

He Died for Me

Bible Study | Church of God International | March 3, 2018



Introduction



At the end of this month, Christendom will commemorate the redemptive sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



2,000 years ago, the God of glory divested His divinity, took upon Himself the likeness of a man, and offered Himself as a ransom for the sins of the world.



Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 5:8-11



Romans 5: 8-11

8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!



Romans 5: 8-11

10 For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

11 Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.”



Yes, Christ took our place on the cross. He died in our stead, took away our sins and reconciled us back to God.



Today, we will examine the reasons why
Christ had to die in order to redeem
mankind.



It is our hope that through this Bible study you will find a deeper understanding of God's love and Christ's sacrifice thereby further enriching your Christian life and your walk with Christ.



God's Love



During this season, John 3:16 comes to mind.

“**GOD** SO **LOVE THE WORLD** THAT HE SENT HIS ONE AND ONLY BEGOTTEN SON THAT WHO SO EVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH BUT **HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.**”



This verse has become the basic Christian
creed.

This verse tells us many things:



1. God loves the world. The world here means God's creation, particularly man. Man is the object of God's love.

The love of God for mankind is so great and so intense that He is committed to saving them.



2. God sent His One and Only Begotten Son. God's love for us is so passionate and profound that He sacrificed His very own Son for us. It also tells us that God did not send a part of Himself, neither did He send an angel nor a man. God did not withhold anything to save humanity – you and me – not even the life of His beloved Son.



3. Everlasting life is granted to anyone who believes in the Son. The most gracious act of God is having man's sins forgiven through faith in Jesus Christ. This grace is made possible by the death of Jesus Christ.



The concept of a redemptive sacrifice is
difficult to comprehend.



How could a loving Father allow His own
Son to suffer and to die for creation?
Could God not decree salvation by fiat?



Have you ever wonder what is so precious
and special about man that God the
Father offered up His Son to save us?



The Redemptive Sacrifice



Why is there a need for redemptive sacrifice? If God is omnipotent and has the power to do what He desires, why doesn't He decree justification, or divine clemency and salvation by fiat? Why the need to send an innocent and righteous Being, His own Son, to a cruel death?



God does not compromise with His laws.
Jesus said that He came to fulfill the law



Matthew 5:17-18

17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.



Matthew 5:17-18

18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.



Disobedience to God's laws
means death



The principle of disobedience, sin and death goes way back to the Garden of Eden when God said: the day that you eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge and evil, you shall surely die.



Apostle Paul wrote in
Romans 6:23

“The wages of sin is death.”



Thus, Jesus' death was to fulfill the demands of the law. He died in our stead. He took our death penalty on the cross.



The word “redemption” means the purchase back of something that had been lost, by paying a ransom. The Greek word used is “apolutrosis”, specifying that a ransom was paid to recover what was lost.



Matthew 20:28

28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a **ransom** for many.



Mark 10:45

45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a **ransom** for many.



The New Testament presents Christ's sufferings as a ransom or price paid, thereby securing what was purchased back and redeemed.

(1 Cor. 6:19, 20; Gal. 3:13; 4:4, 5; Eph. 1: 7; Col. 1:14; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6; Titus 2:14; Heb. 9:12; 1 Pet. 1:18, 19; Rev. 5:9).



The process of salvation is redemption. The death penalty against us is not free or simply cancelled, but is **fully paid**.



Christ's life is the **ransom** that was paid to secure our freedom from the penalty of death. Christ's death paid the penalty for our sins, thus purchasing us from death and reconciling us to God.



This is salvation by redemption. This is the reason why Christ had to die in order to save all of us.



Who Died?



Who died for us on the cross?
Who is this entity we call Christ?



The great idea behind the writings of Apostle Paul is that only the Creator can redeem the created.



He is the Son of God, the Chief Executive
Creator of the universe, the One worthy to
redeem the world.



He had to die because we sinned. He needed to pay the price by dying to redeem us back to the Father. God the Father sacrificed His One and Only Begotten Son so that we may live.



Why does the redemptive sacrifice have to be Christ? Why not a man or an angel? Why not a righteous man to redeem mankind?



Here are the reasons:



The savior cannot be a mere man.



Psalm 49:7-8

7 No one can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for them —

8 the ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough.



The scripture says that man can die only for his own sins. Man, at his best can only save himself. He cannot save another human being.



2 Chronicles 25:4

Lord commanded: “Parents shall not be put to death for their children, nor children be put to death for their parents; each will die for their own sin.”



Why not Angels? Why not send the Archangel Michael or Gabriel to redeem humanity?



That is not possible because angels are servants of God. Today they are sent to minister to God's people. But in the future, man will be more powerful than the angels.



A lesser potential being can't save the greater. In fact, at the end of the age, it is man who will judge angels.



1 Corinthians 6:2-3

2 Or do you not know that the Lord's people will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases?

3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life!



Therefore, the angels do not have the moral authority to redeem mankind.



Who died on the cross?

More seriously, we ask 'Who Died For Me?'
The answer is in Colossians chapter 1.



Colossians 1:15-20

15 The **Son** is the **image of the invisible God**, the firstborn over all creation.

16 For in him **all things were created**: things in **heaven** and on **earth**, **visible** and **invisible**, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; **all things have been created through him and for him**.



Colossians 1:15-20

17 He is **before all things**, and in **him all things hold together**.

18 And he is the **head of the body**, the church; he is **the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead**, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.



Colossians 1:15-20

19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,

20 and through him **to reconcile to himself all things**, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by **making peace** through his blood, **shed on the cross**.



Philippians 2

6 Who, being in **very nature God**, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;



Philippians 2

7 rather, **he made himself nothing**
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.



Philippians 2

8 And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by **becoming obedient to death** —
even death on a cross!



Hebrews 1:1-4

- 1 In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways,
- 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and **through whom also he made the universe.**



Hebrews 1:1-4

- 3 The Son is the **radiance of God's glory** and the **exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.** After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.
- 4 So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.



Hebrews 1:8-12

8 But about the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever;

a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.



Hebrews 1:8-12

9 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;

therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions

by anointing you with the oil of joy.”

10 He also says, “In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.



Hebrews 1:8-12

11 They will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment.

12 You will roll them up like a robe;
like a garment they will be changed.

**But you remain the same,
and your years will never end.”**



Hebrews 2:14-18

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too **shared in their humanity** so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—

15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.



Hebrews 2:14-18

16 For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants.

17 For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make **atonement for the sins of the people.**



Hebrews 2:14-18

18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.



Paul addressed the issue of the identity of Christ:

1. Jesus is not a man prophet and is superior to the angels
2. Jesus is the Son of God
3. He is the Creator. He made all things.
4. He is our savior



Our savior Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
He is the Executive Creator who created
all things; He created you and He came to
die for you.



Sign of the Messiah



The Jews of Christ's days persistently asked Jesus for miraculous signs from heaven as evidence of His divinity.



In spite of all the miracles Jesus did during his 3½ year ministry, people still clamored for more unique, distinctive signs from heaven.



The Scriptures record two incidents where Christ gave the demanding Jews a sign of His Messiah-ship. They are recorded in Matthew 16:1-4 and Matthew 12:38-40



Matthew 16:1-4

1 The Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven.



Matthew 16:1-4

2 He replied, “When evening comes, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,’

3 and in the morning, ‘Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.’

You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.



Matthew 16:1-4

4 A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a sign, but none will be given it except the **sign of Jonah.**” Jesus then left them and went away.



Matthew 12:38-40

38 Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, “Teacher, we want to see a sign from you.”

39 He answered, “A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the **sign of the prophet Jonah.**



Matthew 12:38-40

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**.



The questions we need to ask are: “Did Jesus fulfill this prophecy – particularly the one of Jonah? Was Jesus buried three days and three nights in the grave as He said He would be?”



Traditional belief tells us that Jesus was crucified on Friday afternoon and resurrected on early Sunday morning.



Now tell me, are three days and three nights
from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning?



Surely, no one can fit in three days and three nights or a total of 72 hours from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning, right?



Therefore, you are now faced with a very serious problem. Jesus staked His messiah-ship on this singular criterion-the prophecy of Jonah. And you cannot come up with three days and three nights from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning.



The time element (day and time) of the death, entombment and resurrection are of paramount importance to true Christians. It is the sign from heaven that Jesus gave to the Jews. Jesus staked his claim of being our Savior by being resurrected exactly 72 hours.



Don't you ever wonder why the specific sign of 3D3N or 72 hours? Why not 2 days or the next day? The reason is simple; it is only after 72 hours that the resurrection would constitute a unique miracle, an act of God.



Remember the case of Lazarus who had been dead for four days prior to Christ resurrecting him back to life? 72 hours ensures that the person is dead and has no way of returning back to physical life.



Right Time



The Bible gave us specific timing of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Four (4) dates are important to establish the week's events, they are:



1. The triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Can we know when this happened? The Roman Catholics call this day Palm Sunday. That's right, it happened on a Sunday.



2. The Passover and the Days of the Unleavened Bread.

The first day of the Unleavened Bread is a day of rest and sacred assembly.



3. The weekly Sabbath. A day of worship and rest as commanded in the scripture.

4. The early Sunday visit of the two Mary's to the tomb of Jesus Christ.



A simple reading of the Scriptures provides
the following dates:



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Nisan 9 Friday	Six days before Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany at Lazarus' home.	John 12:1
Nisan 10 Saturday	Jesus had dinner at Lazarus' house, Mary anointed the feet of Jesus and people visited Jesus the following Sabbath morning.	John 12:2-11
Nisan 11 Sunday	Sunday, Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.	John 12:12-15; Mark 11:1-11; Matt 21:1-16.
Nisan 12 Monday	Two days before the Passover. Jesus cursed the fig tree, gave parables, drove away the merchants in the temple, discoursed with Pharisees and gave the Olivet Prophecy.	Mark 11:12-19; Matt 21:17-25:46; Matt 26:1-2
Nisan 13 Tuesday	Jesus stayed at Simon the leper's house and again was anointed with perfume.	Matt 26:6-14
Nisan 14 Wednesday	The Passover or also called the Day of Preparation. Last Supper during the evening portion, betrayed, arrested, crucifixion and entombment of Jesus.	Matt 26:17-27:56; Luke 23:50-55; John 19:31-42; Mark 15:42-47
Nisan 15 Thursday	A Sabbath rest day. High Sabbath of the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.	Matt 26:57-61
Nisan 16 Friday	The chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate to request the tomb be secured. Mary bought and prepared spices for Jesus' burial. Apparently not a Sabbath day rest.	Matt 27:62-65; Luke 23:56; Mark:16:1.
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Nisan 9, Friday

Six days before Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany at Lazarus' home.



John 12:1

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.



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Nisan 10, Saturday

Jesus had dinner at Lazarus' house, Mary anointed the feet of Jesus and people visit Jesus the following Sabbath morning.



John 12:2-11

- 2 Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him.
- 3 Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.



John 12:2-11

4 But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected,

5 “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.”



John 12:2-11

6 He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

7 “Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial.



John 12:2-11

8 You will always have the poor among you ,but you will not always have me.”

9 Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead.



John 12:2-11

10 So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well,

11 for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him.



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Nisan 11, Sunday

Sunday, Jesus' triumphant entry into
Jerusalem.



John 12:12-15

12 The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem.

13 They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna!”

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

“Blessed is the king of Israel!”



John 12:12-15

14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

15 “Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.”



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Nisan 12, Monday

Two days before the Passover. Curse the fig tree and gave parables, drove away the merchants in the temple, discourses with Pharisees and gave the Olivet Prophecy.



Mark 11:12-19

12 The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry.

13 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.



Mark 11:12-19

14 Then he said to the tree, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And his disciples heard him say it.

15 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,

16 and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.



Mark 11:12-19

17 And as he taught them, he said, “Is it not written: ‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’”



Mark 11:12-19

18 The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.

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



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Nisan 13, Tuesday

Stayed at Simon the leper's house and again anointed with perfume.



Matthew 26:6-14

6 While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper,

7 a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table.



Matthew 26:6-14

- 8 When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. “Why this waste?” they asked.
- 9 “This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor.”



Matthew 26:6-14

10 Aware of this, Jesus said to them, “Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me.

11 The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me.



Matthew 26:6-14

12 When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial.

13 Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

14 Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests



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Nisan 14, Wednesday

The Passover or also called the Day of Preparation. Last Supper during the evening portion, betrayed, arrested, crucifixion and entombment of Jesus



Luke 23:50-55

50 Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man,

51 who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he himself was waiting for the kingdom of God.



Luke 23:50-55

52 Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body.

53 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.



Luke 23:50-55

54 It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

55 The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it.



Date	Event	Scripture
Nisan 9 Friday	Six days before Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany at Lazarus' home.	John 12:1
Nisan 10 Saturday	Jesus had dinner at Lazarus' house, Mary anointed the feet of Jesus and people visited Jesus the following Sabbath morning.	John 12:2-11
Nisan 11 Sunday	Sunday, Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.	John 12:12-15; Mark 11:1-11; Matt 21:1-16.
Nisan 12 Monday	Two days before the Passover. Jesus cursed the fig tree, gave parables, drove away the merchants in the temple, discoursed with Pharisees and gave the Olivet Prophecy.	Mark 11:12-19; Matt 21:17-25:46; Matt 26:1-2
Nisan 13 Tuesday	Jesus stayed at Simon the leper's house and again was anointed with perfume.	Matt 26:6-14
Nisan 14 Wednesday	The Passover or also called the Day of Preparation. Last Supper during the evening portion, betrayed, arrested, crucifixion and entombment of Jesus.	Matt 26:17-27:56; Luke 23:50-55; John 19:31-42; Mark 15:42-47
Nisan 15 Thursday	A Sabbath rest day. High Sabbath of the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.	Matt 26:57-61
Nisan 16 Friday	The chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate to request the tomb be secured. Mary bought and prepared spices for Jesus' burial. Apparently not a Sabbath day rest.	Matt 27:62-65; Luke 23:56; Mark:16:1.
Nisan 17 Saturday	Jewish Sabbath day, Jesus resurrected at sunset.	Luke 23:56
Nisan 18 Sunday	Mary visited the tomb very early in the morning while it was still dark.	Matt 28:1-7; Luke 24:1; Mark 16:2

Nisan 15, Thursday

A Sabbath rest day. High Sabbath of the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.



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Nisan 16, Friday

The chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate to request the tomb be secured.

Mary bought and prepared spices for Jesus' burial. Apparently not a Sabbath day rest.



Matthew 27:62-65

62 The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate.

63 “Sir,” they said, “we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise again.’”



Matthew 27:62-65

64 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.”

65 “Take a guard,” Pilate answered. “Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how.”



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Nisan 18 Sunday	Mary visited the tomb very early in the morning while it was still dark.	Matt 28:1-7; Luke 24:1; Mark 16:2

Nisan 17, Saturday

Jewish Sabbath day, Jesus resurrected at sunset.



Luke 23:56

56 Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.



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Nisan 9 Friday	Six days before Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany at Lazarus' home.	John 12:1
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Nisan 18, Sunday

Mary visited the tomb very early in the morning while it was still dark.



Matthew 28:1-7

- 1 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.
- 2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.



Matthew 28:1-7

3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow.

4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.



Matthew 28:1-7

5 The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.

6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.



Matthew 28:1-7

7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."



Inclusive Reckoning



The belief of a Friday crucifixion and Sunday resurrection is generally accepted as an undisputed fact for majority of professing Christians.



Some theologians argue that a fraction of a day or a night was reckoned inclusively as representing the whole day. This method is known as **INCLUSIVE RECKONING**.



Thus, in light of prevailing usage, the expression 3D3N of Matthew 12:40 does not require that Jesus be entombed for the full 72 hours, but for a full day and two partial days.



For the sake of argument, let us consider the inclusive reckoning method of counting days, i.e., a fraction of a day reckoned as a whole day.



But the Scripture says three days and three nights, not just three days. Therefore, a fraction of a day must be reckoned as a whole day and a fraction of a night as a whole night, right?



Granted that Jesus died at 3:00 o'clock Friday afternoon. Even using the inclusive reckoning, there is no way anyone can fit in 3D3N into Friday afternoon crucifixion and Sunday early morning resurrection, not by inclusive reckoning or any stretch of creative mathematical computation.



Time	Day	Reckoning
3:00 PM	Friday Afternoon	First day – fraction
6:00 PM – 6:00 AM	Friday Night	First night – whole
6:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Saturday Morning	Second day – whole
6:00 PM – 6:00 AM	Saturday Night	Second night –Whole
6:00 AM EMPTY	Sunday Morning	NO THIRD DAY
		NO THIRD NIGHT



Amazing Accuracy



The amazing truth is there was no fraction of any day or night at all. It was an exact 72 hours, three days and three nights just as Jesus prophesied.



The key in understanding the prophecy and sign of the Divinity of Christ is not to reckon the 3D3N from the time of death, but from the time of entombment.



Matthew 12:40

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.**



Matthew 12:40 clearly said 3D3N in the
heart of the earth; meaning grave or
entombment.



Christ died at 3:00 PM according to the Gospel account. But the entombment came much later in the afternoon, almost at Sabbath.

Consider the events of Mark 15:33-47.



Mark 15:33-47

33 At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

34 And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”).



Mark 15:33-47

35 When some of those standing near heard this, they said, “Listen, he’s calling Elijah.”

36 Someone ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to take him down,” he said.



Mark 15:33-47

37 With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

38 The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

39 And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, “Surely this man was the Son of God!”



Mark 15:33-47

40 Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph, and Salome.



Mark 15:33-47

41 In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.



Mark 15:33-47

42 It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath). So as evening approached,

43 Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body.



Mark 15:33-47

44 Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died.

45 When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph.



Mark 15:33-47

46 So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb.

47 Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.



John 19:40

40 Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs.



Luke 23

52 Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body.

53 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.

54 It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.



Event	Scripture
Christ died at 3:00 PM	Luke 23:44
Joseph when to ask Pilate for body	Mark 15:43
Pilate asked centurion to confirm	Mark 15:44
Centurion confirmed and Pilate agreed	Mark 15:45
Joseph went to buy linen	Mark 15:46
Joseph back to take down body	Mark 15:46
Prepare body according to Jewish custom	John 19:40
Hurriedly bury in nearby tomb	Luke 23:54

In this sequence of events, Jesus was entombed at sunset right before the High Sabbath of the First day of the Unleavened Bread, the first whole night.



Time	Day	Reckoning
6:00 PM – 6:00 AM	Wednesday Night	First night
6:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Thursday Morning	First day
6:00 PM – 6:00 AM	Thursday Night	Second night
6:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Friday Morning	Second day
6:00 PM – 6:00 AM	Friday Night	Third night
6:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Saturday Morning	Third day



Jesus resurrected exactly at the sunset of Saturday- split second at the end of the weekly Sabbath. The entombment from Wednesday night to Saturday night is exactly 72 hours, no fraction at all. Jesus is indeed the Christ!



No Time Difference



Some Bible scholars raised that there seemed to be a contradiction. They claim that there are two contrasting accounts of the time between crucifixion and resurrection; namely: on the third day and after three days.



The latter phrase “after three days” is used
four times in the Gospels.

Mark 8:31, 9:31, 10:34 and Matthew 27:63.



However in Matthew and Luke gospel accounts the phrase “on the third day” is used.

Matthew 16:21, 17:23, 20:19; Luke 9:22, 13:32, 28:33, 24:7, 24:46; Acts 10:40 and 1 Corinthians 15:4.



How different is “on the third day” versus
“after three days” when reckoning time?



In most instances, it is a difference of one day. But in the resurrection account, there is no time difference.



On the third day is exactly similar to after three days. Since the time of crucifixion and resurrection was exactly 72 hours, “on the third day” and “after three days” mean exactly the same.



The end of the 72 hours is technically “on the third day”. And “after three days” means at the end of the 72 hours. Absolutely no time difference not even a fraction of an hour.



We have proven beyond any doubt that Jesus was three days and three nights in the heart of the earth as He prophesied.



It is the sign of His Messiah-ship. This would place the crucifixion on Wednesday, the day of the preparation, as He was hurriedly buried before the First day of the Days of Unleavened Bread (Passover High Day).



Jesus resurrected exactly 72 hours later
fulfilling the prophetic sign of three days
and three nights at the end of the weekly
Sabbath.



Summation



Jesus Christ is the Creator who created all things. He came, He suffered and died for you to ransom you from the penalty of sin which is death.



Thus, Jesus said: 'there is no greater love than to died for a friend.' Our very Creator came to die for you and me.



Then we come to the fundamental question
of what is so important about you that God
sent His One and Only Begotten Son to
die for you?



Christ did not die for nothing. Jesus died to save a brother and a sister. The early church elders understood this truth.



Irenaeus (c. 130-200)

"The Word of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, who did, through His transcendent love, become what we are, that He might bring us to be even what He is Himself."



Clement of Alexandria (c. 150-215)

"The Word of God became man, that thou
mayest learn from man how man may
become God."



Athanasius of Alexandria (c. 296-373)
"For He was made man that we might be
made God."



Hebrews 2:6-11

6 But there is a place where someone has testified:

“What is mankind that you are mindful of them,

a son of man that you care for him?



Hebrews 2:6-11

7 You made them a little[lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor

8 and put everything under their feet.”

In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them.



Hebrews 2:6-11

9 But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.



Hebrews 2:6-11

10 In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered.



Hebrews 2:6-11

11 Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy **are of the same family.** So Jesus is not ashamed to call them **brothers and sisters.**



Our Heavenly Father sent our elder brother,
Jesus Christ, to save a brother and sister
from sin and dead.



Now, you know the wonderful and magnificent truth of God's abundant grace towards you and the reason Christ died for you.



You are in a better position to have a true meaningful relationship with God The Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.



END

