

"JESUS' RESURRECTION WAS ON SUNDAY?"

By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

Often, someone will say that Jesus could not have been crucified on Friday because He was in the grave for three days and three nights. Allow me to explain how Jews counted days and nights in the first century.

- 1) Jewish method of counting time; they counted part of a day as a whole day when it occurred at the beginning or the end of a series. Thus, Jesus was not in the grave a literal 72 hours.
- 2) The Jewish day began at sundown (6:00 P.M.), our day begins at midnight, technically.
 - a) Jesus was crucified on Friday and buried before sundown (Luke 23:52-54) - Day #1
 - b) Jesus' body was in the grave on Saturday (sabbath) (Luke 23:55,56) - Day #2
 - c) Jesus was resurrected on Sunday morning (Luke 24:1-8) - Day #3
- 3) Jewish Terminology said the same thing – three ways
 - a) Matt. 12:40 "...Three days and three nights ..."
 - b) Matt. 16:21 "...on the third day..."
 - c) Matt. 27:63 "...after three days and three nights..."
 - d) I Kings 12:5,12
 - E) Esther 4:16; 5:1

CONCLUSION: The apostles were led by the Holy Spirit, and since Jesus was raised on Sunday, they led the infant church into a new day of worship (Sunday). Now, the really important item of business is this - are we in services of the Lord's Church on a regular basis? Also, are we using our God given talents to promote the Lord's Kingdom (Church)? This is the day that the Lord has made, thus we should rejoice and be glad that he has given it to us to praise Him.

KYOWVA EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION

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