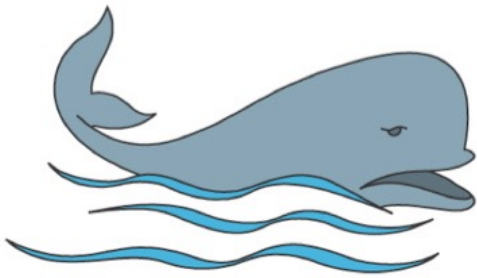


## THE SIGN OF JONAH (WHY CAN'T CHRISTIANS COUNT TO 3?)

Lets have a real close look at the bible in regard to the three days so misunderstood by organized religion. Then we will examine Messiah's last week prior to Calvary.

Yeshua was asked if there would be a sign that He was truly the Messiah, and He said the only sign that they would know of, was the sign of the prophet Jonah, which was the following: **Matt. 12:40** *"for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."* Jonah was sent to Ninevah (Ninevah meaning



"house of Nimrod/Ninus") to warn the people of their pagan ways. It is made obvious that the three days (see Matt. 26:61/27:40, Mark 15:29) and three nights referred to were referring to the resurrection of Messiah. It clearly states **THREE DAYS and THREE NIGHTS** (72 hours) Yeshua would be gone prior to His resurrection.

The name Jonah means **Dove**. Dove is a Hebrew idiom meaning: **"Righteous and Pure."** This is a very significant Hebraism that points to the Messiah. Now let us look more closely at Yeshua in the Jordan and maybe we can see something fresh in the Living Word of Yah. The sign of Jonah, the dove, was upon Yeshua from that day in the Garden, i.e. Jordan when He was immersed - baptized. What we are told is that *"the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily FORM, like a DOVE upon Yeshua, and a voice - a Bat-Kol (daughters Voice) came from Heaven saying, "Thou art My Beloved Son; in Thee I am well pleased."* Anyone who was standing by would have seen this great SIGN, and heard the Voice. To some, the Voice may have sounded like thunder, yet I believe from this text in Luke 3:22, many SAW and HEARD the Voice of El Shaddai.

Jonah was a "type" of Yeshua. While Jonah's body was in the belly of the fish his spirit was in the depths of Sheol (apported) for three days. At that time Sheol was considered to be in the depths of the earth, the pit, or Abyss. Just as Yeshua's Spirit left Him for three days at Calvary so too did Jonah's. As Jonah's body was spewed out on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea and came back to life, so too did Yeshua come back to life after three full days and nights at Calvary.

They were looking for the Messiah to come, and many were blessed to see this Sign showing them that Yeshua was a Righteous person, a Dove! The sign of the "Dove" was evident to all who had eyes to see. Even Yeshua knew this sign was unmistakably His. Yeshua explains in **Matt. 12:38-41** *Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. "The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.* What we see is that Yeshua Himself speaks that no SIGN was to be given, but the SIGN of Jonah, the Dove. So a Sign was given that day at the Jordan, at the beginning of His ministry, and

the Sign of Jonah would be given one more time at the end of His ministry. And **NO OTHER SIGN** would Israel be given apart from the Sign of Jonah.

We have no idea as to how many were at the river Jordan on the day of His baptism, but I dare say there were many. I believe Yah saw fit to open His Sons ministry with many in attendance. Just like Jonah, Yeshua had a MESSAGE from Yah, and that message was almost the same, "Shuvah - Repent and turn to Yahveh and His Messiah, the Sent One before judgement falls." Many did return and repent, and many did not.

Look at Yeshua in the garden of Gethsemane, before the agony of the stake, before the SINS of the world were placed on Him. He could have run like Jonah did, but praise Yah, the GREATER Jonah did not! The SIGN of Jonah is a SIGN of the Son of the Living Yah.

In Lev 23 it lists the seven annual Holy Days. Each of these Holy days was considered a "Sabbath" no-matter what day of the week it occurred on. All "High Days", or annual Sabbaths (except Pentecost, which always occurs on the first day of the week) fell on particular calendar dates rather than set days of the week. **John 19:31** *"The Jews therefore, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies should not remain on the stake on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high {day} ), asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and {that} they might be taken away."* This tells us that the body of Messiah was removed from the stake on the preparation day, the 14th day, one day before the **ANNUAL SABBATH OR HIGH DAY**. Messiah kept the Passover, Last Supper, and possibly (Seder meal), with His disciples the night before His death. This was Tuesday, as per **Luke 22:15** *"And He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;"* The Passover Feast that year was on Tuesday and it was also the preparation day for the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Messiah died the next day, which was still the day of Passover (14th. of Abib or Nissan as per the Hebrew calendar Lev 23:5). As per Lev 23:6-7 it tells us that the next day, beginning the evening after His crucifixion, was not a **WEEKLY** Sabbath, but an ANNUAL Sabbath (high/holy day), the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. **Lev. 23:6-7** *'Then on the fifteenth day of the same month there is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to Yah; for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. 'On the first day **you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not do any laborious work.**'* **1Cor. 15:20** *"But now Messiah has been raised from the dead, the **first fruits** of those who are asleep."*

Messiah was crucified at 9:00 am. (**Mark 15:25** *"And it was the third hour when they crucified Him."*) and died at exactly 3:00 pm. (twilight). He was buried by Joseph (a converted Pharisee member of the council) prior to sunset, (**Mark 15:34** *"And at the ninth hour Yeshua cried out with a loud voice, "ELOI, ELOI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?"* which is translated, "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME?") on Passover afternoon, which is also the Preparation day for the Annual Sabbath. It is also clear that Messiah was resurrected at the exact same time of day, in the late afternoon (twilight). Since the women found Him already gone Sunday morning, we conclude that He was resurrected the Previous afternoon, on SATURDAY. This would mean, without a doubt, that He was buried three days and three nights earlier; WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON. Indeed, Passover, Nissan the 14th, that year, A.D. 31 fell on a Wednesday. Yeshua was crucified on a **WEDNESDAY (the 14th.) at 9:00 am., at the exact same time and day**

**that the Passover lambs were slain.** On preparation day (the day before the Passover). Yeshua was also slain like the lamb. **Yeshua died on that same day at 3:00 pm. and rose again on SATURDAY (the 17th.) at 3:00 pm. (twilight), just hours before the Feast of First Fruits began.** He arose the exact same time of day He died, 72 hours later, as stated in Matt.12:40. Yeshua was divine, He arose from the dead on the divine day of Yahveh, the seventh day of the week (Saturday). All those familiar with what numbers represent in the Bible understand the significance of the number seven. It represents the divine nature of Yah, completion, and was the appropriate seventh day of the week that Messiah was resurrected. This was a divinely appointed day, His sabbath. **What is the correct day of our Passover Lamb's execution, sacrifice?**

Lets quickly go through it again from another angle. In order to figure out when Messiah was crucified, we have to establish the day of His resurrection. We must mathematically work it out backwards from the order we have in the scriptures. According to Lev. 23:10-11 Messiah, the First Fruits from among the dead, had to be resurrected on the day after the weekly Sabbath during the seven day Feast of Unleavened Bread (Passover).

### **What does Scripture teach?**

This rehearsal of the slaughter of the lamb was a shadow of the lamb of Yah to come. Exodus 12:3 clearly states that **the selection of the lamb occurs on the tenth of the month, and Exodus 12:6 states that the lamb is to be slaughtered at twilight on the fourteenth of the same month.**

### **What is significant about the number four and fourteenth?**

- The letter "nun" is the fourteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet. It represents LIFE.
- There were fourteen generations of Yeshua's family listed in Matt. 1:17.
- The generations of King David are fourteen.
- The gematria value of King David's name is fourteen.
- Fourteen represents salvation.
- Four represents the four corners of the earth.
- Yeshua was watched for four days as the lamb.
- The fourth letter of the Hebrew alphabet is "dalet", which symbolizes an open door.

According to Exodus 12 there should only be four days between the selection of the lamb and its slaughter. John 12:1 indicates that **Messiah arrived in Bethany six days before Passover.** If John is correct (which I assume he is), then **Messiah would have arrived in Bethany on the ninth of Nissan.** We must keep in mind that it is 12 miles from Jericho to Jerusalem, Yeshua would not have walked this distance on a sabbath. He rode on a donkey from Jericho to Bethany, then the next day to Jerusalem (John 12:1/ Mark 11:11-20). John 12:12 states that on the next day (morning of the sabbath), the Messiah went up to Jerusalem. If Messiah was in Bethany on the ninth, then **He must have rode up into Jerusalem on the tenth. On the tenth of Nissan/Abib** the High Priest would leave the temple and go down to the sheep pens at Bethany to select a lamb for Passover. After the High Priest selected the lamb he would return back up to the temple carrying the lamb, least it should stumble and become blemished. Pilgrims who had come up to Jerusalem for the Feast lined the road to praise the lamb that the High

Priest had selected for Passover. Are you beginning to see the picture? Let's look at a type here.

Messiah the Lamb of Yah comes up from Bethany on the same day and at the same hour as the High Priest. But instead of the people praising the high priest's lamb they were shouting praises to the Messiah. The religious leaders then told Messiah to rebuke His disciples (Luke 19:39). After the High Priest returned to the temple **he would examine his lamb for the next four days to insure it was unblemished and fit for sacrifice. During the next four days Messiah too was examined by both the chief priests and the elders** (Matt. 21:23-27, 21:15-22, 21:23-33, 21:34-40), and after four days neither they, nor Pilate, could find any fault with Messiah the Lamb of Yah (Mark 12:35 and Luke 23:14). As stated in John 18:28, Yeshua went before Pilate BEFORE Passover.

Now lets dig a little deeper. Heres a nugget most will miss if it is not pointed out to them. **John 1:29-31** *The next day he saw Yeshua coming to him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of Yah who takes away the sin of the world! "This is He on behalf of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'* "And I did not recognize Him, but in order that He might be manifested to Israel, I came baptizing in water." As we just previously read, only the High Priest (or a descendent of the High Priest), could ever offer up the Passover lamb at the Temple.

**Yeshua came to John at the river Jordan and what does John declare to all those who witnessed Yeshua's baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

John The baptist was from the line of the High Priests of Israel. John's father was Zechariah (Luke 1:5). John had the authority to declare Yeshua as the "Lamb Of Yah" who came to take away the sins of the world. Long before Yeshua's death, John had proclaimed Him as the shadow of things to come.

**Lets look at something else that's not a coincidence** John The Baptist was born on Passover. The Jews had been expecting the Messiah to come, but they knew according to scripture (Malichi 4:5) that a man had to come to them with the "spirit of Elijah" first. To this very day, the Jewish people still set a plate for Eliyah at the seder table during Passover. Yeshua revealed John having the "spirit of Eliyah" in **Matt. 11:14** *"And if you care to accept it, he himself is Elijah, who was to come. "He who has ears to hear, let him hear.*

**Now what day was the Lamb of Yah slaughtered?**

If Messiah was resurrected early on the first day of the week using the (Roman/ Gregorian Calendar), **then we need to count back three days and three nights and we will arrive at Thursday for Messiah's execution.** This is how it would work out if the practices of the pagan churches (proclaimed Christian churches) of the world were correct. Even looking through their eyes, it doesn't work out to a Friday for Calvary. (Mar 22/16) Jerry Hennig