

THE HEBREW CALENDAR POINTS TO THE YEAR OF THE DEATH OF CHRIST

By Marie Casale
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Jesus' ministry began with his baptism by John the Baptist in the fall of 26 AD. He died three and a half years later in the spring of 30 AD. The Jubilee Year of 28 AD marked the middle of the ministry of Jesus, and it was also the middle of a **week of seven thousand years**. Seven thousand years is God's broad timetable from the creation of the world to the end of the millennial reign of Christ to work out his entire plan for mankind. The Jubilee year of 28 AD marked the four thousandth year of those seven thousand. See the Sabbath Jubilee Chart Creation To Present <http://www.marieslibrary.com/5Correct.htm>

The Seventy Weeks Prophecy (Dan 9:24-27), written hundreds of years before Christ, reveals that Jesus would die in the middle of a **week of seven years**. The seventy weeks began in the year 457 BC. Sixty-nine and one-half of the Seventy weeks ended in 30 AD. See study on the Seventy Weeks Prophecy <http://www.marieslibrary.com/6Theories.htm>

Finally, calculation of the Hebrew calendar will show that Jesus died in the middle of a **week of seven days**.

THE DOCTRINE THAT THE CRUCIFIXION OCCURRED ON: FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 33 AD

Most Christian churches teach that Jesus was crucified on Good Friday and rose from the dead on Easter Sunday morning. They believe Jesus died in 33 AD since in that year Passover occurred on a Friday. They see the preparation day as the day before the weekly Sabbath. They count Friday as Day 1, Saturday as Day 2 and Sunday as Day 3.

1. The doctrine of 33 AD cannot harmonize with the fact that Jesus said he would be three days and three nights in the tomb because three days and three nights cannot fit between Friday and Sunday morning. So they see what Jesus said as a metaphor, not as literal.
2. The doctrine of 33 AD cannot harmonize with the Seventy Weeks Prophecy. Sixty-nine and one-half of the Seventy weeks ended in 30 AD. 33 AD would bring the crucifixion to almost the end of the seventieth week.
3. The doctrine of 33 AD does not harmonize with the reign of Herod the Great in whose reign Jesus was born. Herod died in the spring of 4 BC. Therefore Jesus was born in the fall of 5 BC. If his death were in 33 AD, this would make Jesus 36 years old. Or, to make his death at 33 years old where it is supposed to be, his birth would have to be moved up several years and past the death of Herod. (See study on Herod the Great.) (See also the study on the Star of Bethlehem that tells how some have attempted to move the date of Herod's death.)

4. The doctrine of 33 AD does not harmonize with the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar when Jesus was baptized at about thirty years of age. (whether you count Tiberius's co-regent years with Augustus or not) (See the study on Tiberius Caesar.)

THE DOCTRINE THAT THE CRUCIFIXION OCCURRED ON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 31 AD

The doctrine that prevails in many of the Churches of God today is that Jesus died on a Wednesday Passover in 31 AD. They recognize that a Wednesday Passover is important to establish that Jesus died in the 'middle of a week of seven days'. They also recognize that a Wednesday Passover is important for Jesus to fulfill his prophecy that he would be literally three days and three nights in the tomb. However, the problem with 31 AD is that according to the calculation of the Hebrew calendar, it had a Monday, not a Wednesday Passover. Then why does the Church of God believe 31 AD had a Wednesday Passover?

This doctrine was introduced into the Worldwide Church of God by Dr. Herman Hoeh in the 1970's. It impressively showed a parallel between the founding of the New Testament Church (said to be in 31 AD) and the founding of the Worldwide or Radio Church of God in 1931 AD, asserting that there were exactly 100 19-year time cycles (1900 years) between the founding of the two churches.

See Tomorrow's World Feb 1972

Personal From Herbert Armstrong

[http://www.herbert-armstrong.org/Tomorrows%20World%201969-72/Tomorrows%20World%201972%20\(Vol%20IV%20No%2002\)%20Feb.pdf](http://www.herbert-armstrong.org/Tomorrows%20World%201969-72/Tomorrows%20World%201972%20(Vol%20IV%20No%2002)%20Feb.pdf)

For a detailed explanation of this doctrine, see *The Calendar of Christ and the Apostles*, by Carl Franklin, *Chapter Six*

<http://www.multifaiths.com/pdf/calofchristpart1revised.pdf>

This doctrine changes the leap-year sequence in the calculation of the Hebrew calendar. The calendar we use today was published by Hillel II during his tenure in the Sanhedrin 320-385 AD. It places leap years at years 3, 6, 8, 11, 14, 17 and 19 of a 19-year cycle. Dr. Hoeh introduced an intercalary cycle with leap years 2, 5, 7, 10, 13, 16 and 18 in its place for years before 142 AD when the change supposedly occurred. This change would not affect the calculation of Holy days today, but it did affect the years of Jesus. Dr. Hoeh's intercalary cycle classified 30 AD as a leap year (year 10 of the cycle having 385 days). The additional month that was added to 30 AD moved the date of Passover in 31 AD from its correct date of Monday, March 26, to Wednesday, April 25.

The church members never questioned this doctrine since in general they had no knowledge about how to calculate the calendar. Hence, the false assumption that the crucifixion of Christ took place on a Wednesday Passover in 31 AD persists today in the Churches of God.

In order to see that the calculation of 31 AD will give a Monday, not a Wednesday Passover, see Biblical Holy Day Calendar Calculator of the Christian Biblical Church of God and type in 31 AD. (This calendar calculator does use the postponement rules.)

<http://www.cbcg.org/Calendar/index.html>

For those who would like to see the calendar calculated manually, I have created a *Hebrew Calendar Workbook for calculating 30 and 31 AD*.

<http://www.marieslibrary.com/HTML%20Articles/JesusDiedCalendarWorkbook30-31AD.htm>

Thus you can see the process step by step that 31 AD does calculate out to a Monday Passover.

30 AD Nisan Year 3790							30 AD March/April						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3					23	24	25
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
25	26	27	28	29	30		16	17	18	19	20	21	
Wednesday, Nisan 14, Passover Thursday, Nisan 15, 1 st Day Unleavened Bread Wednesday Nisan 21, 7 th Day Unleavened Bread							Wednesday, April 5, Passover Thursday, April 6, 1 st Day Unleavened Bread Wednesday, April 12, 7 th Day Unleavened Bread						

31 AD Nisan Year 3791							31 AD March/April						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5			13	14	15	16	17
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
27	28	29	30				8	9	10	11			
Monday, Nisan 14, Passover Tuesday, Nisan 15, 1 st Day Unleavened Bread Monday, Nisan 21, 7 th Day Unleavened Bread							Monday, March 26, Passover Tuesday, March 27, 1 st Day Unleavened Bread Monday, April 2, 7 th Day Unleavened Bread						

God commanded the observance of the seventh (Sabbath) day since creation. Thus, the weekly cycle of seven days has never changed throughout history. When Israel lost track of it because they were slaves in Egypt for over 400 years, the Lord revealed to them when the Sabbath day was by the miracle of the manna that fell for them to eat six days and did not fall on the seventh. (Ex 16:21-30)

God also commanded the annual observances of his Holy Days (Lev 23). Since the Hebrew calendar determines when those days are, it must have been safely kept since the time God revealed it to Moses until it was published by Hillel II for benefit of the Jews who were then

scattered all over the world. Like the weekly cycle, the calendar of God cannot be the product of an evolutionary process with changeable dates set by men.

The strongest evidence I have found for this is the fact that dates from secular sources have been verified by the calculated Hebrew calendar. Several such dates are given by Mr. Franklin in his article, *The Calendar of Christ and the Apostles*. (See above for internet address.)

For example, he gives these sources that say the temple was burned on Saturday and Sunday the 9th and 10th of Ab in 70 AD.

1. Josephus records that the temple was destroyed on the 10th of Ab, the same date on which the first temple was destroyed.

Josephus Wars, 6:4:5).

<http://www.ccel.org/j/josephus/works/war-6.htm>

2. Rabbinic authorities quoted in Babylonian Talmudic Tractate Ta'anith 29a record that the 10th of Ab in both cases was a Sunday.

3. Cassius Dio, a Roman historian, records that the Temple was breached on the Sabbath.

Loeb Classical Library, 9 volumes, Greek texts and facing English translation:

Harvard University Press, 1914 thru 1927. Translation by Earnest Cary. Cassius

Dio, Roman History, Epitome of Book LXV:LXVI:4-7

http://www.ukans.edu/history/index/europe/ancient_rome/E/Roman/Texts/Cassius_Dio/65*.html

The Hebrew calendar using the same intercalary cycle we use today verifies these dates. In fact, 69-70 AD is year 11 of the 19-year cycle. Year 11 is a leap year only in the intercalary cycle 3, 6, 8, 11, 14, 17 and 19. If the cycle 2, 5, 7, 10, 13, 16, and 18 were used, 70 AD would not have been a leap year and the calendar dates would not coincide with the secular records.

69-70 AD Ab Year 3830							70 AD July/August						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2						27	28
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Destruction of Herod's temple occurred in the year 70 AD on Ab 9 and 10, Saturday and Sunday							Destruction of Herod's temple occurred in the year 70 AD on August 4 and 5, Saturday and Sunday						

Since the sources also said that the destruction of the first temple in 585 BC occurred on the same dates, I checked the calendar for that year. It does verify the 9th and 10th of Ab as Saturday and Sunday

585-584 BC Ab Year 3177							584 BC July/August						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2						17	18
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Destruction of the first temple occurred in the year 585-584 BC on Ab 9 and 10, Saturday and Sunday							Destruction of the first temple occurred in the year 584 BC on July 25 and 26, Saturday and Sunday						

585-584 BC is year 4, a common year in both intercalary cycle 3, 6, 8, 11, 14, 17 and 19 and cycle 2, 5, 7, 10, 13, 16, and 18. However, since the online calendar calculator I used calculates all years from 585 BC to 70 AD using the intercalary cycle 3, 6, 8, 11, 14, 17 and 19, this is clear evidence that the same calendar we use today was used in 70 AD and also in 585 BC. This covers a span of 654 years including the years of Christ. .

Another date Mr. Franklin found in secular sources was the murder of the High Priest Ananias on Saturday the 7th of Elul.66 AD

Josephus, Wars, 2:17:8-9

Encyclopaedia Judaica, s.v., “Menahem Son of Judah”

We see again that the same Hebrew calendar we use today verified this date.

66-67 AD Elul Year 3827							67 AD August/September						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29							27						
Murder of Ananias took place on the Sabbath day, the 7 th of Elul, 66-67 AD.							Murder of Ananias took place on the Sabbath day, September 5, 67 AD						

66-67 AD is year 8 of the 19-year lunar cycle. Year 8 is only a leap year in intercalary cycle 3, 6, 8, 11, 14, 17 and 19. Therefore if cycle 2, 5, 7, 10, 13, 16, and 18 were used, this would be a common year and the calendar dates would not coincide with the secular sources.

I’m sure many other dates could be found in secular records to test the validity of the calculated Hebrew calendar we use today.

We are supposed to prove all things and hold fast to that which is good. (1Th 5:21) This seems especially important in regards to the calendar because by it the Holy Days of God are determined. So far I see no reason to believe that the calendar intercalary cycle was different

before 142 AD than it is today. There are many assertions, but no real proof can be found that it was.

Also the same proofs that show 33 AD will not work as the year of the crucifixion, show that the year 31 AD will not work either.

1. 31 AD will not agree with the Seventy Weeks Prophecy. Sixty-nine and one-half of the Seventy weeks ended in 30 AD. 31 AD is more than halfway through the week of seven years.
2. 31 AD will require the baptism of Jesus to be moved up from the fall of 26 AD to the fall of 27 AD in order to retain a three-and-a-half-year ministry for Jesus. This will not coincide with the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar. (See the study on Tiberius Caesar.)
3. 31 AD will require Jesus' birth to be moved forward one year to the fall of 4 BC in order to retain his age as 30 years old when he began his ministry. Thus, his birth will not coincide with the reign of Herod who died in the spring of 4 BC.C. (See study on the reign of Herod.)

CONCLUSION

1. **THE YEAR 30 AD DOES AGREE** with the Seventy Weeks Prophecy. The years end precisely in the middle of the seventieth week of seven years. The three and a half years of the seventy weeks remaining occur in the end time just before the return of Christ.

70	27	28	29	30				
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2. **THE YEAR 30 AD DOES AGREE** with the reign of Herod in whose reign Jesus was born.
 * Mat 2:1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

Years BC AD	Reign of Augustus	Reign of Herod	Life of Jesus	Reign of Tiberius
40		1	Herod became King at Rome	
39		2		
38		3		
37		4	1	Herod became King of Judea
36		5	2	
35		6	3	
34		7	4	
33		8	5	
32		9	6	
31		10	7	Battle of Actium & earthquake
30		11	8	in Judea in 7 th year of Herod
29		12	9	

28		13	10		
27	1	14	11		
26	2	15	12		
25	3	16	13		
24	4	17	14		
23	5	18	15		
22	6	19	16		
21	7	20	17		
20	8	21	18		
19	9	22	19		
18	10	23	20		
17	11	24	21		
16	12	25	22		
15	13	26	23		
14	14	27	24		
13	15	28	25		
12	16	29	26		
11	17	30	27		
10	18	31	28		
9	19	32	29		
8	20	33	30		
7	21	34	31		
6	22	35	32		
5	23	36	33	0	Jesus born in fall of 5 BC
4	24	37	34	1	Left row reign
3	25	Herod and		2	of Tiberius
2	26	Antipater III		3	Agrees with Luk
1	27	co-regent		4	3:1 - Baptism of
1	28	since 7 BC		5	Christ - Tiberius
2	29	both died in		6	co-regent with
3	30	spring 4 BC		7	Augustus from
4	31			8	12 AD.
5	32			9	Right row reign
6	33			10	of Tiberius
7	34			11	Agrees with Jos
8	35			12	Ant 18:4:6 -
9	36			13	Philip's reign -
10	37			14	Not counting
11	38			15	co-regent years
12	39			16	1
13	40			17	2
14	41 died			18	3 1
15				19	4 2
16				20	5 3
17				21	6 4

18			22	7	5
19			23	8	6
20			24	9	7
21			25	10	8
22			26	11	9
23			27	12	10
24			28	13	11
25			29	14	12
26	Jesus baptized 15 th yr of Tiberius		30	15	13
27	fall of 26 AD age 30 - Luk		31	16	14
28	3:1,21		32	17	15
29			33	18	16
30	Death of Jesus		33 1/2	19	17
31	The Hebrew year 29 AD began in the fall			20	18
32	(Tishri) of 29 AD and ended in the fall			21	19
33	(Elul) of 30 AD. The Passover of Jesus'			22	20
34	. death, Wednesday, April 5, 30 AD, was			23	21
35	in the middle of this year			24	22
36				25	23
37				26 died	24
38					
39					
40					

3.

THE YEAR 30 AD DOES AGREE with the 15th year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar when Jesus was baptized at about thirty years of age. (See above chart)

* Luk 3:1 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene,

Luk 3:2 Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.

Luk 3:3 And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

Luk 3:21 Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,

Luk 3:22 And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

Luk 3:23 And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was [the son] of Heli,

4.

THE YEAR 30 AD DOES AGREE with necessity of the Passover in the year Jesus died being on a Wednesday. This must be so to fulfill the seventy weeks prophecy.

* Dan 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease.

In the three and a half year ministry before his death, Jesus did confirm the New Covenant with many. And in the midst of the week he caused the sacrifice and oblation to cease by replacing the Old Covenant animal sacrifices with the sacrifice of himself.

* Hbr 10:8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and [offering] for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure [therein]; which are offered by the law;

Hbr 10:9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

Hbr 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once [for all].

The Passover of Jesus' death must also be on a Wednesday in order to fulfill the prophecy of Jesus himself that he would be in the tomb exactly three days and three nights.

* Mat 12:40 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.

Wednesday Day 4 Passover Preparation Day for Feast of Unl Bread		Thursday Day 5 Holy Day 1 st Day Unleavened Bread		Friday Day 6 Preparation Day for the weekly Sabbath		Saturday Day 7		Sunday Day 1	
Night Trial	Day Crucifixion	Night 1	Day 1	Night 2	Day 2	Night 3	Day 3	Night	Day
↖ Tuesday Evening Last Passover Supper Resurrection End of Saturday ↗									

As you can see from this chart, the resurrection took place at the end of the day on Saturday. This is why Jesus was not in the tomb when the women came to it very early at sunrise on Sunday morning.

* Mat 28:1 In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first [day] of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

Mat 28:5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

Mat 28:6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

These are the Passovers in years surrounding 30 AD. As you can see, there is no year other than 30 AD that will provide the required Wednesday crucifixion as well as provide the harmony and agreement with all these other factors in the life of Jesus.

28 AD Passover Monday, March 29

29 AD Passover Saturday, April 16

30 AD Passover Wednesday, April 5

31 AD Passover Monday, March 26

32 AD Passover, Monday, April 14

33 AD Passover, Friday, April 3