

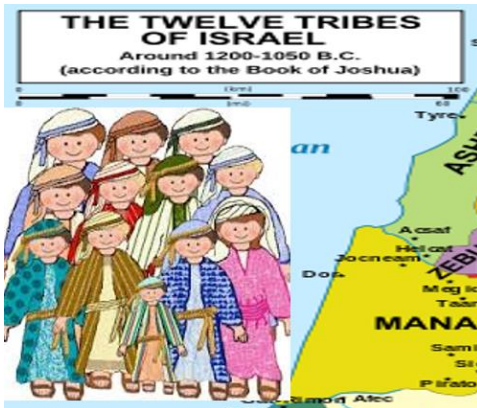
JAMES A BROTHER OF JESUS

(PAST SESSIONS REVIEW)

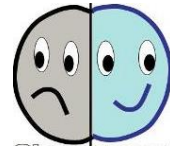
We looked at James history as a brother of Jesus and leader in the church



We considered the 12 tribes and 10 lost tribes

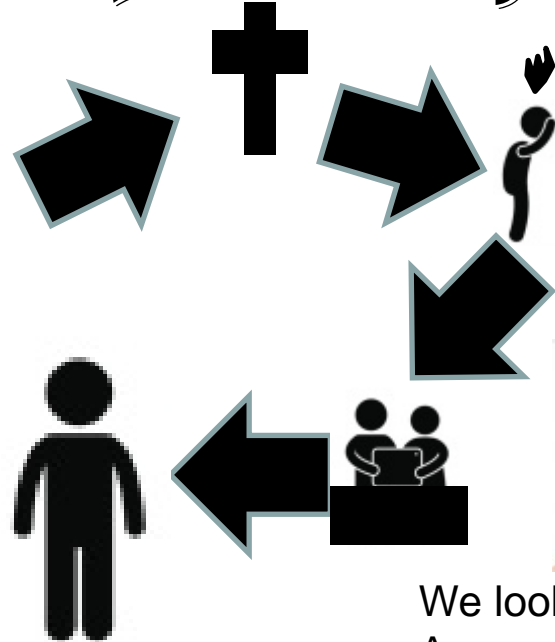
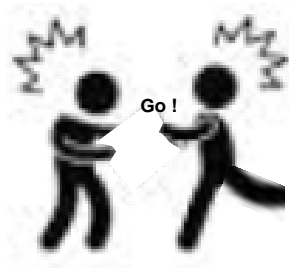


We looked belief that is not double-minded



we looked wisdom from God that is not IQ or schooling ...and learned that the fear[respect] of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge

We looked at "obey" and what it means.



we considered humility and pride and the fact that life is not easy but we do it with faith in God

We asked.... **Do the people in our community believe we live with Integrity for Jesus sake!**

We looked at Anger and Words

We considered how to bring back people wandering from truth and reviewed Noah the movie



Moving to a new topic....

EASTER

Where does the term **Easter** come from?

**Nothing to do with
JESUS**

The modern English term *Easter*, cognate with modern German *Ostern*, developed from the Old English word *Ēastre* or *Ēostre*. This is generally held to have originally referred to the name of an Anglo-Saxon goddess, *Ēostre*, a form of the widely attested Indo-European dawn goddess

Eástre (1909) by Jacques Reich. Directly derived from Gehrts' image (above), with the addition of Germanic worshipers replaced by a picturesque landscape



Did the Church use this word?

In Greek and Latin, the Christian celebration was and is called Πάσχα, **Pascha**, words derived, through Aramaic, from the Hebrew term **Pesach** (פֶּסַח), known in English as **Passover**, which originally denoted the Jewish festival commemorating the story of the Exodus.[29][30]

Already in the 50s of the 1st century, Paul, writing from Ephesus to the Christians in Corinth,[applied the term to Christ, and it is **unlikely that the Ephesian and Corinthian Christians were the first to hear Exodus 12 interpreted as speaking about the death of Jesus, not just about the Jewish Passover ritual.** In most of the non-English speaking world, the feast is known by names derived from Greek and Latin Pascha
~wikipedia

Early Christianity made a pragmatic move doing replacement of ancient pagan practices with Christian.

What is the most common modern **mis-understood** aspect of Easter in the Church?

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.

(Jesus speaking!)

Our faith is based on a major falsehood, or
is it?

3 days or 2 days

The Bible Says...

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.**

(Jesus speaking!)

Matthew 26:55 The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward and declared, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in **three days.**’”

The Bible Says...

Matthew 27:39-41 Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in **three days**, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!”

Matthew 27:62-64 The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. “Sir,” they said, “we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the **third day**. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first.”

Many Christian's seem to ignore a fact
that is central to their faith,

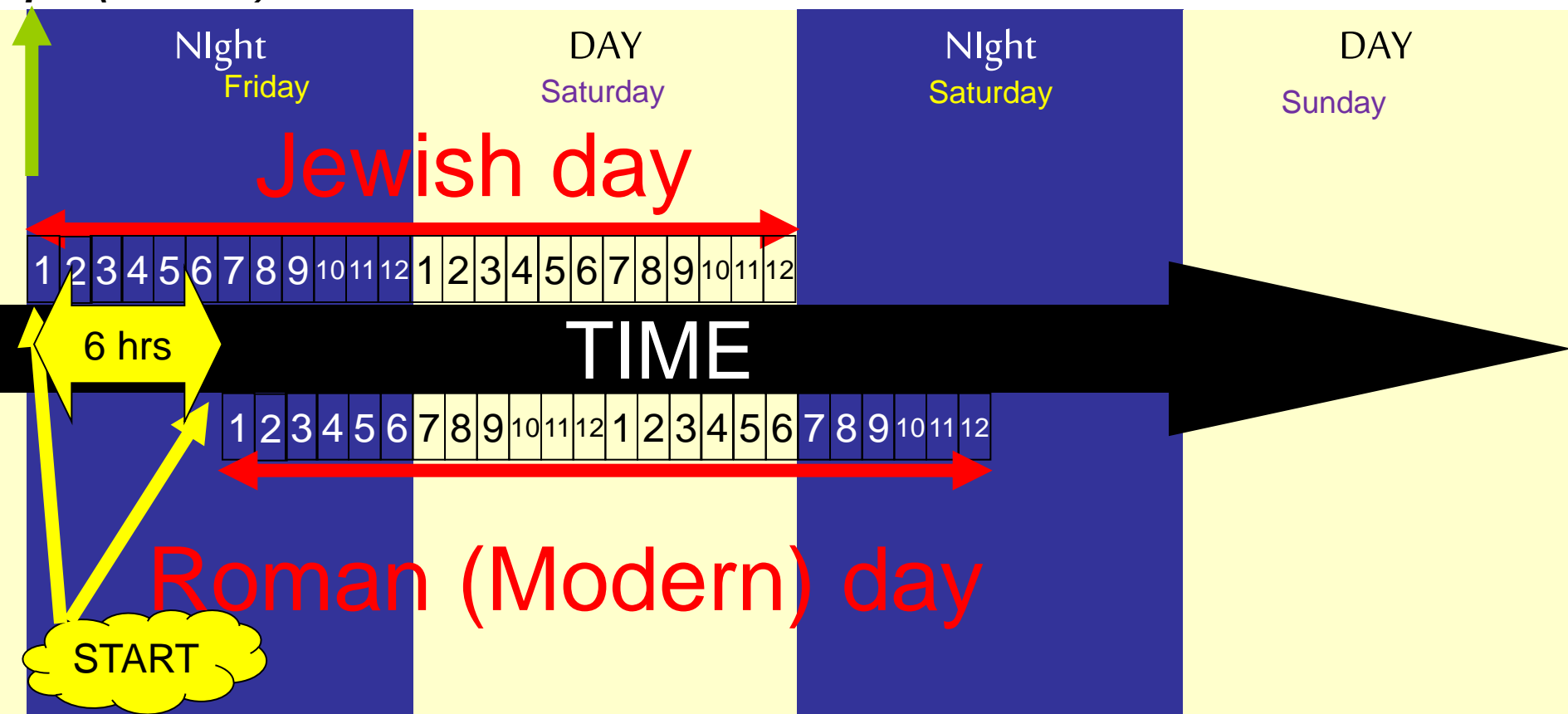
if Jesus died Good Friday afternoon
and rose Easter Sunday morning

he wasn't in the grave 3 days
(ancient or modern!)

Let's follow Jesus' walk to the cross

- Let us start with the difference between Jewish days and Roman (modern days)

6pm (modern)



SABBATH

- Leviticus 3:23
- There are six days when you may work, but the seventh day is a day of sabbath rest, a day of sacred assembly. You are not to do any work; wherever you live, it is a sabbath to the LORD.

SPECIAL SABBATH

- John 19:31
- Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a **special Sabbath**. Because the Jewish leaders 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.

The guards posted on the day after the day of preparation ...

- The next day, the **one after Preparation Day**, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. “Sir,” they said, “**we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise again.’** So give the order for the **tomb to be made secure until the third day**. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first.” “Take a guard,” Pilate answered. “Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how.” **So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.**

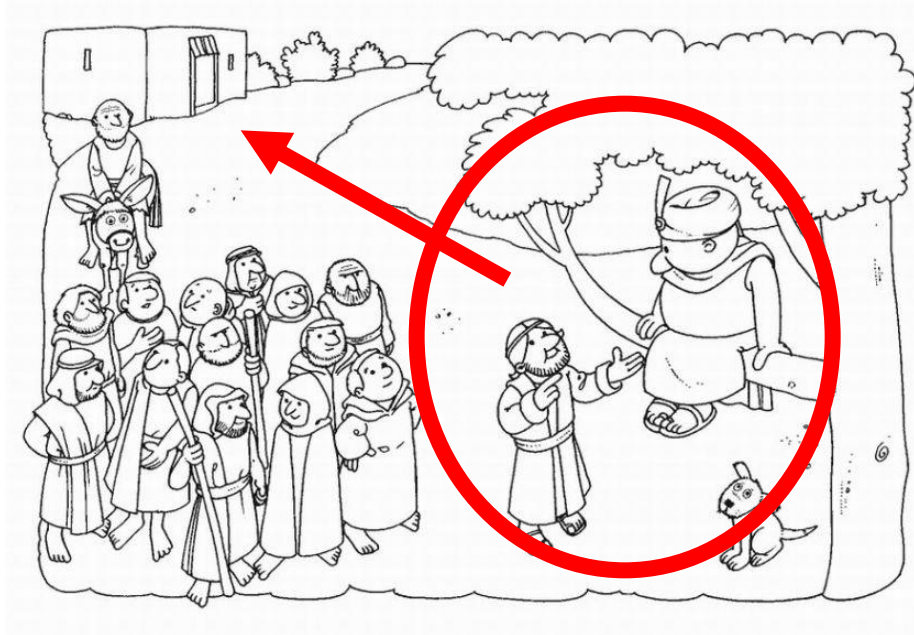


THURSDAY

So let's look at
that calendar
from bible
events again

...

Nissan 8 (Thu): From
the bible Jesus spends
the **Thursday before at**
Zaccheus' home
in Jericho, (Nissan 8 is
Jewish first month day
8),[Luke 19:1-21]



When Jesus reached the spot, he
looked up and said to him,
“Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I
must stay at your house today.” So he
came down at once and welcomed him
gladly.

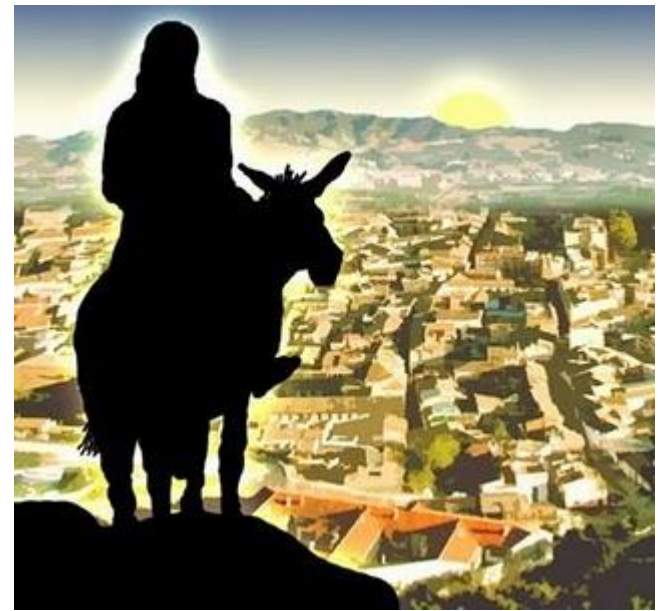
So let's look at
that calendar
from bible
events again ...

Nissan 9 (Fri): Jesus
goes to Jerusalem [Matt
21:1-15]

FRIDAY

A very large crowd spread their
cloaks on the road, while others
cut branches from the trees and
spread them on the road. The
crowds that went ahead of him
and those that followed
shouted,
“Hosanna to the Son of
David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in
the name of the Lord!”
“Hosanna in the highest
heaven!”



When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the
whole city was stirred and asked, “Who
is this?”

The crowds answered, “This is Jesus,
the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

So let's look at
that calendar
from bible
events again ...

SATURDAY

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Nissan 10 (Sat): He
spends Sabbath in
Bethany [Mark 11:11]

Sabbath

DOESN'T
DO ANYTHING ...
RESTING



So let's look at
that calendar
from bible
events again ...

Nissan 12 (Sun):

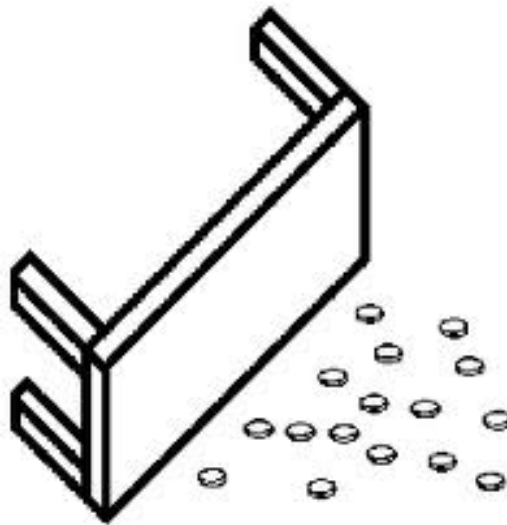
Mark 11

The fig tree cursed!
Jerusalem overturned
traders tables, Temple
teaching, back to
Bethany

SUNDAY



The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. Then he said to the tree, “**May no one ever eat fruit from you again.**” And his disciples heard him say it



On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.

Verse 19: When evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

So let's look at
that calendar
from bible
events again ...

Nissan 12 (Mon):

Mark 11

The fig tree has withered!
Jesus authority, teach in
temple, goes to Mt
Olives, back to Bethany,
anointed



**Jesus
anointed**

MONDAY



They arrived again in Jerusalem,

As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?"

MARK 14: Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away

While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and **poured the perfume on his head.**

In the morning, as they went along, they saw **the fig tree withered from the roots.** Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!"

TUESDAY

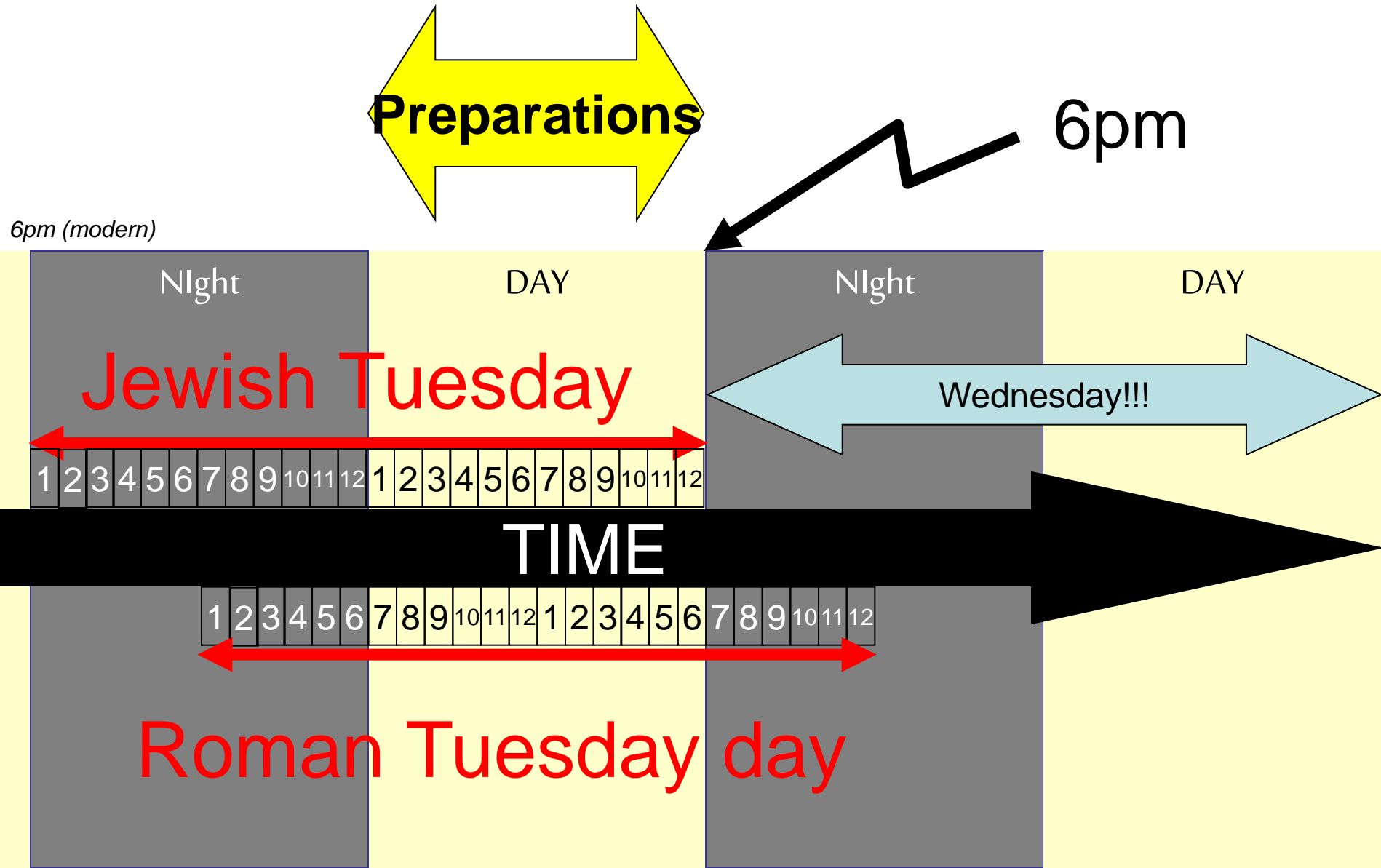
So let's look at
that calendar
from bible
events again ...

Nissan 13 (Tues):
Preparation for the
passover Mark 14:12

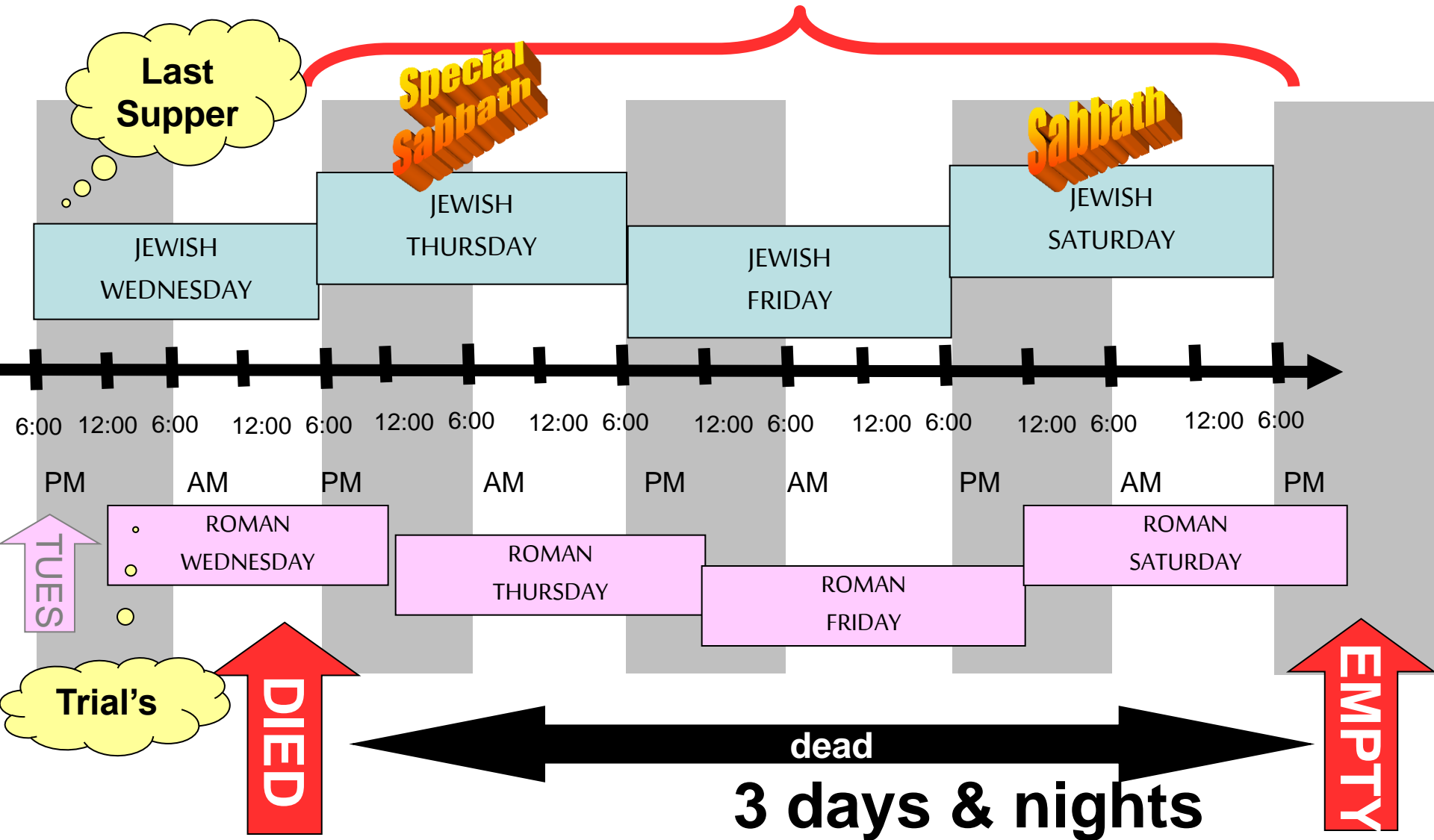
On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

**Preparation for the
passover
during the day
of Tuesday!**

TUESDAY PREPARATIONS



BIBLICAL THINKING OF “THREE DAYS” ***is RIGHT, there are THREE!***



What does this mean?

Let's be aware that
TRADITION
is not
TRUTH!
Only the bible provides truth,
our churches interpret the bible
sometimes badly!)

TEST traditional beliefs against GOD's word
And don't be scared, we cannot disprove GOD!

*Now you can answer the challenge
to a central tenet
of our faith,
wisely!*

Yet Easter is more than knowledge isn't it?

It is a message that we walk with many times in our life?

Jesus goes towards a desperate situation...

He went a little farther. Then he fell with his face to the ground. He prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, take this cup of suffering away from me. But let what you want be done, not what I want."

All fail him..

Right away a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said. "The rooster will crow," Jesus had told him. "Before it does, you will say three times that you don't know me." Peter went outside. He broke down and sobbed.

He is killed..

After Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, he died

DESPAIR

Ever been in these times ?

It is a message that we walk many times in our life?

We are in a desperate
situation...

? Sure you can think of a few ?

DESPAIR

Others fail us..

? Rejected ? Self-hate ? Alone ?

Death is potential or
occurs around us...

? Others ? Ourselves ?
? Spiritual ? Physical ?

EASTER MESSAGE - JESUS UNDERSTANDS

Yet Easter is more than knowledge isn't it?

It is a message that we walk with many times in our life?

Those against Jesus
waited...

“Take some guards with you,” Pilate answered. “Go. Make the tomb as secure as you can.” ⁶⁶ So they went and made the tomb secure. They put a seal on the stone and placed some guards on duty.

WAITING

His friends and followers
waited...

The Sabbath day was now over. It was dawn on the first day of the week. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

He waited..

He lay dead in the tomb

Ever been in these times ?

Have we ever?

Had people waiting for us
to screw up...

WAITING

Have friends and
followers waiting for us to
do something...

Had to wait ourselves..

After terrible or tough
times, God knows we need
a pause, a time of waiting.

The best way to deal with
these times are to trust
God and pray.

Let God know how we feel
and wait for Holy Spirits
guidance.

*It is not necessarily true "that "time
heals", but it does give us a perspective
and softens the pain and the memories.*

EASTER MESSAGE - JESUS UNDERSTANDS

Yet Easter is more than knowledge isn't it?

It is a message that we walk many times in our life?

Those against Jesus
were defeated...

There was a powerful earthquake. An angel of the Lord came down from heaven. The angel went to the tomb. He rolled back the stone and sat on it. His body shone like lightning. His clothes were as white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

His friends and followers
rewarded...

So the women hurried away from the tomb. They were afraid, but they were filled with joy. They ran to tell the disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings!" he said.

Jesus is alive in a new
way..

Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee. There they will see me."

HOPE

Ever been in these times?

Those against us are defeated...

We are victorious after the wait and come through the despair, through the waiting into a **new hope and understanding.**

Our friends and followers rewarded...

The experience changes us and we become wiser, deeper and more caring people. More able to do God's work. We see the power of God around us.

HOPE

Our life is changed and we become alive in a new way..

Jesus and Holy Spirit changes us. Life that seems dry, filled with pain and suffering is changed, to become alive, vibrant. Even sorry is seen for what it is, ...a tempering of our souls to make us grow spiritually from strength to strength. We see that circumstances can be used in two ways. To pull us down..., or build us up... **and choose to be built up!**

³⁰ But many who are first will be last. And many who are last will be first.

*Do we understand a little of what
Jesus was getting at when he said
that?*

A time is coming....

Then I saw a scroll in the right hand of the One sitting on the throne. The scroll had writing on both sides. It was sealed with seven seals.

² I saw a mighty angel calling out in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?” ³ But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll. No one could even look inside it.

⁴ I cried and cried because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside.

⁵ Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not cry! The Lion of the tribe of Judah has won the battle. He is the Root of David. He is able to break the seven seals and open the scroll.”

~Revelation 5:1-10

⁶ Then I saw a Lamb that looked as if he had been put to death. He stood in the center of the area around the throne. The Lamb was surrounded by the four living creatures and the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes. The eyes stand for the seven spirits of God, which are sent out into all the earth.

⁷ The Lamb came and took the scroll from the right hand of the One sitting on the throne. ⁸ Then the four living creatures and the 24 elders fell down in front of the Lamb. Each one had a harp. They were holding golden bowls full of incense, which stand for the prayers of God's people.

⁹ Here is the new song they sang.

“You are worthy to take the scroll
and break open its seals.

You are worthy because you were put to death.

With your blood you bought people for God.

They come from every tribe, language, people and nation.

¹⁰ You have made them members of a royal family.

You have made them priests to serve our God.

They will rule on the earth.”

~Revelation 5:1-10

Are the Seven spirits of God here helping us this Easter...

Some ideas...

1. Refer to Holy Spirit
2. Isaiah 11:2

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord

- 1) Spirit of the LORD,
- 2) Spirit of wisdom,
- 3) Spirit of understanding,
- 4) Spirit of counsel,
- 5) Spirit of power,
- 6) Spirit of knowledge,
- 7) (Spirit of the fear of the Lord.

Let's accept Jesus Easter message that
tradition is not as important as truth...

That life goes through cycles...
despair...
waiting...
and hope...

¹² Now we see only a dim likeness of
things. It is as if we were seeing them in a
mirror. But someday we will see clearly. We
will see face to face. What I know now is
not complete. But someday I will know
completely, just as God knows me
completely.

¹³ The three most important things to have
are faith, hope and love.

But the greatest of them is love.

Know
God
Loves
you
dearly!