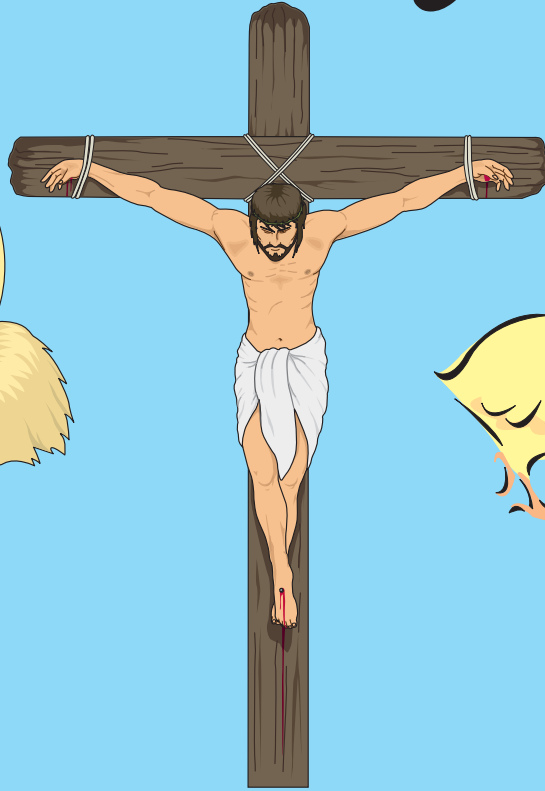
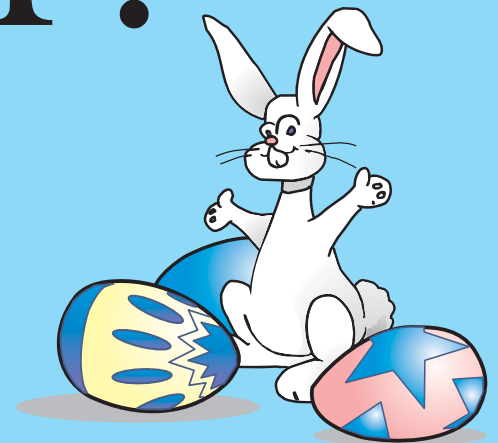


Why



Easter?



Charles E. Darnell

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Scripture quotations

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The Publication Manual presents explicit style requirements but acknowledges that alternatives are sometimes necessary; authors should balance the rules of the Publication Manual with good judgment. Preface: p. xx.

WHY?

It's the 18th day of April 2025 and we now call this particular day for this year as "Good Friday". I have a simple question to ask: Why have you allowed mankind to lead you astray and cause you to follow a tradition established by mankind and not by God (Yahweh) or His Son Jesus Christ (Yeshua)? I know, you wonder what in the world I am even speaking about. This is that time of year that Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Christ from the grave. But, there is so much of this celebration that is false. There was no celebration in Jerusalem on a Friday as the Passover! All of that is man-made! Please answer this: Did you read anything in the Bible pertaining to Passover, informing you that there were little rabbits or little chicks running around the "Upper Room", or that the Apostles searched for painted eggs after the Passover meal? Please show this to me in any version of the Bible. Let's examine the words of Christ Himself from Matthew 24:4-5. ⁴ *And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. ⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.* (NKJV) That's the New King James wording. Here is the English Standard Version. ⁴ *And Jesus answered them, "See that no one leads you astray. ⁵ For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray.* (ESV) Here is the New Living Translation. ⁴ *Jesus told them, "Don't let anyone mislead you, ⁵ for many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah.' They will deceive many.* (NLT) Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles made the following statement in 1 Thessalonians 5:14-23. ¹⁴ *Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all. ¹⁵ See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all. ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies. ²¹ Test all things; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil.*

²³ *Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus.* (NKJV)

Are you serious about being a follower of Jesus (Yeshua)? Do you really want to understand the full truth of what the Bible says? Are you willing to give up your belief in a pagan holiday that was created by mankind and established as a tradition? If you are serious, and willing to read from your Bible, then please continue reading. However, if you desire to stay with your embedded tradition, please do yourself a favor and close this booklet now before I really upset your beliefs. You have made your choice to continue reading or to close this booklet.

Let's first look at the beginning. God did not give Adam and Eve the Ten Commandments on tablets of stone. God did give them the information and instruction that the seventh day was to be a day of rest, Genesis 2:1-3. ¹ *Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.* (ESV) Since we are reviewing things pertaining to the beginning, let's also look at two other verses. First, review what was the work of Adam in the garden, Genesis 2:15. ¹⁵ *Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.* (NKJV) The second item we need to review, is in Genesis 2:24. ²⁴ *Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.* (NKJV)

Just a short review of what God did in the beginning. While God did not specifically give this mated pair the Ten Commandments, He most certainly gave them instructions of resting on the seventh day because it was Holy to God. God also established the marriage of one male and one female as the means for their creation of children. Notice, in verse 24, that they were to become one flesh through their marriage.

There are many other stories that are explained in the remainder of the book of Genesis. We learn of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel) as the principle patriarchs of mankind. I go through great detail in my book entitled, *Angels Among Us*. It is available on my website at www.VQPI.Org. I also bring the means by which God brought the knowledge from Adam down to Moses for him to write the first five books of the Bible. Quickly, we need to look at the book of Exodus, chapter 20, to identify the Ten Commandments that God gave to the Hebrew people. The Ten Commandments are listed in verses 1-17 of Chapter 20. ¹ *And God spoke all these words, saying,* ² *"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."* ³ *"You shall have no other gods before me."* ⁴ *"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth."* ⁵ *You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me,* ⁶ *but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.* ⁷ *"You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain."* ⁸ *"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."* ⁹ *Six days you shall labor, and do all your work,* ¹⁰ *but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates."* ¹¹ *For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."* ¹² *"Honor your father and your mother; that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."* ¹³ *"You shall not murder."* ¹⁴ *"You shall not commit adultery."* ¹⁵ *"You shall not steal."* ¹⁶ *"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."* ¹⁷ *"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."* (ESV) There are really two sections to the Ten Commandments. The first four pertain to God and the last six are moral laws. Yeshua provided a wonderful answer to the Pharisee when asked, *"Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?"* (NLT) Here is the entire text given to this Pharisee, Matthew 22:34-40. ³⁴ *But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again."* ³⁵ *One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question:* ³⁶ *"Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?"*

³⁷ *Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.'* ³⁸ *This is the first and greatest commandment.* ³⁹ *A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'* ⁴⁰ *The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."* (NLT) Notice what Yeshua declared as the first portion of His answer. *"'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.'* ³⁸ *This is the first and greatest commandment.* If Yeshua declared that this is the first and greatest commandment, what does the First Commandment read? Exodus 20:3, 5. ³ *"You shall have no other gods before me."* ⁵ *"You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me,"* (ESV)

Now, here we are on the day called Easter and it appears that there are thousands of people who say they are Christian and that they follow the teachings of Yeshua (Jesus), yet, they are in violation of the First Commandment and worshipping a pagan goddess, the fertility goddess Ishtar. If we turn over to Revelation chapter 17, we see a woman who is riding the Beast. Verse 2 tells us who has committed adultery with this woman. ¹ *... "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,* ² *with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."* (NKJV) Verse 9 tells us the seven heads are seven

hills where the woman sits. *“This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated;”* (ESV) Verse 15 informs us that the waters where she sits are nations and peoples. *Then he said to me, “The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.”* (NKJV) Verse 16 provides to us the fate of this woman who rides the beast. *“And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire,”* (ESV) If we use both views of a vile woman, Ishtar and Babylon the Great, we see that there have been many who have committed adultery with these Satanic females in violation of God’s Commandments. This time with the breaking of the seventh Commandment, Exodus 20:14 reveals that: *“You shall not commit adultery.”* (NKJV)

Have you performed an introspection of your mind, heart and soul? Are you beginning to feel ashamed at what you are celebrating? Please believe me, you are not alone. I grew up in a Baptist Church and gave my life to Christ at the age of twelve. That was in 1957 and I feel that I’ve been on a spiritual awakening of learning ever since. I’m now approaching the age of 80 and feel that my journey has led me through many hours of study and thought to get to this point in my walk with my Lord. I believe that the truth of the death, burial and resurrection of my Lord is hidden in the use of one word to identify two different days. That one word is Sabbath. Please allow me to continue with this teaching. I am not attempting to turn you off in following Yeshua as your Lord and Savior. I’m trying to peel back the false words that have been used to hide the truth for the last 1,700 years. Satan has done a perfectly good job of hiding the truth and misleading thousands to walk the broad way and not find the gate and the narrow path. That is what he wants you to do, but be careful, remember the broad way leads to destruction. Matthew 7:13-27, ¹³ *“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”*

¹⁵ *“**Beware of false prophets,** who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore by their fruits you will know them.*

²¹ *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”*

²⁴ *“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”* (NKJV) There are two things I’d like you to take note of in this passage of scripture.

In verse 13, notice that the way to destruction is along a broad way, that the gate is wide and many choose to go in by this wide gate. The opposite is stated in verse 14. Notice that this is a narrow gate, difficult is the way to (eternal) life and there are few who find it. As a watchman, I must do as Ezekiel records and warn you of apparent dangers. If I do not give the warning and you die without accepting the warning, then your blood is on my head. BUT, if I give you the warning and you do not make a change, then your blood is on your head. Look at Ezekiel to see that this is the charge given to a watchman. Ezekiel 3:17-21, ¹⁷ *“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me: ¹⁸ When I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way,*

to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand.¹⁹ Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.

²⁰ Again, when a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die; because you did not give him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; but his blood I will require at your hand.²¹ Nevertheless if you warn the righteous man that the righteous should not sin, and he does not sin, he shall surely live because he took warning; also you will have delivered your soul." (NKJV)

There appears to me to be two words that cause great confusion over the spring festivals of God. The first word actually is the term, "three days and three nights that Christ was in the tomb". The second word is "Sabbath". Let's take both of these words, go through the text of the Bible and explore what God had recorded in His Holy Word. Let's look at the time sequence first. Our first passage of scripture is given to establish what Yeshua said about Himself and about giving a sign. Matthew 12:38-40,³⁸ *Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You."*³⁹ *But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah."*⁴⁰ *For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.* (NKJV) Now, it says that this is the sign of the prophet Jonah. With that being the case, we must be able to find such a reference in the book of Jonah. Turn with me to Jonah 1:17.¹⁷ *Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.* (NKJV) With this verse, we establish the fact that God caused Jonah to be in the great fish for three days and three nights long before the time that Yeshua walked on the earth in His first Advent. There are additional references to this three day and three night statement. For example look at John 2:19.¹⁹ *Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."* (ESV) Yeshua was not speaking about the temple building, or, in other words, the house of worship. He was identifying Himself, in bodily form, as a temple. Also, please look at Mark 8:31.³¹ *And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.* (NKJV)

It can be shown by these verses that the requirement of two or three witnesses must be made to establish a truth. That is achieved by the statement of Yeshua, along with the fact from Jonah and the statements made by John and Mark. There is one other story contained in the Bible pertaining to the number of days someone spent in the grave prior to being raised from the dead. Recall the story of Lazarus in the 41st chapter of John. I present the entire chapter.¹ *Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.*² *It was that Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.*³ *Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."*⁴ *When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."*⁵ *Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.*⁶ *So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was.*⁷ *Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."*⁸ *The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?"*⁹ *Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.*¹⁰ *But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."*¹¹ *These things He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up."*¹² *Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well."*¹³ *However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep.*¹⁴ *Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead.*¹⁵ *And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him."*¹⁶ *Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."*

¹⁷ So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. ¹⁹ And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. ²⁰ Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. ²¹ Then Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You." ²³ Jesus said to her, "**Your brother will rise again.**" ²⁴ Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. ²⁶ And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?**" ²⁷ She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

²⁸ And when she had said these things, she went her way and secretly called Mary her sister, saying, "The Teacher has come and is calling for you." ²⁹ As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly and came to Him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the town, but was in the place where Martha met Him. ³¹ Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there." ³² Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. ³⁴ And He said, "**Where have you laid him?**" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ **Jesus wept.** ³⁶ Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!" ³⁷ And some of them said, "Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "**Take away the stone.**" Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "**Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?**" ⁴¹ Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "**Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. ⁴² And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me.**" ⁴³ Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "**Lazarus, come forth!**" ⁴⁴ And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "**Loose him, and let him go.**"

⁴⁵ Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him. ⁴⁶ But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did. ⁴⁷ Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. ⁴⁸ If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation." ⁴⁹ And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, ⁵⁰ nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish." ⁵¹ Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, ⁵² and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad. ⁵³ Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death. ⁵⁴ Therefore Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there into the country near the wilderness, to a city called Ephraim, and there remained with His disciples. ⁵⁵ And the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went from the country up to Jerusalem before the Passover, to purify themselves. ⁵⁶ Then they sought Jesus, and spoke among themselves as they stood in the temple, "What do you think—that He will not come to the feast?" ⁵⁷ Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a command, that if anyone knew where He was, he should report it, that they might seize Him. (NKJV) Did you happen to catch the shortest verse in the entire Bible? Look at verse 35, **Jesus wept.** I also have been informed

that under Jewish custom and teaching once a person has been dead for three days there is no way that they can come back to life. I really believe that Yeshua proves things to be otherwise. It is by God's divine instruction when a person shall die and what shall be their eternal outcome. Besides these Biblical records, we should also recall that there were others that Yeshua brought back to life from the dead.

Now, with this one truth laid out for your inspection so you can determine whether Yeshua spoke the truth or not when He said that He must spend three days and three nights in the tomb as Jonah spent in the great fish. I ask this question: How do you add up from Friday at 3:00 p.m. (after noon) until Sunday at 6:00 a.m. (before noon) fulfills a 72 hour requirement? Exactly, 72 hours makes up the period of time of three days and three nights. I really do not understand how your math works to come up with a viable answer. Your answer of "Good Friday" to "Easter Morning" only achieves 39 hours. That doesn't even cover a two days period of 48 hours. If you count the possibility that the sun comes up for a "sunrise service", you might have to take off another hour from this 39 hour count. Why is it you fail to accept the words of Yeshua? Don't you believe that as the only Son of God that He knows full and well the requirement that is given in text in the book of Jonah? Three days and three nights is the requirement and only a full 72 hours matches with that requirement. How did you get so far from the truth? I know the answer and have stated it more than one time in my books and booklets. This pagan holiday was established officially in 325 (my statement of 1,700 years ago) by Emperor Constantine as the first Sunday after the full moon, after the spring equinox. That is not what God established in Leviticus when He set His feast days. No! You cannot declare that those feast days were canceled by Yeshua when He died on the cross. In fact, you completely overlooked the text of the Old Testament. Look at God's sign as given in Exodus 31:12-17. ¹² *And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying,* ¹³ *"Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you.* ¹⁴ *You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people.* ¹⁵ *Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.* ¹⁶ *Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.* ¹⁷ *It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.* " (NKJV)

We have arrived at our second word to discuss and to find the truth. That word is "Sabbath". Look at verse 17, just above. Doesn't it say that God made the heavens and the earth in six days? Doesn't it also say that God rested on the seventh day? If we must, let's go back and see how God laid out His days. Look at Genesis 1:5. ⁵ *God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.* (NKJV) It appears that God laid out His days in reverse to what mankind thinks is the order of a day. God said a day was evening and morning. Man follows that a day is the daylight hours and then the nighttime hours. But, then we play with time on a clock and begin timing a day at midnight until the next midnight. Why must we mess with God's time, His calendar or even His days of a week? Exodus 12:1-2 establishes God's first month, Nisan which corresponds to late March or early April. To me, that means that God begins His year in the spring and not the middle of winter. ¹ *The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,* ² *"This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you.* (ESV) Verse 6 is the next important truth for us to understand. ⁶ *and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.* (ESV) We must also look at Leviticus 23:5-8. ⁵ *On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the Lord's Passover.* ⁶ *And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the Lord; seven days you must eat unleavened bread.* ⁷ *On the first day you shall have a **holy convocation**; you shall do no*

customary work on it.⁸ But you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord for seven days. The seventh day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it.’ “ (NKJV) It should be clear that there are two different rules for the word “Sabbath”. One defines the weekly Sabbath as the seventh day of the week, and the other is an annual Sabbath that is called a High Holy Day or a Holy Convocation. It would seem that there is the possibility that within an eight day period there could be three Sabbath days. Two would be Holy Convocations (annual Sabbaths) and one weekly Sabbath.

The question is: How do we show that this is so from text and that all the requirements for observing the Sabbath(s) is met? Let’s begin in the order of the feast as given in Leviticus. Therefore, the first thing to consider is the Passover. Now, we must remember that the Passover meal must be eaten on the evening at twilight before Passover day. We find this recorded in Matthew, Mark and Luke. Matthew 26:17-19, ¹⁷ *Now on the first day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, “Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?”* ¹⁸ *And He said, { “Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, “My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples.” ’ “ }* ¹⁹ *So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover.* (NKJV) Mark 14:12-15, ¹² *Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they killed the Passover lamb, His disciples said to Him, “Where do You want us to go and prepare, that You may eat the Passover?”* ¹³ *And He sent out two of His disciples and said to them, { “Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him. ¹⁴ Wherever he goes in, say to the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says, “Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?” ’ “ }* ¹⁵ *Then he will show you a large upper room, furnished and prepared; there make ready for us.” }* (NKJV) Luke 22:7-13, ⁷ *Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed.* ⁸ *And He sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat.”* ⁹ *So they said to Him, “Where do You want us to prepare?”* ¹⁰ *And He said to them, { “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house which he enters. ¹¹ Then you shall say to the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, “Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?” ’ “ }* ¹² *Then he will show you a large, furnished upper room; there make ready.” }* ¹³ *So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they prepared the Passover.* (NKJV) The use of French brackets in the above examples is my emphasis to point out the illustrated facts. In all three of these examples, Yeshua does something beyond normal human capability. The group, made up of Yeshua and the disciples, was outside of the city walking toward Jerusalem. Yeshua tells Peter and John (the Luke account) to go into the city and meet a certain man carrying a pitcher of water and to follow him. When you arrive where he is going, tell the owner of the house a particular statement. You will then be shown a guest room, or an upper room. How could a normal human do this? Humans do not have the capability to control time and distance. Surely, Yeshua is the Son of God and He has the ability to know things that humans do not understand how to facilitate their use!

That completes the preparation for the Passover meal. We must remember that this is strictly the preparation for the meal and nothing else, until we find the completion of this meal. After the meal there is a significant change that is made by Yeshua. Under the traditional Jewish Passover meal, the story of the Exodus is told but Yeshua establishes something new. I call it the Christian Passover while most people call it the “Lord’s Supper” or “Communion”. To me it is important to remember that this is to be conducted on the 14th of Nisan as an annual event, just as the Passover meal is an annual event. We find text to confirm these things in Matthew 26:26-29. ²⁶ *And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.”* ²⁷ *Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. ²⁹ But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom.”*

(NKJV) Mark 14:22-25, ²² *And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."* ²³ *Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank from it.* ²⁴ *And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many."* ²⁵ *Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."* (NKJV) Luke 22:14-20, ¹⁴ *And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him.* ¹⁵ *And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer."* ¹⁶ *For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."* ¹⁷ *And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves."* ¹⁸ *For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."* ¹⁹ *And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."* ²⁰ *And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."* (ESV)

We are still dealing with the happenings over the evening portion of the Passover. We know, by God's structure of the day, that Passover day will continue until sunset the next day. Since that is a normal day many things can happen. For one, we know that Yeshua is betrayed. We know the council meets and declares that Yeshua has violated the law, and they seek to punish Him by a death penalty. Yeshua is taken before Pilate and finally announced to be crucified. After His death, there are two things that happen by text. First, we must establish that this was another preparation day. This one was prior to the first High Holy Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. We find this recorded in John 19:31. ³¹ *Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day) [an annual Sabbath], the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.* (NKJV) We find Joseph of Arimathea asking for the body of Yeshua and Pilate granted that request. Here is what text says in Luke 23:50-56. ⁵⁰ *Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man,* ⁵¹ *who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God.* ⁵² *This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.* ⁵³ *Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid.* ⁵⁴ *It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.* ⁵⁵ *The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid.* ⁵⁶ *Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.* (ESV) This is our second day of preparation, this time, we are seeing the weekly Sabbath or the seventh day of the week. How do I know that this is what is meant. Look at Mark 16:1-2, ¹ *Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him.* ² *Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.* (NKJV) Here rests one of those strange hidden truths. If it is the first day of the week that text is speaking of the day portion of this first day of the week. We know that Christ has already risen and that this day began at sundown the previous evening. Therefore, Christ must have risen on that previous day, which would be the weekly Sabbath. You would have to work the days and times backward to see when Yeshua was crucified and died (fulfilling the 72 hour requirement). I assure you it is not what is called "Good Friday"! The hidden truth is this. Yeshua died on the day portion of Passover and Joseph of Arimathea could move his body and not break Jewish law. The next day is a High Day and no work could be done. Then, there is another preparation day when the women could prepare the spices and ointments. This is also the day that the high priest could go back to Pilate and ask for the guard to be placed at the tomb. He could not have done this on either of the two Sabbaths, one annual and one weekly, because that would be considered as work, and violate the law of the fourth Commandment. Here is that fact from Matthew 27:62-66. ⁶² *On the next day, which followed*

the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, ⁶³ saying, "Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise.' ⁶⁴ Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last deception will be worse than the first." ⁶⁵ Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how."

⁶⁶ So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard. (NKJV) There are two more tidbits of information that we need. First, from Matthew 28, verses 2-4. ² And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. (ESV) Second, We continue in Matthew chapter 28. This time, we need to view verses 11-15. ¹¹ While they were going, behold, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had taken place. ¹² And when they had assembled with the elders and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient sum of money to the soldiers ¹³ and said, "Tell people, 'His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.' ¹⁴ And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." ¹⁵ So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story has been spread among the Jews to this day. (ESV) With these verses from Matthew 28, we understand that the chief priest and the full council knew full and well that Yeshua did as He had stated to all the people, that He would rise from the grave. Do you also understand that this group of men violated the 9th Commandment? Exodus 20:16, ¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (NKJV) That means don't tell lies, which this group most certainly did!

Now, Christ had risen from the tomb and the disciples didn't know what to think. Yeshua appeared to them as recorded in Luke 24:36-49. ³⁶ Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." ³⁷ But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. ³⁸ And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." ⁴⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. ⁴¹ But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" ⁴² So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. ⁴³ And He took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." ⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ And you are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." (NKJV)

You now have the full truth of what went on during the week of Passover in the year that Yeshua was crucified. There are many references that indicate the year was 30 AD when Yeshua was crucified. It is up to you, to either believe in the truth or to believe in the 1,700 year old traditions of men. It is your choice, just as it is your choice where you will spend eternity. Choose wisely!

I have stated many times that the Bible is a huge puzzle. It is up to us to read and study in order to locate the hidden truths that are recorded for mankind to find. Proverbs 25:2, ² It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; But the glory of kings is to search out a matter. (NKJV) In going through the words of the Bible for this study, there was another entry that everyone who proclaims to be a believer in Yeshua needs to be aware of. What date is Passover to be observed on? Do you remember? Recall that

the first of God's annual feasts is in the first month of God's year in the month of Nisan. Let's review that passage one more time. Leviticus 23:4-8, ⁴ *'These are the feasts of the Lord, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times.'* ⁵ *On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the Lord's Passover.* ⁶ *And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the Lord; seven days you must eat unleavened bread.* ⁷ *On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it.* ⁸ *But you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord for seven days. The seventh day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it.'* (NKJV) I underlined two sections of this passage. Doesn't verse 4 inform us that we are to proclaim God's feasts at their appointed times? If God said the 1st feast was to be on the 14th of Nisan (God's first month), what date do you think God meant for the feast? Did you see anything in that verse that indicates man has the right to change the date, or even the day? In verse 5, if God appointed the date for this feast as the 14th of the first month, what date do you think God meant? Doesn't that confirm what verse 4 stated? I fully understand that there is a difference between a Jewish calendar and a Julian calendar. The Jewish system is based on a Lunar cycle and the Julian is based on a solar cycle. In our Julian system, we have a leap year every four years to add one day. But, the Jewish system has many leap days over the course of a 19 year cycle. That makes the difference confusing to most of us for the simple reason that we did not grow up under the Jewish system. But, I'll go back to my basic question. What did God assign as the dates for His Feast days? Who has the authority over God's feast days? Is it God who established the dates or is it man that established the dates? There are two more things I'd like to show you. During Yeshua's first Advent on earth there was a question posed to Him concerning the weekly Sabbath. That passage can be found in Matthew 12:8. ⁸ *For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.* (NKJV) In Mark 2:27-28, ²⁷ *And he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath."* ²⁸ *So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.* (ESV) also in Luke 6:5, ⁵ *And He said to them, "The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath."* (NKJV) Don't we recognize Yeshua as our Passover Lamb who gave of Himself to pay the price for our sins? Then there is the fact that many people overlook. What is the third feast of the spring season? Isn't it first fruits? Have you ever thought about it that, once resurrected Yeshua was the First fruit who had to show Himself to His Father, and the reason He told Mary Magdalene why she couldn't touch Him at the time they met on the first day of the week. John 20:17, ¹⁷ *Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'* " (NKJV).

Over the course of the last thirty years God has been sending me information to write. All of that material is available for free download on my website, www.vqpi.org in PDF file format. On that journey God has shown me many interesting items that I never heard in Sunday School class or sitting in the pew listening to the sermon for the morning. One of those visits by the Holy Spirit provided to me information on a dispersed nation and exactly who Israel, as the ten lost tribes really is. Another journey led me to an understanding of the mystery of the prophet Jeremiah. Why does the book of Jeremiah never really close? Even the question, did Jeremiah complete his assigned task from God? Another search led me to follow the birthright of the first born from Adam to the sons of Joseph. There are many interesting subjects to research and learn about in all of my 50 plus writings.

I can only pray that you find useful information on my website in all the material that is there. I also pray that you have read this booklet and found answers to some of your questions pertaining to the day we now call Easter. The writing of this booklet was not meant to upset you or to have your children in tears that the Easter Bunny isn't real. Go buy them a chocolate egg and teach them God's truth.

Maranatha



