

# The Hoax Of Good Friday

Premise: The tradition of Good Friday was handed down to us by the Catholic Church and the church has embraced this concept without ever researching it. It is impossible to reconcile the words of Jesus in Matthew 12:40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. Here Jesus refers to a 72 hour period three days and three nights. With the Good Friday concept, the most you could have Christ in the grave is 36 hours. So do we believe the words of Jesus or do we believe tradition.

## **Where did the tradition of Good Friday come from?**

In **Luke 23** Joseph of Arimathea comes to Pilate to ask if he can bury Jesus. **verses 53-54** says

“Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. **It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.**”

Since the Sabbath day was Saturday, the preparation day (or day before) would be Friday. So Christ must have been crucified on a Friday right? **WRONG,**

## **THE ANSWER**

The answer is found in understanding our Jewish Roots!

The Western World only understands that there was one Sabbath.

The 7th day when God rested which is Saturday. (Even though most people worship on Sunday)

But the Jewish people understand that God gave one weekly Sabbath, the 7th day. **Leviticus 23:3** “ **‘There are six days when you may work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest, a day of sacred assembly. You are not to do any work; wherever you live, it is a Sabbath to the Lord.**

But in **Leviticus 23** God goes on to describe to Moses **7 more Sabbath's** that occur annually. These are called "High Holy Days" KJV or **Special Sabbaths** in the NIV.

Like the Saturday Sabbath they must be observed and kept holy and no work is to be done on that day just like the Saturday Sabbath.

There were:

3 Sabbaths in the Spring

1 Sabbath in the Summer

3 Sabbaths in the Fall

The purpose of these Special Sabbaths was to reveal Messiah to the Jewish people. By observing these holidays and the rituals involved they would see Messiah in the celebration and recognize him when he comes.

### **FULFILLMENT OF FEAST DAYS BY GOD**

**The Spring Sabbaths** would be fulfilled by Jesus exactly on the days given by God in Christ's First Coming.

**The Summer Sabbath** would be fulfilled when God sent the Holy Spirit exactly when the day of Pentecost was fully come.

**The Fall Sabbath's** will be fulfilled by Jesus in his 2nd coming.

To Understand The Good Friday Hoax, we must begin with understanding how God views The Days.

**Genesis 1:5** says ***"God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day."***

So God's day begins with Evening and then comes the morning, 12 hours of day and 12 hours of night.

Jesus reiterated this in **John 11:9** Jesus answered, **"Are there not twelve hours of daylight? A man who walks by day will not stumble, for he sees by this world's light."**

The Jewish day begins at Sunset. So from Sunset on Friday till Sunset on Saturday would be called Saturday. We know according Luke 23 that Jesus was placed in the grave just before sunset. While the Bible does not say which day of the week he was crucified we can figure it out by seeing when he comes out of the tomb and back up 72 hours.

Jesus would have come out of the grave at sunset because that is the time he went in the grave, and remember he said 3 days and 3 nights, no more and no less.

**So when is Christ first seen out of the grave?**

**Luke 24:1-3 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.”**

**Mark 16:2** gets a little more specific about the time

**Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise.**

Now this was when he was first seen by the women, early Sunday morning before Sunrise. But again we know by the time he went in the tomb, he would have come out Saturday night, but people were home observing the sabbath so they did not see him till they came the next morning. While this thought is radical and messes up the Easter morning resurrection concept. Remember Sunday morning resurrection would not fit three days and three nights. Jesus would not stay an extra twelve hours in the grave, nor would he come out an extra 36 hours early like the good Friday concept.

Now let's get to the heart of the matter on when Christ was crucified. Remember we were handed down the Good Friday concept from the Catholic Church because of Luke 23:53-54

“Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. **It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.”**

Now Remember according to Leviticus 23

There was 1 weekly Sabbath (7th day or Saturday) which would have been observed from our Friday Night, sunset till Saturday night sunset. (Evening & Morning was the day)

But there were 7 other Special Sabbaths according to Leviticus 23.

Was this a Regular Sabbath or a Special Sabbath, requiring them to get his body off the cross before sunset when the new sabbath day would occur.

John's gospel tells us:

**John 19:31**

**Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down.**

So as Christ's body was on the cross and the Sabbath was drawing near at Sunset, it was not the Saturday Sabbath that was about to break but rather it was one of the special sabbaths. It would have been one of the three Spring Feast days.

Now we just need to know which one.

This is also found in the 19th chapter of John

**John 19:14 It was the day of Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour. "Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews. But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him.**

So now we see the Sabbath that was drawing near, was the Special Sabbath of Passover which was the 14th day of Nisan.

So Jesus would have been crucified on the Preparation day Nisan 13 when the lamb would have been killed by the high priest.

In Luke 22:15-16 Jesus was celebrating the Passover Feast early with his disciples. He prophesied he would fulfill the feast as the lamb of God which takes away our sins, as John the Baptist introduced him.

**And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."**

He told them This bread is my body which is broken for you, this cup is the new covenant in my blood.

So remember we know he would have come out of the grave at Sunset. Since the women came to find the empty tomb early Sunday morning while it was still dark. He would have come out of the tomb, Saturday night at Sunset.

So now lets back up 3 days and 3 nights.

Jesus had to be crucified Wednesday and placed in the grave just before sunset, because the new day would begin which would be Thursday Nisan 14 The Passover.

Notice how every day Jesus was in the grave was a Sabbath And Israel was celebrating Messiah without even knowing it.

Sunset Wed - Sunset Thur	1 Day - Passover Sabbath
Sunset Thur - Sunset Fri	1 Day - Feast of Unleavened Bread
Sunset Fri - Sunset Sat	1 Day - Saturday Sabbath

Sunset Sat - Sunset Sun      Resurrection - Feast of Firstfruits  
**I Corinthians 15:20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

So as the Jewish High Priest was waving the first fruits of the harvest before God. God was waving his son Jesus, the first fruits of our resurrection. Because he lives we too will live even though this body dies.

