

Passover Lamb Died at 3:00 P.M.

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By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—One of the greatest truths in the Bible is that the Son of God is our Passover.

1 Corinthians 5:7—"Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us."

With that in mind, I want to show scriptures that remind us that the Passover Lamb died at 3:00 p.m.

Before we review the actual time of the death of the Son of God, let's quickly notice the day on which He died.

Here is the day

Are you aware that the Son of God died on a Wednesday? Notice a few biblical tidbits.

Luke 23:50-54—"Now behold, there was a man named Joseph, a council member, a good and just man. He had not consented to their decision and deed. He was from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who himself was also waiting for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. That day [Wednesday] was the Preparation, and the [annual] Sabbath drew near."

John 19:31—"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), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away."

Luke 23:56—"Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the [weekly] Sabbath according to the commandment."

The "Sabbath" mentioned in Luke 23:54 was a "high day" Sabbath (on a Thursday), and the Sabbath mentioned in Luke 23:56 was a weekly Sabbath (on a Saturday).

Here is the time

1 Corinthians 11:23-26—"For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."

The symbols involving the memorial of the suffering and death of the Lamb were given on the night He was betrayed.

Mark 14:32—"Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' "

Mark 14:43-46—"And immediately, while He was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now His betrayer had given them a signal, saying, 'Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him and lead Him away safely.' As soon as He had come, immediately he went up to Him and said to Him, 'Rabbi, Rabbi!' and kissed Him. Then they laid their hands on Him and took Him."

Mark 15:1—"Immediately, in the morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council; and they bound Jesus, led Him away, and delivered Him to Pilate."

Mark 15:25—"Now it was the third hour [9:00 a.m.], and they crucified Him."

John 19:14—"Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour [noon]. And he said to the Jews, 'Behold your King!' "

Mark 15:33—"Now when the sixth hour [noon] had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour [3:00 p.m.]."

Mark 15:34—"And at the ninth hour [3:00 p.m.] Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?' which is translated, 'My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?' "