

"Good Wednesday"

(Various Scriptures)



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Overview of today's study



❧ DISCLAIMER:

- ❧ Set aside any pre-suppositions for the time being
- ❧ Be willing to be open-minded to Scripture
- ❧ Be willing to submit to whatever Scripture reveals

❧ Our study is to answer the following questions by using Scripture:

- ❧ Q1: What month/day/time was Jesus crucified and died?
- ❧ Q2: How long was He in the tomb?
- ❧ Q3: What month/day/time did Jesus rise from the dead?
- ❧ Q4: Which day of the week did He die and rise?
- ❧ Q5: What year did Jesus die and rise?

❧ GOAL:

- ❧ Date of Jesus's death and resurrection

The Keys to the Answers



- ❧ Use Scripture as our guide to:
 - ❧ Define biblical appointed times for feasts
 - ❧ Define a biblical (or prophetic) day
- ❧ Use the Hebrew calendar as the foundation
- ❧ Semi-construct Passover “Passion Week”
- ❧ Lastly, convert both Hebrew/Calendar dates to ascertain date of Jesus’s death and resurrection!

Q1: What month/day/time was Jesus crucified and died?



☞ To answer this question:

☞ **OT:** Use Scripture to determine appointed month and day of Passover

☞ **NT:** Harmonize and overlay crucifixion day (Passion Week)

OT: Passover Feast



✧ Instructions for Passover given in various places in the Law, but we'll use Exo & Lev:

Exodus 12:1-6

1 Now the LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, 2 "This month shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month (Abib/Nisan) of the year to you. 3 Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, 'On the tenth of this month (Abib/Nisan) they are each one to take a lamb for themselves, according to their fathers' households, a lamb for each household. 4 Now if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his neighbor nearest to his house are to take one according to the number of persons in them; according to what each man should eat, you are to divide the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6 You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it at twilight.

✧ Nisan 10: Lamb Selection Day (Paschal Lamb)

✧ Nisan 14: Paschal Lamb killed at twilight (before Nisan 15 starts)

OT: Passover Feast



Leviticus 23:4-8

4 "These are the appointed times of the LORD, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at the times appointed for them. 5 **In the first month (Abib/Nisan), on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight is the LORD'S Passover.** 6 Then on the fifteenth day of the same month there is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD; for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. 7 **On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not do any laborious work (high sabbath).** 8 But for seven days you shall present an offering by fire to the LORD. **On the seventh day is a holy convocation; you shall not do any laborious work (high sabbath)."**

- ❧ Nisan 10: Lamb Selection Day
- ❧ Nisan 14: Paschal Lamb is to be killed by twilight
- ❧ Nisan 15-21: Feast of Unleavened Bread
 - ❧ Nisan 15 (1st day):
 - ❧ Passover eaten (at twilight)
 - ❧ High Sabbath
 - ❧ Nisan 21: (7th day):
 - ❧ High Sabbath

OT: Passover Week



Lamb Selection Day
(kept until Nisan 14 – Ex 12:3-6)



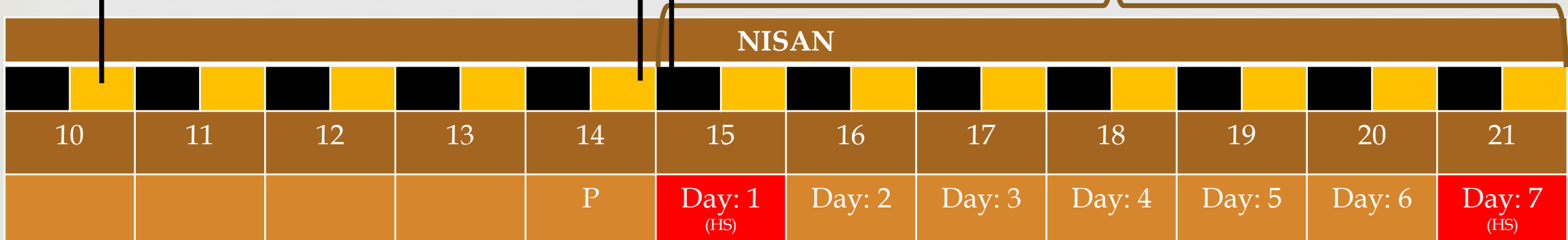
Passover Lamb Killed
(before twilight)
Blood on doorposts



Passover eaten
at twilight



Feast of Unleavened Bread
Duration: 1 Week (7 Days)
High Sabbath: 1st and 7th Day



NT: Crucifixion Day



John 19:14 (prior to Pilate giving in to the crowd to crucify Jesus)

14 Now it was **the day of preparation (Nisan 14) for the Passover**; it was about **the sixth hour (Noon)**. And he *said to the Jews, “Behold, your King!”

- ❧ Nisan 14: “Day of preparation” for the Passover that will be eaten on Nisan 15
- ❧ Jesus was sentenced to be crucified around Noon Nisan 14

NT: Crucifixion Day



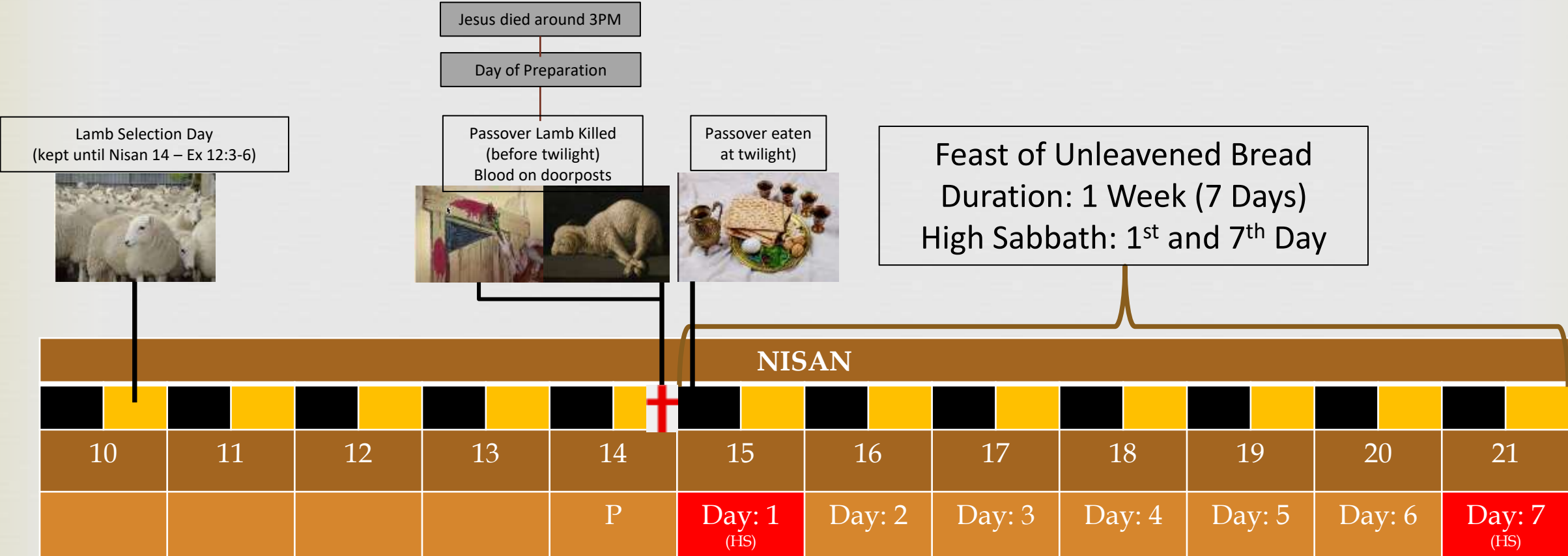
Matthew 27:45-54 (Jesus on the cross)

45 Now from the sixth hour (Noon Nisan 14) darkness fell upon all the land until the ninth hour (3pm Nisan 14). 46 About the ninth hour (~3pm Nisan 14) Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “ELI, ELI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?” that is, “MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?” 47 And some of those who were standing there, when they heard it, began saying, “This man is calling for Elijah.” 48 Immediately one of them ran, and taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink. 49 But the rest of them said, “Let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him.” 50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit (and died around 3pm Nisan 14).

☞ Darkness covered the land from Noon-3pm Nisan 14 (Fact)

☞ Jesus dies around 3pm Nisan 14 (Fact)

OT/NT: Passover (Crucifixion) Week



Q1: What month/day/time was Jesus crucified and died?



☞ With solely using Scripture:

ANSWER: Jesus died Passover Nisan 14 around 3pm (this is undisputable)

Q2: How long was Jesus in the tomb?



☞ Approach to answer this question:

- ☞ Use Scripture to define a biblical (or prophetic) day and night
- ☞ Use Jesus' own words to define how many days and nights

A Biblical Day



- ☞ Whenever day and night are used together, it is ALWAYS one full day
 - ☞ Day + Night = 1 full 24 hour day
- ☞ We'll look at both OT/NT examples...

OT: Biblical Day



Genesis 1:1-5

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. **And there was evening (night) and there was morning (day), one day (24 hours).**

☞ Day 1 (1st 24hr period):

☞ God created the heavens (solar system, galaxies, planets), earth (waters), separated light (day)/darkness (night), time

OT: Biblical Day



Genesis 1:6-8

6 Then God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” 7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. 8 God called the expanse heaven. **And there was evening (night) and there was morning (day), a second day (2nd 24 hour period).**

☞ Day 2 (2nd 24hr period):

☞ God created the earth's atmosphere, sky, separated waters (above/below)

OT: Biblical Day



Genesis 1:9-13

9 Then God said, “Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear”; and it was so. 10 God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good. 11 Then God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them”; and it was so. 12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. 13 **There was evening and there was morning, a third day (3rd 24hr period)**... etc.

☞ Day 3 (3rd 24hr period): God created seas, land, vegetation, plants, fruits... etc.

☞ Thus, in the creation account, God created the physical world/universe in 6 literal days!
☞ 6 days + 6 nights = 6 full days (6 x 24hr periods)
☞ Rested on the 7th day (blessed it and sanctified it)

OT: Biblical Day



Genesis 7:11-12 (Noah Flood account)

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened. 12 The rain fell upon the earth for **forty days and forty nights**.

☞ 40 days + 40 nights = 40 full days (40 x 24hr periods)

OT: Biblical Day



Exodus 24:18 (Moses on Mount Sinai to receive the 10 commandments on stone)
18 Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain **forty days and forty nights**.

☞ 40 days + 40 nights = 40 full days (40 x 24hr periods)

OT: Biblical Day



Job 2:11-13 (after Job lost everything and was afflicted with boils)

11 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this adversity that had come upon him, they came each one from his own place, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite; and they made an appointment together to come to sympathize with him and comfort him. 12 When they lifted up their eyes at a distance and did not recognize him, they raised their voices and wept. And each of them tore his robe and they threw dust over their heads toward the sky. 13 Then they sat down on the ground with him for **seven days and seven nights** with no one speaking a word to him, for they saw that his pain was very great.

☞ 7 days + 7 nights = 7 full days (7 x 24hr periods)

OT: Biblical Day



Jonah 1:17 (MAIN COURSE)

And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish **three days and three nights**.

☞ 3 days + 3 nights = 3 full days (3 x 24hr periods)

☞ The OT is clear on what defines a Biblical Day (1 day + 1 night = 1 full 24hr day)

☞ The NT is clear and consistent with this as well...

NT: Biblical Day



Matthew 4:1-2 (Jesus tempted in the wilderness)

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

2 And after He had fasted **forty days and forty nights**, He then became hungry.

☞ 40 days + 40 nights = 40 full days (40 x 24hr periods)

NT: Biblical Day



Matthew 12:38-40 (MAIN COURSE)

38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Him, “Teacher, we want to see a sign from You.” 39 But He answered and said to them, “An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; 40 for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

☞ Jonah was in the belly of the great fish: 3 full 24hr days

☞ Jesus said He too will be in the heart of the earth (grave): 3 full 24hr days!

NT: Biblical Day



- ❧ But someone might say, well Jesus also said "on the third day":
Matthew 17:22-23 (Jesus after casting out a demon and telling His disciples they lacked faith in doing so themselves)
22 And while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men; 23 and they will kill Him, and He will be raised **on the third day.**"
- ❧ Using Scripture to interpret itself, let's again refer to the creation account
 - ❧ And there was evening and morning **the first day** (after 1 full 24hr day)
 - ❧ And there was evening and morning **the second day** (after 2 full 24hr days)
 - ❧ And there was evening and morning **the third day** (after 3 full 24hr days)
- ❧ "on the third day" = after 3 full 24hr days!

NT: Biblical Day



✧ Jesus's enemies wasn't confused with His "3 full days" claim

Matthew 27:62-64 (the Jewish authorities approached Pilate after Jesus's burial)

62 Now on the next day (Nisan 15), the day after the preparation (Nisan 14), the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, 63 and said, "Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I am to rise again.' 64 Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day (or the completion of 3 full 24hr days), otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first."

✧ "after three days" = "the third day"

Q2: How long was Jesus in the tomb?



☞ Approach to answer this question:

☞ Using Scripture to define prophetic day and night:

☞ 1 day + 1 night = 1 full day

☞ Using Jesus' own words to define how many days and nights

☞ 3 days + 3 nights = 3 full days

ANSWER: Jesus was in the tomb 3 full days + 3 full nights or 3 full 24hr days! (this is undisputable)

Q3: What month/day/time did Jesus rise from the dead?

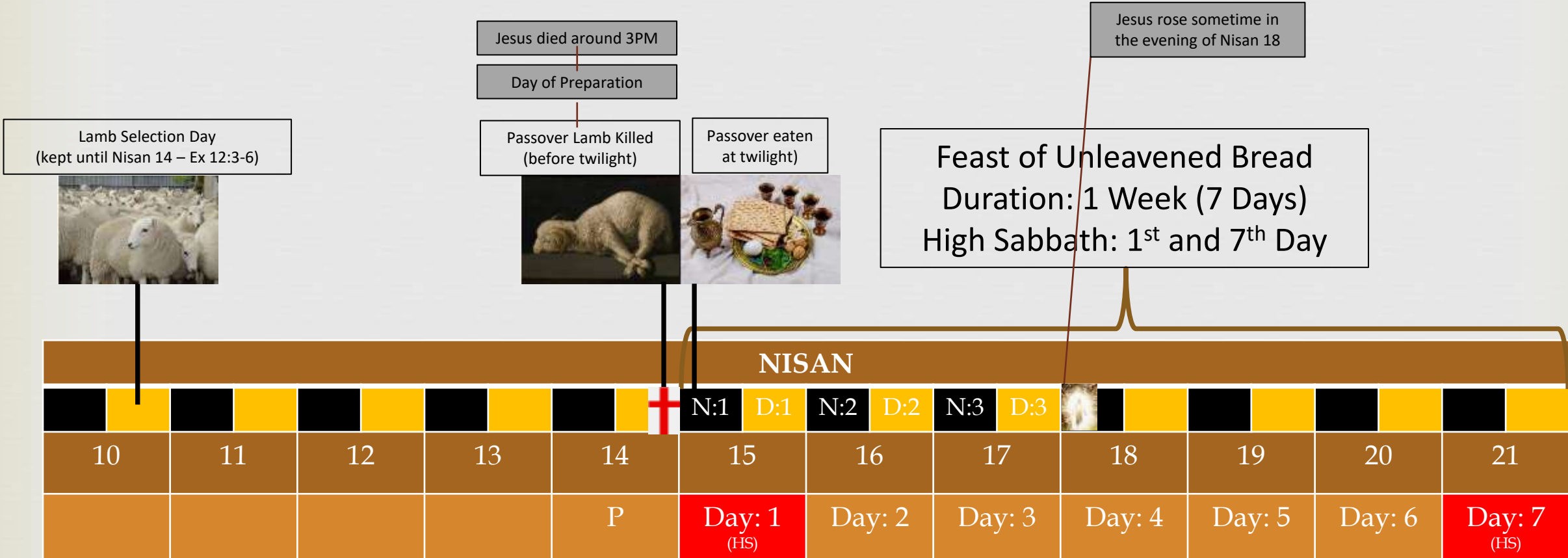


☞ Taking the answers from Q1 and Q2:

☞ Start with Passover Nisan 14

☞ Count 3 full days (3 days + 3 nights) after Nisan 14

OT/NT: Passover (Crucifixion) Week



Q3: What month/day/time did Jesus rise from the dead?



☞ Now that the hard work is done:

☞ Start with Passover Nisan 14

☞ Count 3 days + 3 nights (3 full 24hr days) after Nisan 14

ANSWER: Jesus rose on Nisan 18 sometime that night (this is undisputable)

Q4: Which day of the week did He die and rise?



☞ Approach to answer this question:

☞ Rely on gospel accounts

☞ The timing the women bought and prepared spices and observed the Sabbaths

☞ Then we'll update our diagram

Q4: Which day of the week did He die and rise?



Mark 16:1 (after Jesus's burial)

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him.

☞ Clue #1: The women bought spices after a Sabbath (but which Sabbath?)

Q4: Which day of the week did He die and rise?



Luke 23:50-56 (after Jesus died and still on the cross)

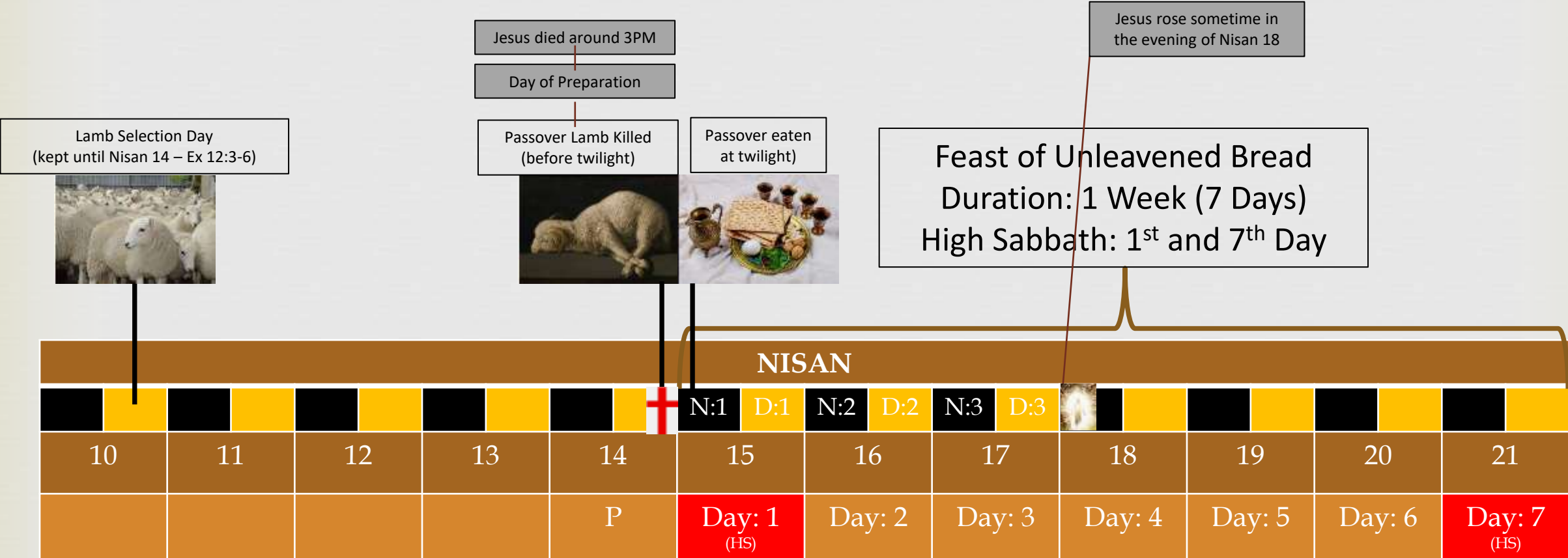
50 And a man named Joseph, who was a member of the Council, a good and righteous man 51 (he had not consented to their plan and action), a man from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who was waiting for the kingdom of God; 52 this man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. 53 And he took it down and wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid Him in a tomb cut into the rock, where no one had ever lain. 54 It was the preparation day (Nisan 14), and the Sabbath (high sabbath Nisan 15 – Day 1 of Unleavened Bread) was about to begin. 55 Now the women who had come with Him out of Galilee followed, and saw the tomb and how His body was laid. 56 Then they returned and prepared spices and perfumes.

And on the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

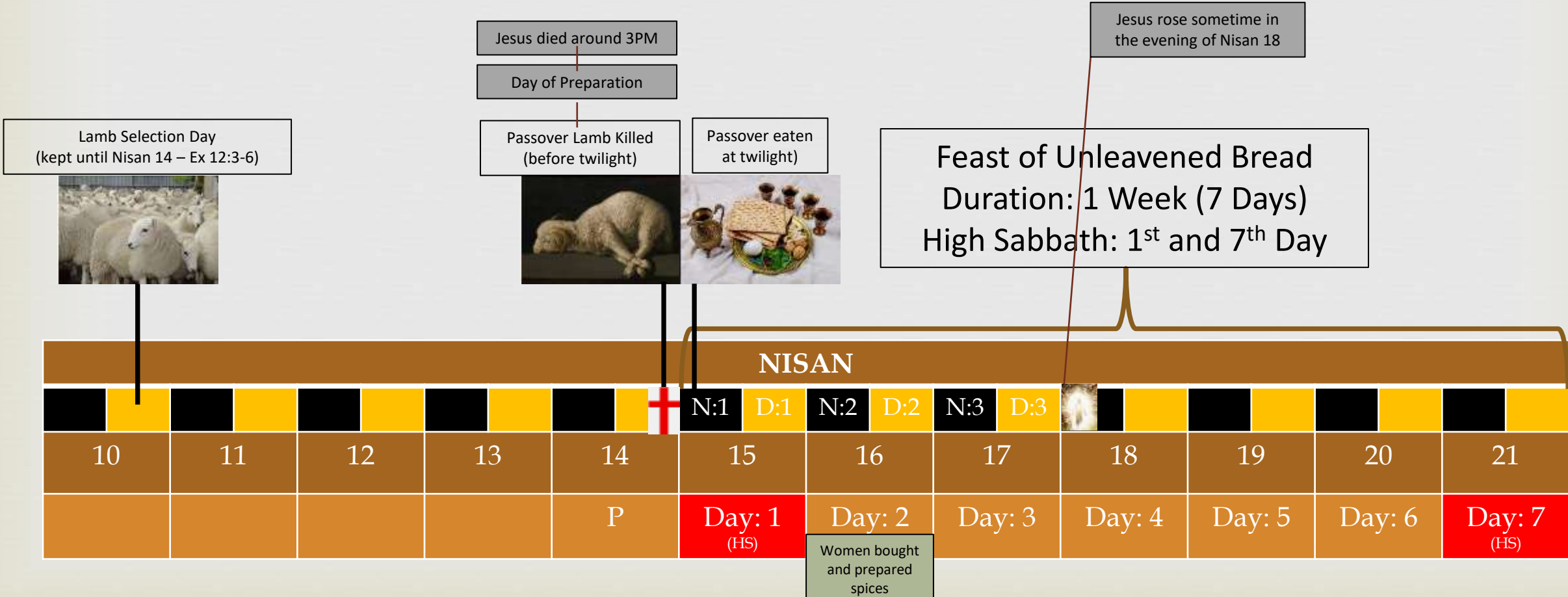
- ❧ Clue #2: The women prepared spices/perfumes before a sabbath
- ❧ Put Clues #1 & #2 together:
 - ❧ The women must have bought and prepared spices between 2 Sabbaths:
 - ❧ Nisan 15: A high sabbath (1st Day of Unleavened Bread)
 - ❧ Nisan 16: bought and prepared spices
 - ❧ Nisan 17: a weekly sabbath (rested according to the commandment)

Now let's add this to our chart...

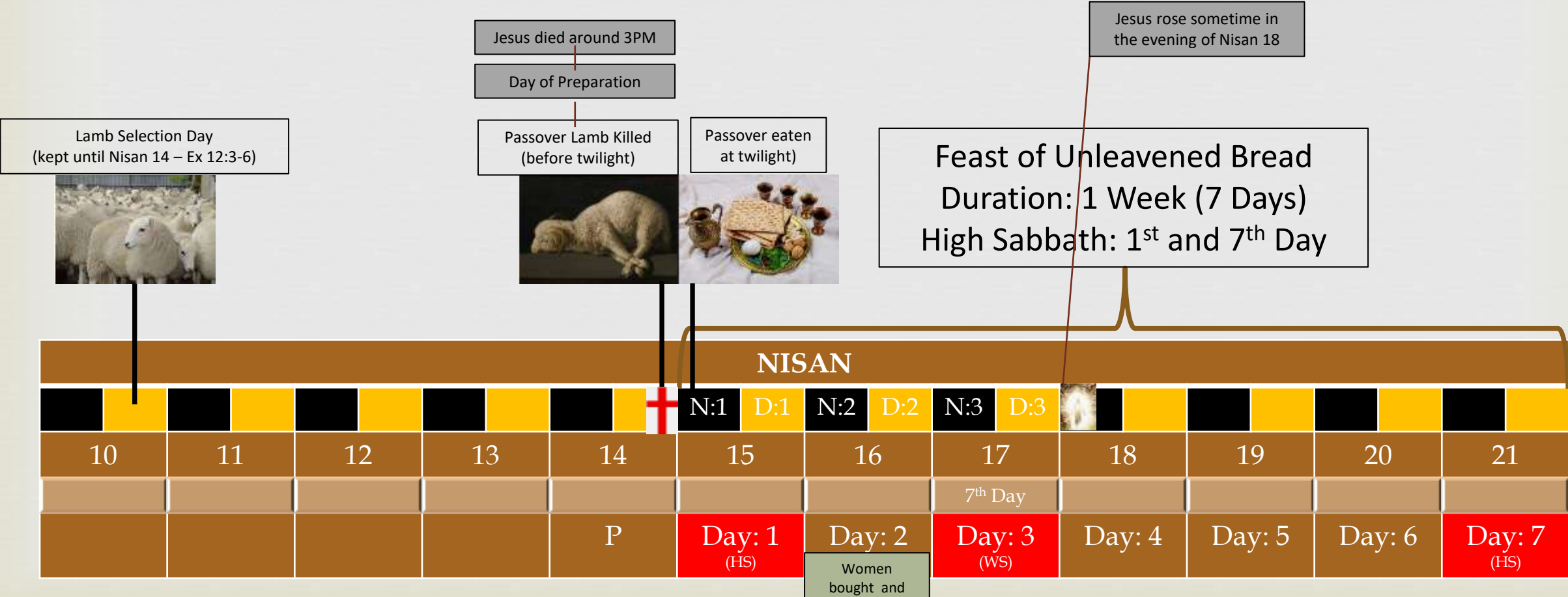
OT/NT: Passover (Crucifixion) Week



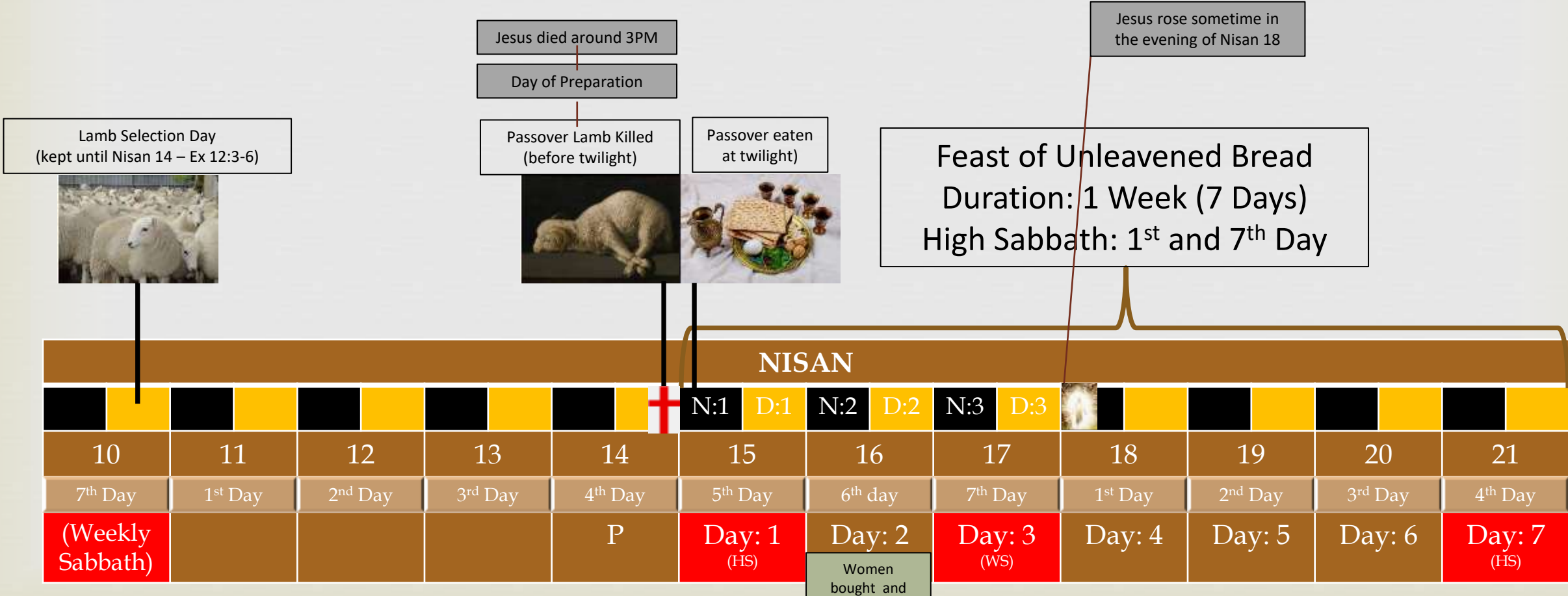
OT/NT: Passover (Crucifixion) Week



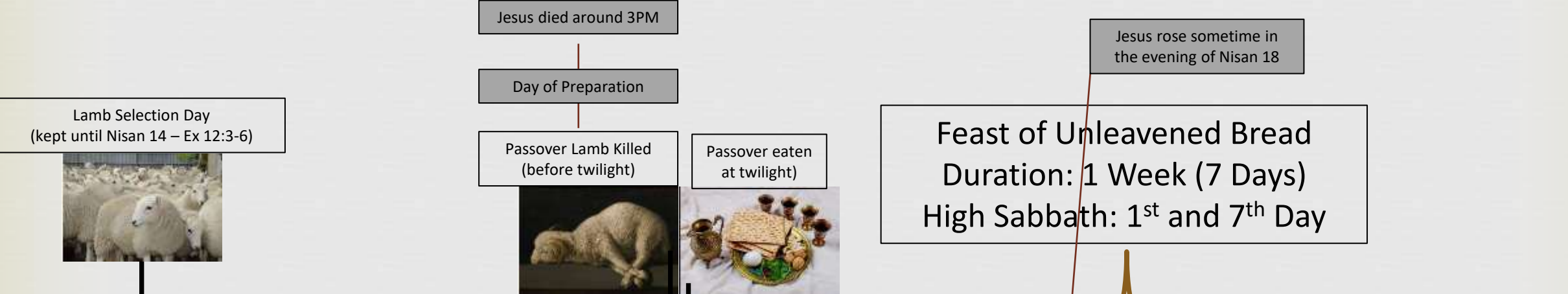
OT/NT: Passover (Crucifixion) Week



OT/NT: Passover (Crucifixion) Week



OT/NT: Passover (Crucifixion) Week



NISAN												
						+	N:1	D:1	N:2	D:2	N:3	D:3
										Fri Night	Sat Day	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
7 th Day	1 st Day	2 nd Day	3 rd Day	4 th Day	5 th Day	6 th day	7 th Day	1 st Day	2 nd Day	3 rd Day	4 th Day	
(Weekly Sabbath)				P	Day: 1 (HS)	Day: 2 (Women bought)	Day: 3 (WS)	Day: 4	Day: 5	Day: 6	Day: 7 (HS)	

Q4: Which day of the week did He die and rise?



- ✧ When considering the timing of the women buying and preparing spices between 2 Sabbaths, we can confidently say:
- ✧ ANSWER: Jesus rose on the 1st day of the week Nisan 18 (Sat Night)!
- ✧ The tomb was already empty when the women visited that early morning!

Summary so far...



- ☞ When we pull it all together, we can confidently say:
 - ☞ **Wednesday Nisan 14 around 3PM:** Jesus was crucified and died
 - ☞ **Thursday Nisan 15 – Saturday (day) Nisan 17:** Jesus was in the tomb
 - ☞ **Saturday (night) Nisan 18:** Jesus rose from the dead!
 - ☞ **Sunday (morning) Nisan 18:** tomb was found empty!

- ☞ All of the above is indisputable!

Q5: What year did Jesus die and rise?



- Now that all of the hard work is done, we can finally answer our last question...
 - All we need to find out is when was Nisan 14 on a Wednesday, etc.
 - Use a Hebrew/Gregorian calendar converter
 - Let the chips fall where it may...

Two Possible Dates

https://www.hebcal.com/converter?gd=2&gm=4&gy=2021&g2h=1



14th of Nisan, 3787 = **Wed, 7 April 0027**

י"ד בְּנִיָּסָן תשפ"ז

Ta'anit Bechorot
Erev Pesach

Convert from Gregorian to Hebrew

Day: 7 | Month: April | Year: 27 | After sunset | [Convert to Hebrew](#)

Convert from Hebrew to Gregorian

Day: 14 | Month: Nisan | Year: 3787 | [Convert to Gregorian](#)

14th of Nisan, 3790 = **Wed, 3 April 0030**

י"ד בְּנִיָּסָן תש"צ

Ta'anit Bechorot
Erev Pesach

Convert from Gregorian to Hebrew

Day: 3 | Month: April | Year: 30 | After sunset | [Convert to Hebrew](#)

Convert from Hebrew to Gregorian

Day: 14 | Month: Nisan | Year: 3790 | [Convert to Gregorian](#)

Other Clues from Scripture



- ❧ Luke tells us that both John the Baptist and Jesus began their ministry in the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar (Lk 3:1)
- ❧ Tiberius Caesar had 2 reigns:
 - ❧ Co-reigned with Augustus: 11/12 AD
 - ❧ Solely reigned: 14AD-37AD
- ❧ Add 15 years to both:
 - ❧ 26/27 AD (possible year Jesus started ministry)
 - ❧ 29 AD (possible year Jesus started ministry)

Other Clues from Scripture



- ❧ Jesus was around 30 (Lk 3:23) when He began His ministry and it lasted 3 ½ years
 - ❧ 26/27 AD + 3 ½ years = 29/30 AD (possible crucifixion year)
 - ❧ 29 AD = 3 ½ years = 32/33 AD (possible crucifixion year)
- ❧ So that brings us to 4 possible crucifixion years: 29, 30, 32, 33AD
- ❧ The next question is, which of these years does Nisan 14 fall on a Wednesday?

Other Clues from Scripture



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 - ✧ 26/27 AD + 3 ½ years = 29/30 AD (possible crucifixion year)
 - ✧ 29 AD = 3 ½ years = 32/33 AD (possible crucifixion year)
- ✧ So that brings us to 4 possible crucifixion years: 29, 30, 32, 33AD
- ✧ The next question is, which of these years does Nisan 14 fall on a Wednesday?
- ✧ Answer: just 1! AD 30!
- ✧ So we can safely narrow our two possible dates to just one!

~~Two~~ One Possible Dates



14th of Nisan, 3787 = **Wed, 7 April 0027**

י"ד בְּנִיֶסָן תשפ"ז

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Erev Pesach

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Ta'anit Bechorot
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Convert from Hebrew to Gregorian

Day: 14, Month: Nisan, Year: 3790, [Convert to Gregorian](#)

Q5. What year did Jesus die and rise?



- ❧ Now that all of the hard work is done, we can finally answer our last question...
 - ❧ All we need to find out is when was Nisan 14 on a Wednesday, etc.
 - ❧ Use a Hebrew/Gregorian calendar converter
 - ❧ Let the chips fall where it may...

- ❧ ANSWER: Jesus died in AD 30!

Date of Jesus's Death and Resurrection



- ✧ Is Nisan 14 AD 30 corroborated by historians? Yes!
- ✧ Jim Liles in his article titled “Historical Basis for believing Jesus was crucified in AD 30” cites historians Julius Africanus, Thallus, Phlegon, and Origen as having mentioned a three hour period of darkness that does not have a scientific explanation that occurred on when?

Date of Jesus's Death and Resurrection



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- ✧ Jim Liles in his article titled "Historical Basis for believing Jesus was crucified in AD 30" cites historians Julius Africanus, Thallus, Phlegon, and Origen as having mentioned a three hour period of darkness that does not have a scientific explanation that occurred on when?
 - ✧ Nisan 14 AD 30!

Julius Africanus (221AD), writing about the historian Thallus (52AD) states:

"Upon the whole world there came a most fearful darkness. Many rocks were split in two by an earthquake, and many places in Judea and other districts were thrown down."

The Roman historian Phlegon (born 80AD) is mentioned by early theologian Origen (born 184AD) who describes a darkening of the sun in the eighteenth year of Tiberius. What date would that be?

- ✧ Nisan 14 AD 30!

Date of Jesus's Death and Resurrection



- ❧ So all in all we can now confidently argue the following dates as biblical and historical:
 - ❧ **Nisan 14 AD 30:** Jesus was crucified and died
 - ❧ Wednesday afternoon probably April 3rd
 - ❧ **Nisan 18 AD 30:** Jesus rose from the dead!
 - ❧ Saturday night probably April 6th

- ❧ Not dogmatic about month/day, but can be dogmatic about year!
 - ❧ Taking into consideration:
 - ❧ 1st Roman census when Quirinius was Governor of Syria
 - ❧ Placing the birth of Christ: 5/4BC
 - ❧ Placing start of Jesus's ministry: 26/27AD
 - ❧ 15th year of Tiberius
 - ❧ Lasted 3 ½ years
 - ❧ Placing the crucifixion on: Wednesday Nisan 14 (undisputable)
 - ❧ Which is why we can be dogmatic about: AD 30!

This is why...



This was titled Good Wednesday!
Because there was nothing
“good” about Good Friday! 😊