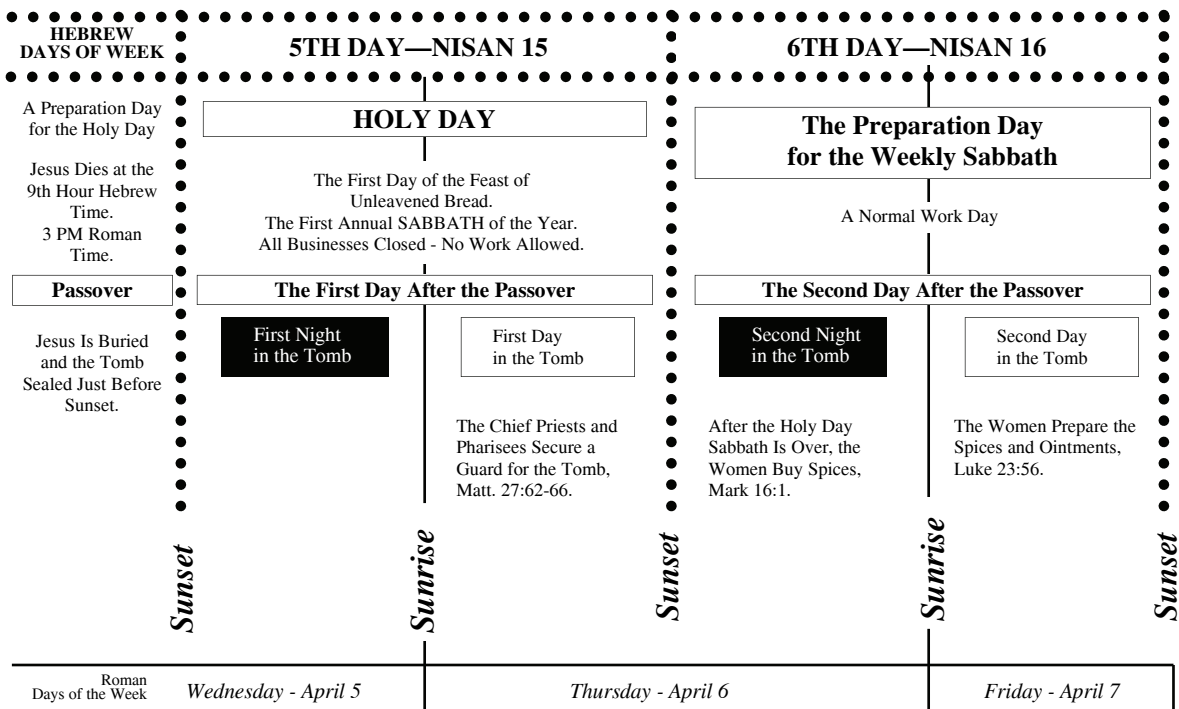


# The Three Days and Three Nights in After Three Days

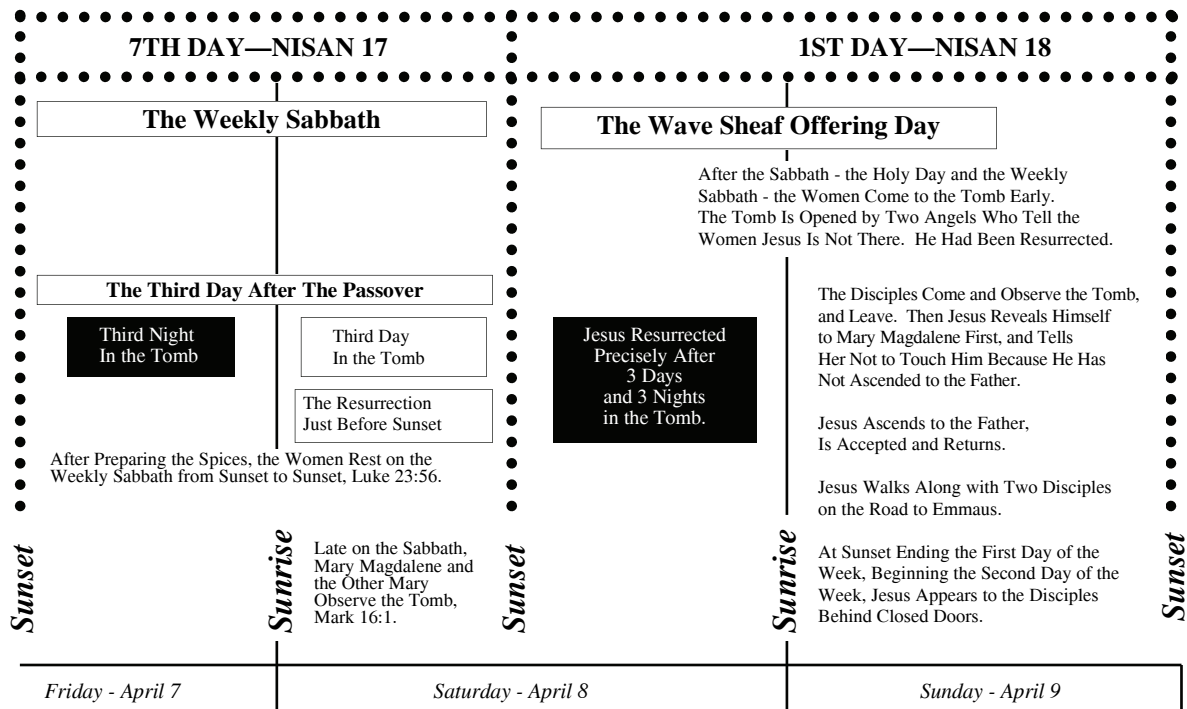


The Key to the Time Period from the Burial to the Resurrection:  
 Jesus Said He Would Be in the Heart of the Earth (the Tomb)  
 Three Days and Three Nights; A Complete 72-Hour Period

Matt. 12:38-40; 27:63  
 Mark 8:31; 9:31  
 Luke 13:32; 18:33; 24:7, 46

John 2:18-22  
 Acts 10:40  
 1 Cor. 15:4

# the Tomb and the Resurrection and Three Nights



Knowledge of a Wednesday crucifixion was passed down for at least three centuries after the founding of the apostolic Church. The *Didascalia*, which dates from the third century, offers historical evidence that the belief in a Friday crucifixion was a change from the original teaching. The following description of the day of Jesus' crucifixion appears in Book V of the *Apostolic Constitutions*, which contains the original words of the *Didascalia*:

**“For they began to hold a council against the Lord on the second day of the week, in the first month, which is Xanthicus; and the deliberation continued on the third day of the week; but on the fourth day [Wednesday] they determined to take away His life by crucifixion”** (*Apostolic Constitutions—Didascalia Apostolorum*, book V, section I, paragraph xiv). A church historian explains the significance of this record in the *Didascalia*: “...the only reason can have been that **Jesus' passion began on a Wednesday, i.e., the day when He was arrested [and crucified]**” (Lietzmann, *A History of the Early Church*, p. 69).