



Holy Week Hoax

Truth about the Resurrection

By Daniel Rendelman

ravemet@comast.net

During the Holy Week, the entire world pauses to reflect upon the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Banks close on Good Friday and churches are filled to the max for Easter sunrise services. Obvious questions of the Holy Week's Biblical accuracy are ignored as people are busy with egg hunts and Spring activities. An honest study of the New Testament will reveal that Jesus didn't die on Good Friday nor did He resurrect on Easter morning.

The Holy Week is flawed from the start with Palm Sunday error. Palm Sunday is taught to be the day that Jesus was lauded with palm branches as He rode a donkey into Jerusalem. The Bible never indicates that this took place on Sunday.

"Good Friday" is when Jesus is believed to have been crucified. The idea of a Friday crucifixion is problematic if compared to the time and date of the resurrection. Jesus Himself said, "for as Jonah 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," Matthew 12:40. There are not three days and three nights between Friday afternoon and Sunday morning. From this passage one must conclude that either the Bible is wrong or the traditions of a Good Friday death and Sunday morning resurrection are in error. No stretch of the imagination can create three nights between Friday and Sunday morning.

Easter is always after the full moon of the Spring Equinox. The date was originally set by the Roman Catholic Church to coincide with a yearly festival of worship to the fertility goddess named "Ishtar." For 1,730 years the resurrection has been celebrated on Easter Sunday, but that doesn't make the date correct. To understand when the Messiah was raised from the dead, one must recognize when a Biblical day begins and ends.

From creation, the Almighty considers a day to begin and end at evening. "And the evening and the morning were the first day," Genesis 1:5. Even today the Jewish people regard Friday evening to Saturday evening as the seventh day Sabbath. The Biblical week begins

and ends on Saturday night. Leviticus 23:32, "from evening unto evening, shall ye celebrate your Sabbath."

John 20:1 reveals the truth concerning the resurrection, "The first [day] of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulcher, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulcher," KJV. The word [day] is in parenthesis as the translators added this word to the Bible. The verse accurately reads that Mary came to the tomb as the first day of the week began, near 8pm on Saturday night. The Savior had already risen from the dead before dark! Matthew 28:1-2 shows two women visiting the tomb shortly after sundown on Saturday night. Again, the tomb was empty at the end of the Sabbath on Saturday night.

The scriptures are clear that Jesus spent three days and three nights in the tomb before rising from the dead slightly before sundown on Saturday night. This means that Jesus' triumphant entry in Jerusalem occurred on a Saturday and that the Savior was killed on a Wednesday afternoon. So much for Good Friday!

Celebrating the resurrection on Sunday morning is at best bad timing and at worst a violation of Ezekiel 8:15-18. If the timing of the death of Christ is incorrect, then what other errors can be found within traditional Christianity? "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after rudiments of the world, and not after Christ," Colossians 2:8.