

Understanding
Times and Seasons

Part 4

Dating the Human Life of
Jesus Christ

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Abstract

This paper discusses how the seventy weeks prophecy and other Scriptures define the timing of Jesus Christ's human life — and how the extra-biblical record may be understood in this light.

Astronomical evidence shows that Jesus' death was either in 31 or 34 AD. Those are the *only* years in which determination of months by observation of the first lunar crescent in Judea would allow for a Wednesday Passover — the only years possible *after* the fifteenth year of Tiberius (29-30 AD), when John began to baptize (Luke 3:1) and *during* the governorship of Pontius Pilate (26-36 AD), who sentenced Jesus to death (Luke 23:24).

From the sign of the prophet Jonah (Jonah 3:3-4) we learn that there were “yet forty days”* (years) from when the message to repent began to be preached until Jerusalem was destroyed. John the Baptist began the task; and Jesus and His disciples carried on with it after John was put in prison (Matthew 3:1-2; 4:17; Mark 1:15; 6:12; Luke 3:3; 13:3,5; Acts 2:38; 3:19). Since Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD, it is evident that John's ministry began in 30 AD. Jesus was then baptized in 30 AD, and was put to death on Wednesday, March 24, 34 AD.

*The New King James Version is used throughout, except as otherwise noted.

Work in progress...

Understanding Times and Seasons

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