What day is Christmas?

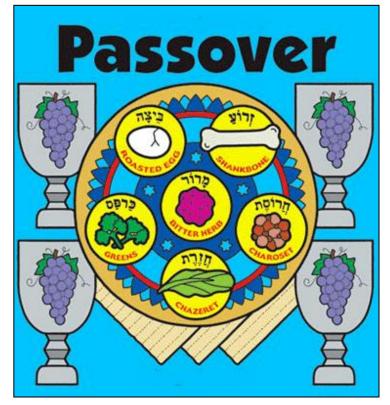


What day does Passover week begin?





Passover is timed to full moon on 14th Nisan



2015 – Saturday 4th April

2016 - Saturday 23rd April

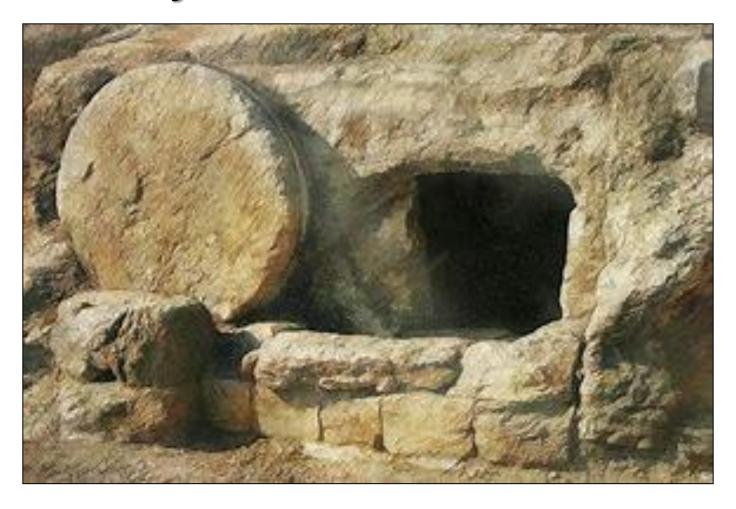
2017 - Tuesday 11th April

2018 – Saturday 31st March

2019 - Saturday 20th April

2020 - Thursday 9th April

What day did the first Easter occur?





Council of Nicea logic + anti-Semitism

Early Christians had probably originally celebrated Easter concurrent with the Jewish Passover, which was held on the fourteenth day of the first lunar month of the Jewish year, called Nisan, the day of the crucifixion according to John 19:14. However, the First Council of Nicaea in 325 decreed that Christians should no longer use the Jewish calendar but universally adopt the practice of celebrating it on a Sunday, the day of the resurrection, as had come to be the custom in Rome and Alexandria.

The lead-up to Easter morning

Mark 15:42-47 It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath). So as evening approached, 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. Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died. When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph. 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. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

Mark 16:1-8 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

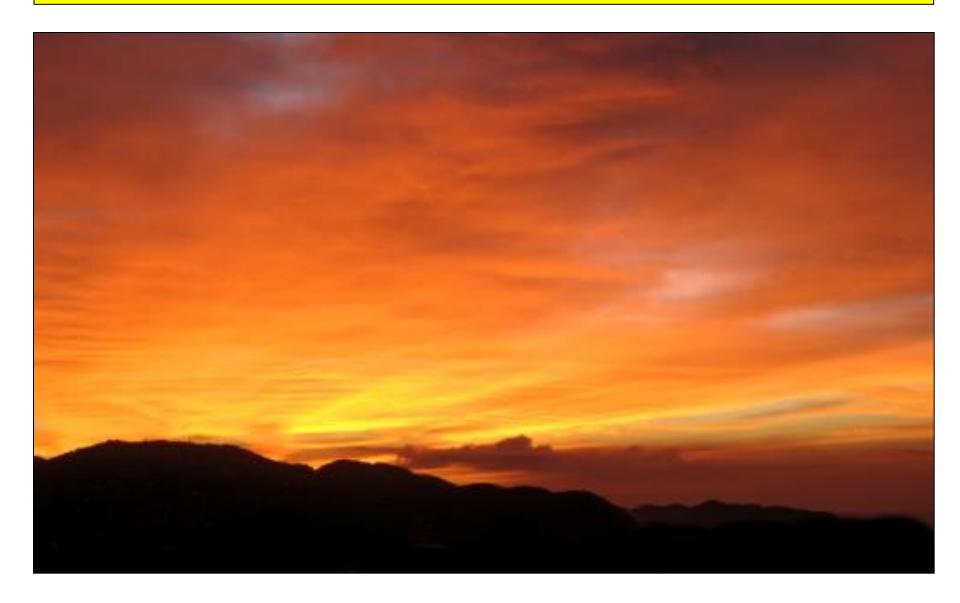
When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body.

The funeral rites continue ...

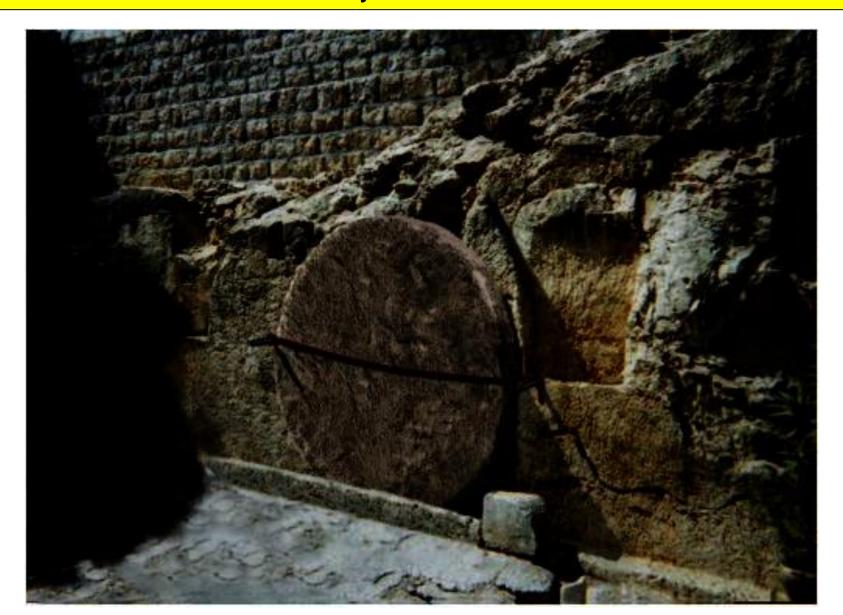


What were they expecting to find?

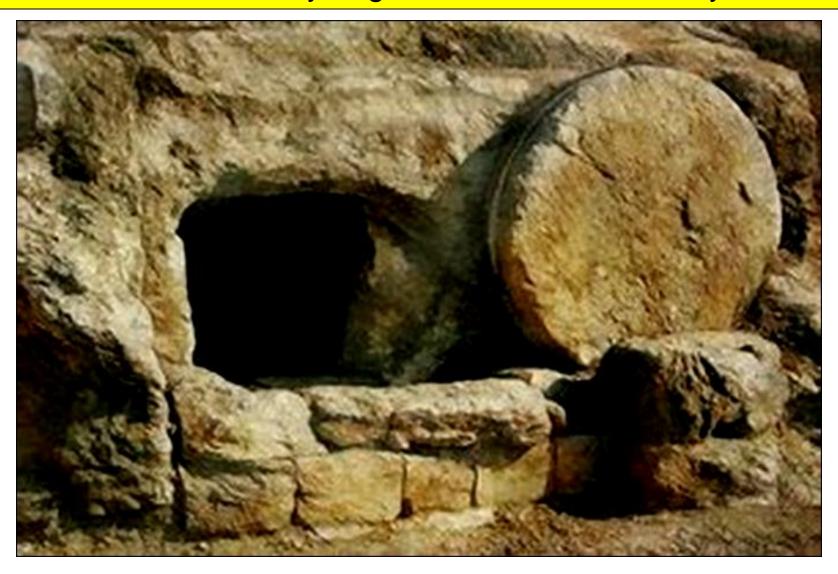
Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise,



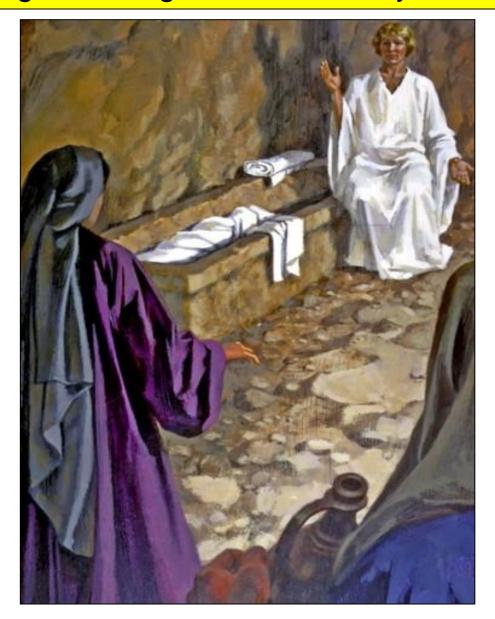
They were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"



But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.



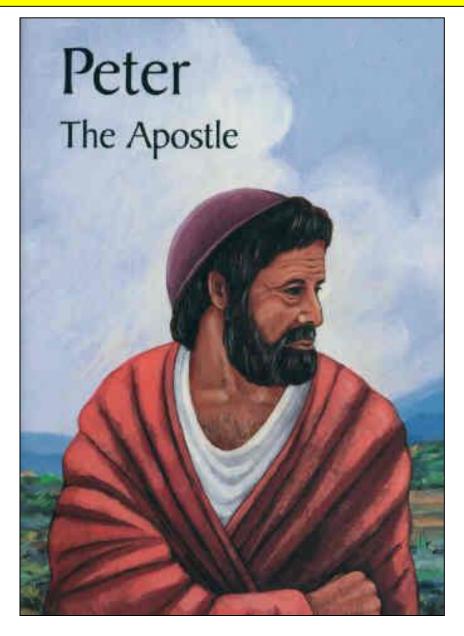
As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.



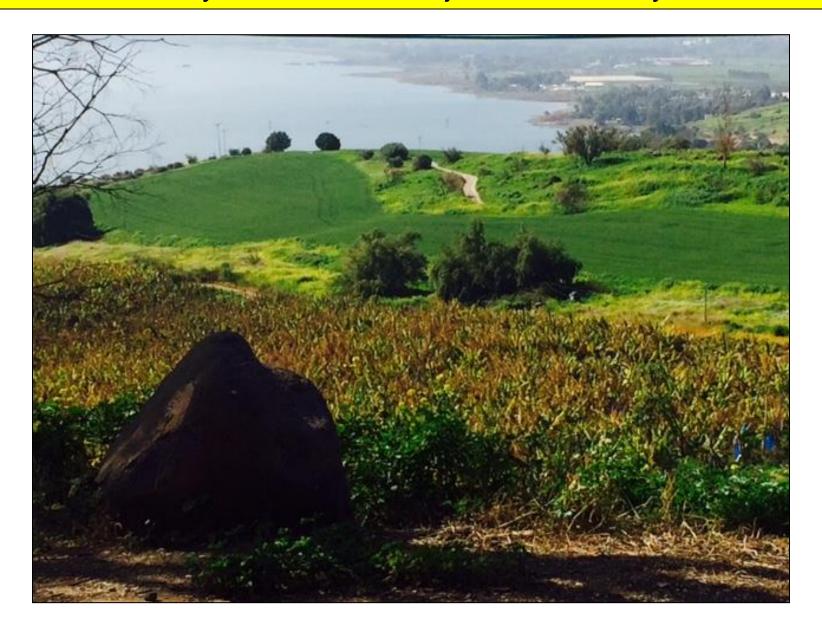
"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.



But go, tell his disciples and Peter,



He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.



Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb.



They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.



1 Corinthians 15:3

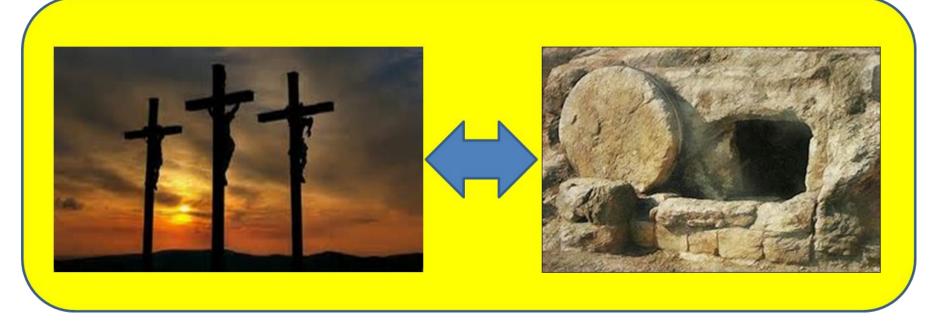
For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried,

that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,



The Resurrection

Links the human to the Divine



1Corinthians 15:14
And if Christ has not been raised,
our preaching is useless and so is your faith.

The Resurrection

Account settled and signed

Declared to be the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 1:4)



2 Corinthians 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Jesus leads the way.

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-- in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.