabbath). See John 19:31. No servile work could be done on this day. The women returned from the grave of Christ late on Wednesday to rest on Thursday the high day. On Friday, they bought and prepared the spices and ointments to bring back to the tomb after the Sabbath of the commandment, which was the seventh day of the week.

Jesus was all night and all day Friday in the earth and all night and all day Sabbath exactly three days and three nights in the tomb, then He

arose victorious over death.

John 12:1 says, "Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany." Check with the perpetual calendars and almanacs, histories and encyclopedias, they will state that Passover Sabbath fell on Thursday in the year our Lord was crucified. Therefore, six days before the Passover was Friday. By reading all four gospels you can tell what Jesus did every day beginning with Friday six days before the Passover. On Sabbath, Jesus had His triumphal entry; on Sunday He cleansed the temple in Jerusalem. On Monday, He cursed the fig tree on the road from Bethany to Jerusalem; on Monday even - He hid Himself until Tuesday when He prepared for the eating of the Passover Lamb during the dark part of Wednesday (Bible Time); He was captured, tried, crucified and buried all on Wednesday.

Mrs. E. G. White says in the Desire of Ages, chapter 62, third paragraph: "The Saviour had reached Bethany only six days before the Passover." "He was on His way to Jerusalem and that He would rest over the Sabbath at Bethany" -which must have meant on Friday that He came to Bethany.

The "Signs of the Times" for April 2, 1929, in the Question Cor-

ner says:

"It was Friday." A. J. Armstrong, of Washington, wishes to know on what day Jesus arrived at Bethany just before his crucifixion.

"Our Lord arrived at Bethany on Friday just before His week of Passion and rested as the questioner suggests, over the Sabbath at this place before going on to Jerusalem." See John 12:1.

Mrs. White and the "Signs" are both right about the day that Jesus came to Bethany-"Six days before the Passover." See John 12:1.

It cannot be disputed. Now, any one that can count to six may determine on what day of the next week the Passover would come.

Friday only six days before the Passover. See John 12:1.

Saturday (Sabbath) only five days before the Passover.

Sunday (first day of the week) four days before the Passover.

Monday (only three days before the Passover).

Tuesday (only two days before the Passover).

Wednesday was only one day before the Passover, and it was the preparation day on which Jesus was crucified and buried just before sundown and He was in the earth Thursday, Friday and Saturday (Sabbath) -

just 72 hours. This was exactly **Three days and Three nights.**

And the Marys found the sepulchre empty in the end of the Sabbath. See Matt. 28:1. Jesus told the truth when he said that he would be in the tomb three days and three nights. "For as Jonas 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" Matthew 12:40.

Jesus proclaimed that this would be the only sign of His Messiahship when he said in the previous verse, "..., An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but sign of the prophet Jonas:" He said in other places that He would be killed and then raised the third day. See Matthew 16:21 and Matthew 17:23. If this is not enough evidence of how long Jesus would remain in the tomb, we have the witness of the angels who spoke to the women when they came to the empty tomb. "And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you

when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. And they remembered his words" Luke 24:4-7.

Jesus himself told us how long He would remain in the tomb. When He rose in the end of the Sabbath (before sundown), He had to have been placed in the sepulchre exactly three days before that which would have been Wednesday afternoon before sundown.

His Messiahship now stands proven just as He said it would.