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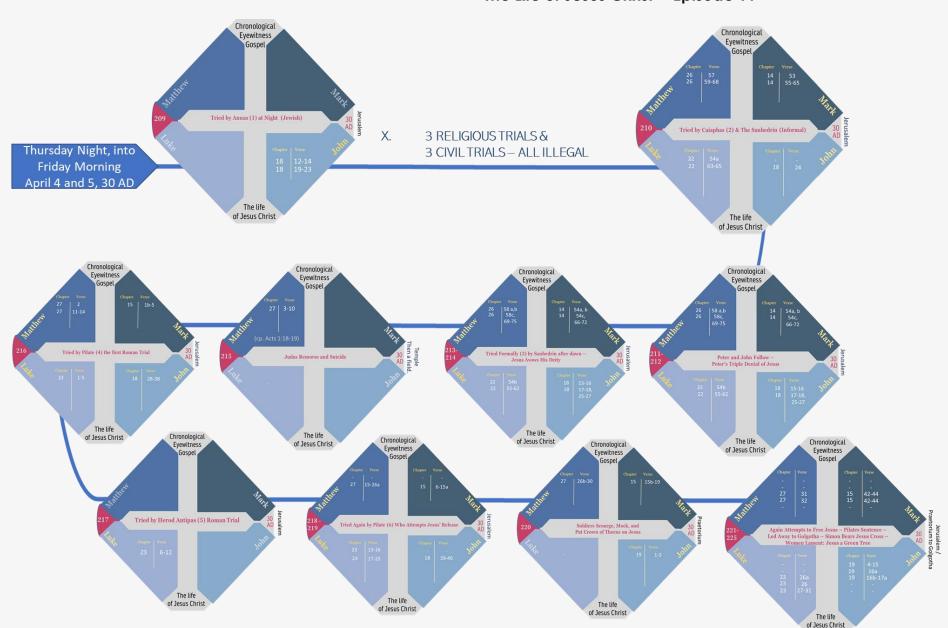


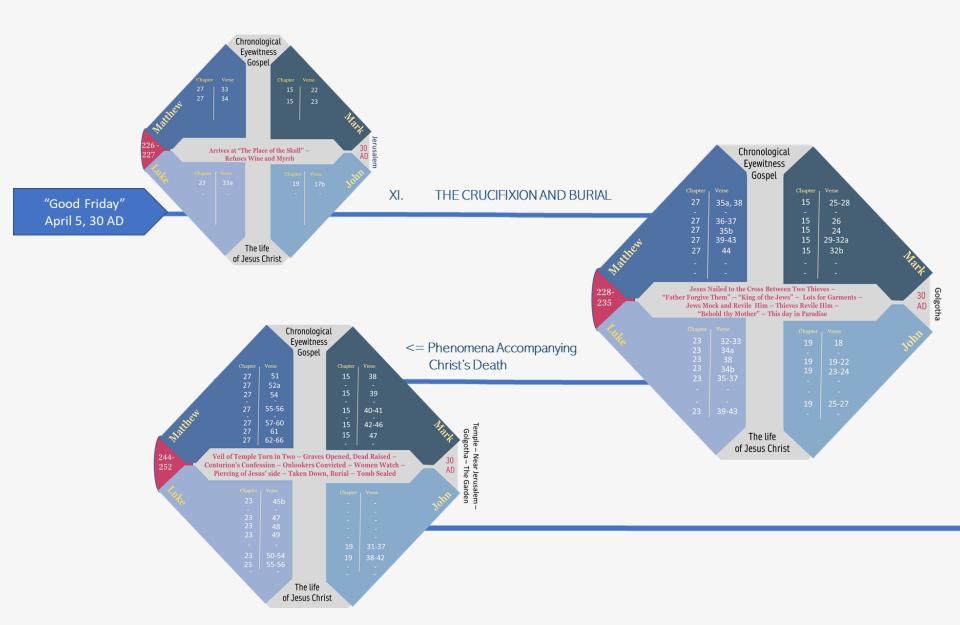
- X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS ALL ILLEGAL
- XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL
- XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS AFTERWARD

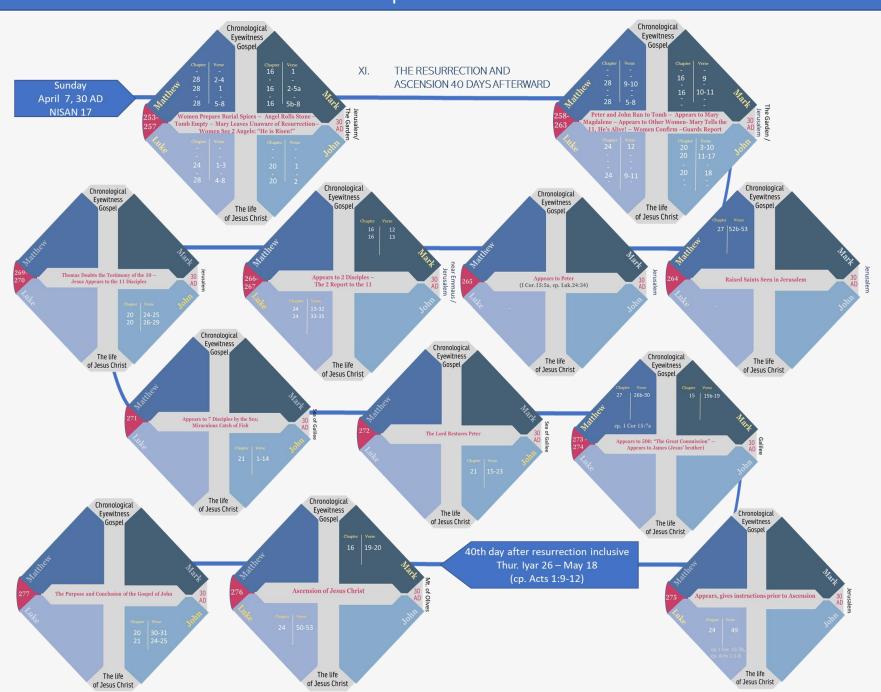


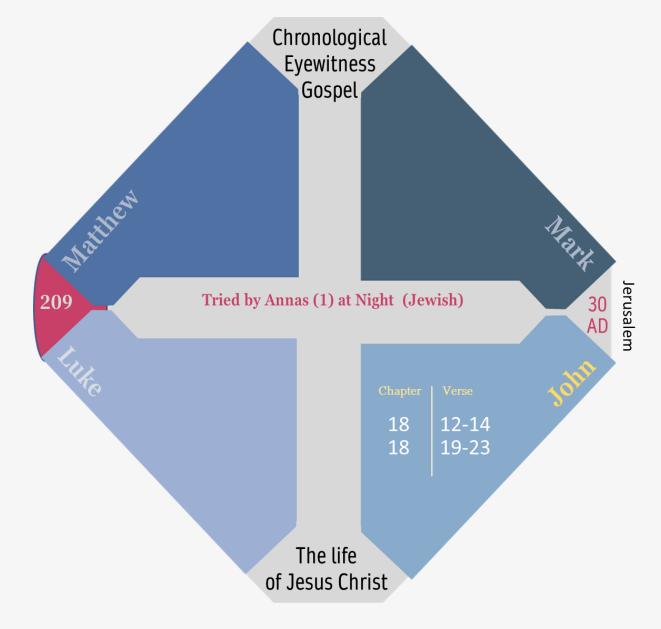
Chronological Eyewitness Gospel:

The Life of Jesus Christ - Episode 11

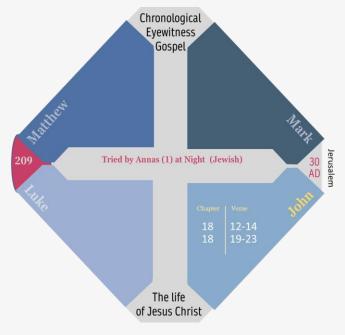








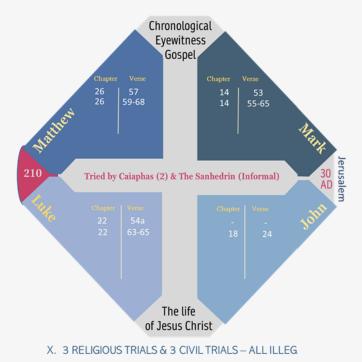
X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS - ALL ILLEGAL



X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS - ALL ILLEGAL

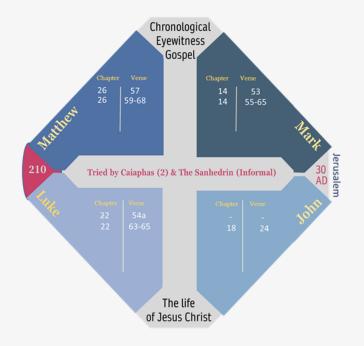
First, they took him to Annas, since he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest at that time. Caiaphas was the one who had told the other Jewish leaders, "It's better that one man should die for the people."

Then Annas bound Jesus and sent him to Caiaphas, the high priest where the leading priests, the elders, and the teachers of religious law had gathered.



Inside, the leading priests and the entire high council were trying to find evidence against and witnesses who would lie about Jesus, so they could put him to death. But they couldn't find any. Even though they found many who agreed to give false witness, they could not use anyone's testimony. Many false witnesses spoke against him, but they contradicted each other.

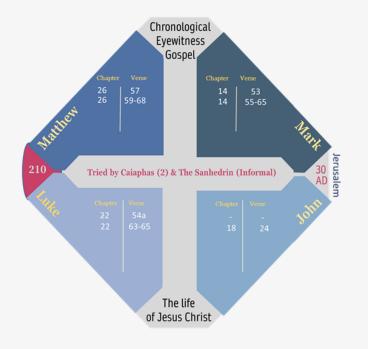
Finally, two men came forward declared this false testimony: One said, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this Temple made with human hands, and in three days I will build another, made without human hands." The other testified, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the Temple of God and rebuild it in three days." Even then they didn't get their stories straight!



The high priest began asking Jesus about his followers and what he had been teaching them. Jesus replied, "Everyone knows what I teach. I have preached regularly in the synagogues and the Temple, where the people gather. I have not spoken in secret. Why are you asking me this question? Ask those who heard me. They know what I said."

Then one of the Temple guards standing nearby slapped Jesus across the face. "Is that the way to answer the high priest?" he demanded.

Jesus replied, "If I said anything wrong, you must prove it. But if I'm speaking the truth, why are you beating me?"

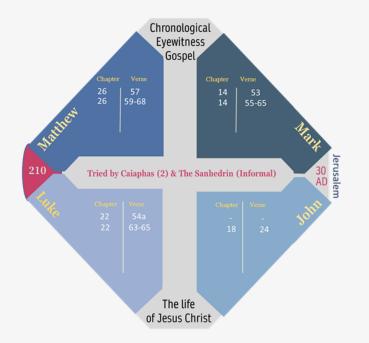


Then the high priest stood up before the others and asked Jesus, "Well, aren't you going to answer these charges? What do you have to say for yourself?" But Jesus was silent and made no reply. Then the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One? I demand in the name of the living God—tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God."

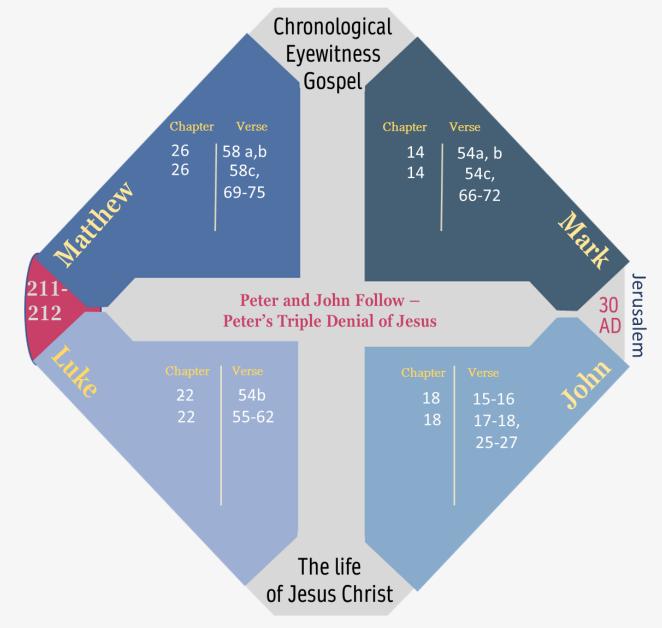
Jesus said, "You have said it. I AM. And in the future, you will see the Son of Man seated in the place of power at God's right hand and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothing to show his horror and said, ""Blasphemy! Why do we need other witnesses? You have all heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?"

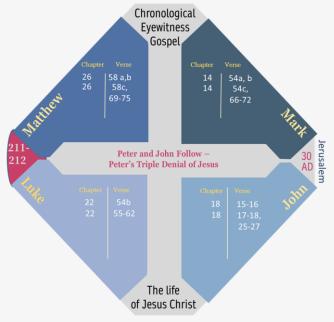
"Guilty!" they all shouted. "He deserves to die!"



Then some of them began to spit in Jesus' face, and they blindfolded him and beat him with their fists, and some of them slapped him. "Prophesy to us," they jeered. "Prophesy to us, you Messiah! Who hit you that time?" And the guards in charge of Jesus began mocking and beating him. They slapped him as they took him away, and they hurled all sorts of terrible insults at him.



X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS - ALL ILLEGAL



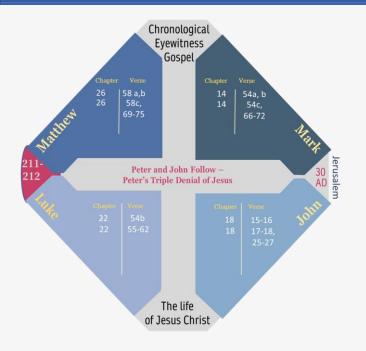
X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS - ALL ILLEGAL

Simon Peter followed Jesus, as did another of the disciples. That other disciple was acquainted with the high priest, so he was allowed to enter the high priest's courtyard with Jesus. But Peter had to stay outside the gate. Then the disciple who knew the high priest spoke to the woman watching at the gate, and she let Peter in.

The woman asked Peter, "You're not one of that man's disciples, are you?"

"No," he said, "I am not."

Because it was cold, the household servants and the guards had made a charcoal fire. They stood around it, warming themselves, and Peter stood with them, warming himself.

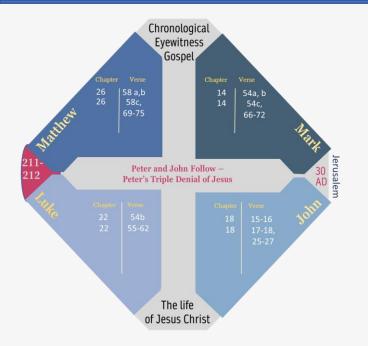


Meanwhile, as Peter was in the courtyard below. One of the servant girls who worked for the high priest came by and noticed Peter warming himself at the fire. She looked at him closely and said, "You were one of those with the Galilean. You were one of those with Jesus of Nazareth."

But Peter denied it in front of everyone. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said, and he went out into the entryway. Just then, a rooster crowed. When the servant girl saw him standing there, she began telling the others, "This man is definitely one of them!" After a while someone else looked at him and said, "You must be one of them!"

"No, man, I'm not!" Peter retorted.

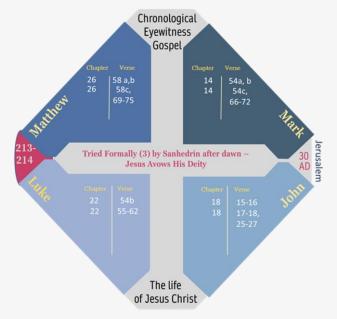
Peter denied it again, this time with an oath. "I don't even know the man," he said.



A little later, after about an hour, some of the other bystanders confronted Peter and someone else insisted, "You must be one of them, because you are a Galilean and he is a Galilean, too."

Peter swore, "A curse on me if I'm lying - Man, I don't know this man you're talking about!" And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed the second time.

At that moment, the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Suddenly, the Lord's words flashed through Peter's mind: "Before the rooster crows twice tomorrow morning, you will deny three times that you even know me." And he broke down and wept. He left the courtyard, weeping bitterly.



X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS - ALL ILLEGAL

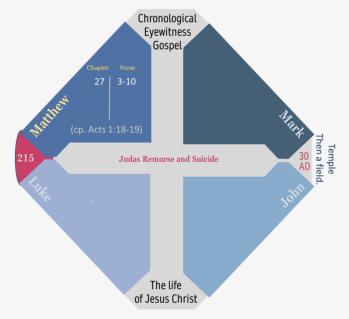
At daybreak all the elders of the people assembled, including the leading priests and the teachers of religious law. Jesus was led before this high council, and they said, "Tell us, are you the Messiah?"

But he replied, "If I tell you, you won't believe me. And if I ask you a question, you won't answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated in the place of power at God's right hand."

They all shouted, "So, are you claiming to be the Son of God?"

And he replied, "You say that I am."

"Why do we need other witnesses?" they said. "We ourselves heard him say it."



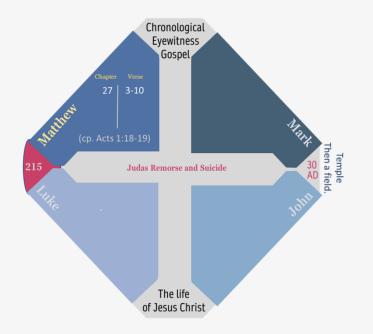
X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS – ALL ILLEGAL

When Judas, who had betrayed him, realized that Jesus had been condemned to die, he was filled with remorse. So he took the thirty pieces of silver back to the leading priests and the elders. "I have sinned," he declared, "for I have betrayed an innocent man."

"What do we care?" they retorted. "That's your problem."

Then Judas threw the silver coins down in the Temple and went out and hanged himself.

The leading priests picked up the coins. "It wouldn't be right to put this money in the Temple treasury," they said, "since it is the price for blood."

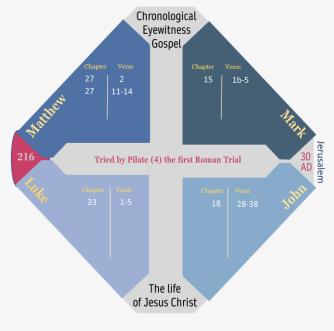


After some discussion they finally decided to buy the potter's field, and they made it into a cemetery for foreigners. That is why the field is still called the Field of Blood.

(Note to reader: Acts 1:18 – 19 reports: Judas had bought a field with the money he received for his treachery. Falling headfirst there, his body split open, spilling out all his intestines. The news of his death spread to all the people of Jerusalem, and they gave the place the Aramaic name Akeldama, which means "Field of Blood.")

This fulfilled the prophecy of Jeremiah that says,

"They took the thirty pieces of silver—
the price at which he was valued by the people
of Israel,
and purchased the potter's field,
as the LORD directed."



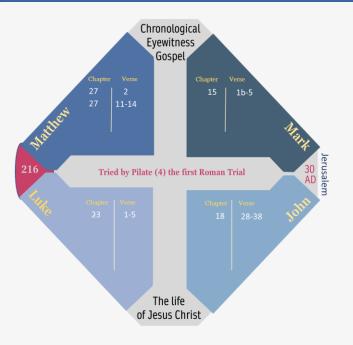
X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS – ALL ILLEGAL

Jesus' trial before Caiaphas ended in the early hours of the morning. Then he was taken to the headquarters of the Roman governor. The entire council took Jesus to Pilate.

His accusers didn't go inside because it would defile them, and they wouldn't be allowed to celebrate the Passover. So Pilate, the governor, went out to them and asked, "What is your charge against this man?" They began to state their case: "This man has been leading our people astray by telling them not to pay their taxes to the Roman government and by claiming he is the Messiah, a king."

"Then take him away and judge him by your own law," Pilate told them.

"We wouldn't have handed him over to you if he weren't a criminal! Only the Romans are permitted to execute someone," the Jewish leaders replied. (This fulfilled Jesus' prediction about the way he would die.)

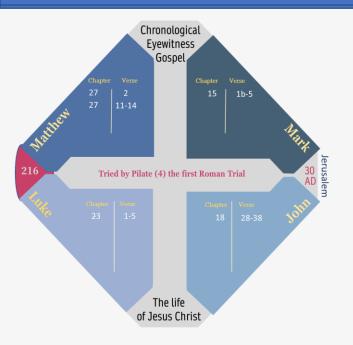


Then Pilate went back into his headquarters and called for Jesus to be brought to him. Now Jesus was standing before Pilate, the Roman governor. "Are you the king of the Jews?" he asked him.

Jesus replied, "Is this your own question, or did others tell you about me?"

"Am I a Jew?" Pilate retorted. "Your own people and their leading priests brought you to me for trial. Why? What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But my Kingdom is not of this world."

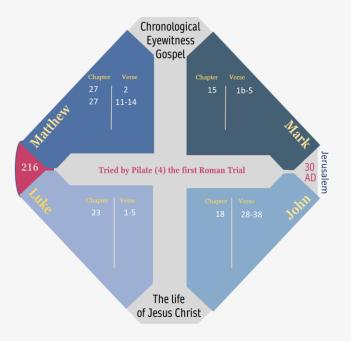


Pilate said, "So you are a king?"

Jesus responded, "You have said it. You say I am a king. Actually, I was born and came into the world to testify to the truth. All who love the truth recognize that what I say is true."

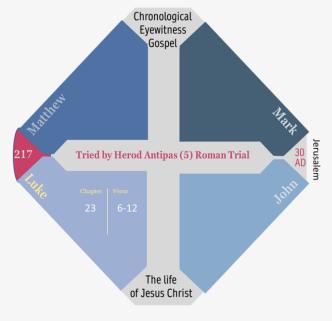
"What is truth?" Pilate asked. Then he went out again to the people and told them, "He is not guilty of any crime.

But when the leading priests and the elders made their accusations against him, Jesus remained silent. Then the leading priests kept accusing him of many crimes, and Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to answer them?" But Jesus said nothing.



"Don't you hear all these charges they are bringing against you?" Pilate demanded. But much to the governor's surprise, Jesus made no response to any of the charges.

Pilate turned to the leading priests and to the crowd and said, "I find nothing wrong with this man!"
Then they became insistent. "But he is causing riots by his teaching wherever he goes—all over Judea, from Galilee to Jerusalem!"

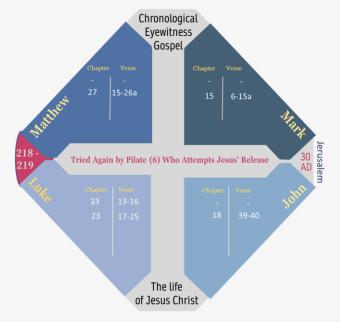


X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS - ALL ILLEGAL

"Oh, is he a Galilean?" Pilate asked. When they said that he was, Pilate sent him to Herod Antipas, because Galilee was under Herod's jurisdiction, and Herod happened to be in Jerusalem at the time.

Herod was delighted at the opportunity to see Jesus, because he had heard about him and had been hoping for a long time to see him perform a miracle. He asked Jesus question after question, but Jesus refused to answer. Meanwhile, the leading priests and the teachers of religious law stood there shouting their accusations.

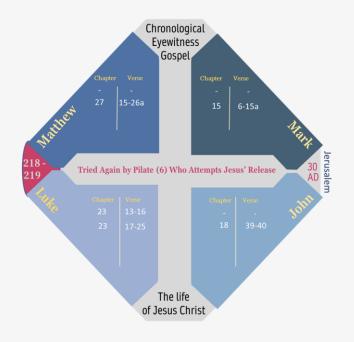
Then Herod and his soldiers began mocking and ridiculing Jesus. Finally, they put a royal robe on him and sent him back to Pilate. (Herod and Pilate, who had been enemies before, became friends that day.)



X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS - ALL ILLEGAL

Then Pilate called together the leading priests and other religious leaders, along with the people, and he announced his verdict. "You brought this man to me, accusing him of leading a revolt. I have examined him thoroughly on this point in your presence and find him innocent. Herod came to the same conclusion and sent him back to us. Nothing this man has done calls for the death penalty. So I will have him flogged, and then I will release him."

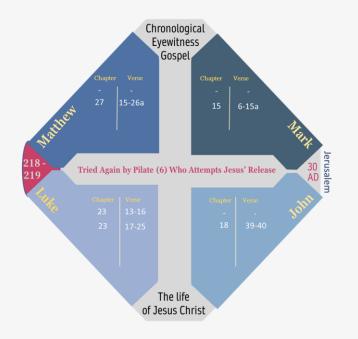
Now it was the governor's custom each year during the Passover celebration to release one prisoner to the crowd - anyone the people requested, anyone they wanted. This year, one of the prisoners at that time was a notorious prisoner, a man named Barabbas, a revolutionary who had committed murder in an uprising. (Barabbas was in prison for taking part in an insurrection in Jerusalem against the government, and for murder.)



As the crowds gathered before Pilate's house that morning, a mighty roar rose from the crowd, and with one voice they shouted, "Kill him, and release Barabbas to us!" Pilate argued with them because he wanted to release Jesus. But they kept shouting, "Crucify him!"

"Would you like me to release to you this 'King of the Jews'?" Pilate asked, "Which one do you want me to release to you - Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" (For he realized by now that the leading priests had arrested Jesus out of envy.)

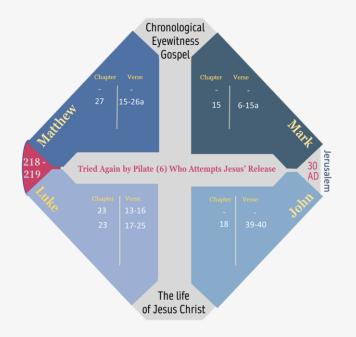
Just then, as Pilate was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him this message: "Leave that innocent man alone. I suffered through a terrible nightmare about him last night."



Meanwhile, the leading priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas to be released and for Jesus to be put to death. So the governor asked again, "Which of these two do you want me to release to you?" But at this point the leading priests stirred up the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas instead of Jesus.

The crowd shouted back, "No! Not this man. We want Barabbas!"

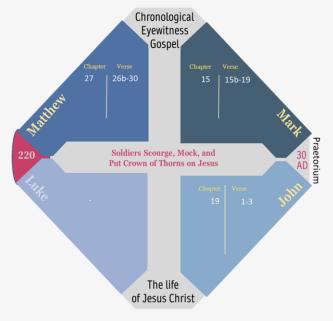
For the third time he demanded, "Why? What crime has he committed? I have found no reason to sentence him to death. So I will have him flogged, and then I will release him."



But the mob shouted louder and louder, demanding that Jesus be crucified, and their voices prevailed. Pilate saw that he wasn't getting anywhere and that a riot was developing. So he sent for a bowl of water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood. The responsibility is yours!"

And all the people yelled back, "We will take responsibility for his death - his blood be on us and on our children!"

So Pilate sentenced Jesus to die as they demanded. To pacify the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. As they had requested, he released Barabbas, the man in prison for insurrection and murder. But he turned Jesus over to them to do as they wished.

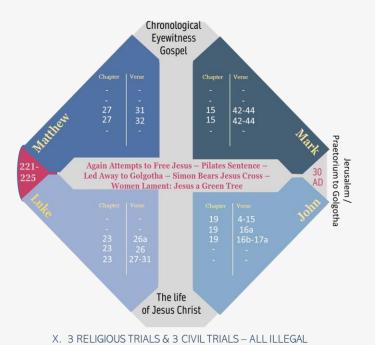


X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS - ALL ILLEGAL

Then Pilate ordered Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip, then turned him over to the Roman soldiers to be crucified.

Some of the governor's soldiers took Jesus into their headquarters and called out the entire regiment. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. The soldiers wove thorn branches into a crown of thorns and put it on his head, they placed a reed stick in his right hand as a scepter, and they put a purple robe on him. Then they knelt before him in mockery and taunted, "Hail! King of the Jews!" they mocked, as they slapped him across the face.

And they spit on him and grabbed the stick and struck him on the head with it.



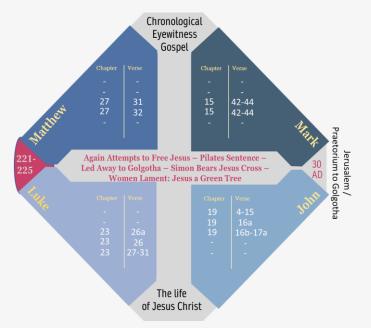
Pilate went outside again and said to the people, "I am going to bring him out to you now but understand clearly that I find him not guilty."

Then Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said, "Look, here is the man!"

When they saw him, the leading priests and Temple guards began shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

"Take him yourselves and crucify him," Pilate said. "I find him not guilty."

The Jewish leaders replied, "By our law he ought to die because he called himself the Son of God."

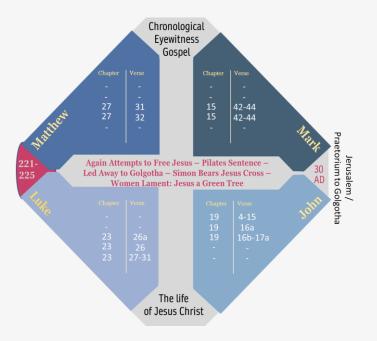


When Pilate heard this, he was more frightened than ever. He took Jesus back into the headquarters again and asked him, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. "Why don't you talk to me?" Pilate demanded. "Don't you realize that I have the power to release you or crucify you?"

Then Jesus said, "You would have no power over me at all unless it were given to you from above. So the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin."

Then Pilate tried to release him, but the Jewish leaders shouted, "If you release this man, you are no 'friend of Caesar.' Anyone who declares himself a king is a rebel against Caesar."

When they said this, Pilate brought Jesus out to them again.



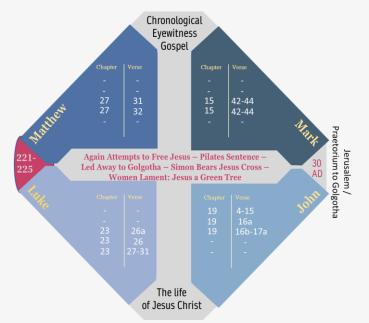
Then Pilate sat down on the judgment seat on the platform that is called the Stone Pavement (in Hebrew, *Gabbatha*). It was now about noon on the day of preparation for the Passover. And Pilate said to the people, "Look, here is your king!"

"Away with him," they yelled. "Away with him! Crucify him!"

"What? Crucify your king?" Pilate asked.

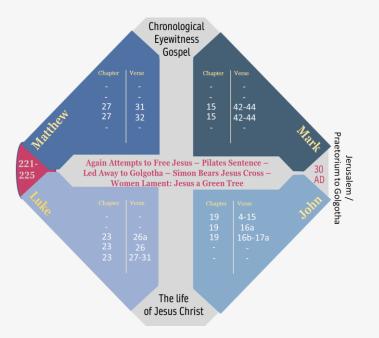
"We have no king but Caesar," the leading priests shouted back.

Then Pilate turned Jesus over to them to be crucified.

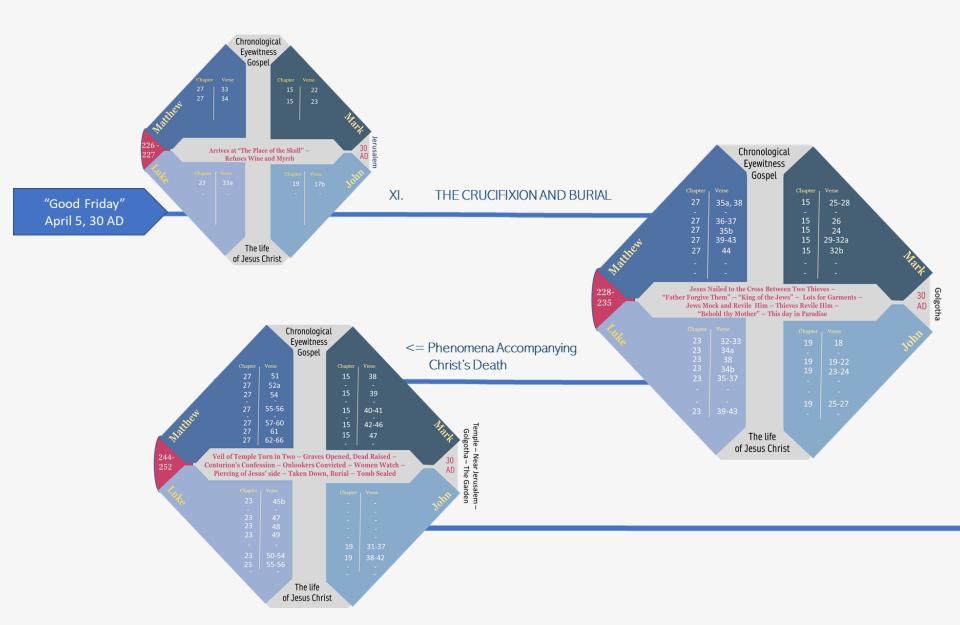


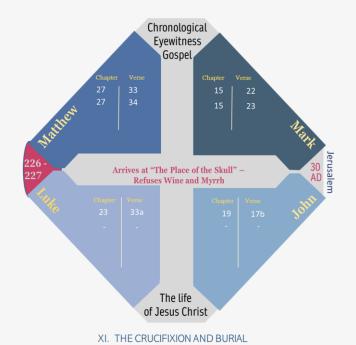
So they took Jesus away. Carrying the cross by himself. When they were finally tired of mocking him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him again. Then they led him away to be crucified.

Along the way, they came across a passerby, a man named Simon, who was from Cyrene. He happened to be coming in from the countryside just then, and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross. (Simon was the father of Alexander and Rufus.) The soldiers seized him and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus.



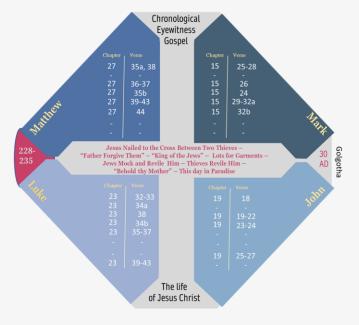
A large crowd trailed behind, including many grief-stricken women. But Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, don't weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are coming when they will say, 'Fortunate indeed are the women who are childless, the wombs that have not borne a child and the breasts that have never nursed.' People will beg the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and plead with the hills, 'Bury us.' For if these things are done when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?"





When they came to a place called "The Place of The Skull" (in Hebrew Golgotha, in Latin Calvary).

They offered him wine drugged with myrrh, but he refused it. The soldiers gave Jesus wine mixed with bitter gall, but when he had tasted it, he refused to drink it.

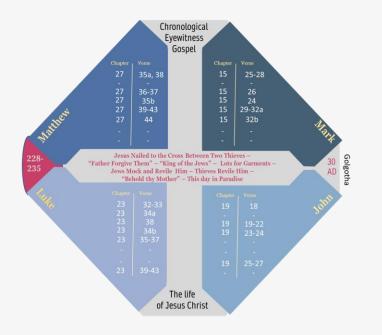


XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL

Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him. When they came to the "Place called The Skull," they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified - one on his right and one on his left. There they nailed him to the cross. Two others were crucified with him, one on either side, with Jesus between them.

And the Scripture was fulfilled that said, "He was counted among those who were rebels.

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing."

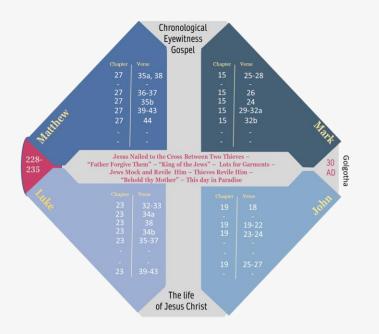


Pilate posted a sign on the cross. A sign was fastened above him with these words: "This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." The place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek, so that many people could read it.

Then the leading priests objected and said to Pilate, "Change it from 'The King of the Jews' to 'He said, I am King of the Jews."

Pilate replied, "No, what I have written, I have written."

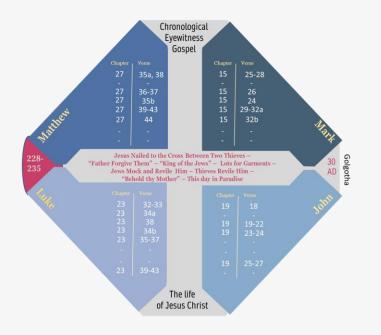
Then the soldiers nailed him to the cross.



When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they divided his clothes among the four of them. They also took his robe, but it was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. So they said, "Rather than tearing it apart, let's cast lots for it." So that is what they did. The soldiers gambled for his clothes by casting lots and fulfilled the Scripture that says, "They divided my garments among themselves and cast lots for my clothing."

The people passing by shouted abuse, shaking their heads in mockery. "Ha! Look at you now!" they yelled at him. "You said you were going to destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days. Well then, if you are the Son of God, save yourself and come down from the cross!"

The crowd watched and the leaders scoffed. "He saved others," they said, "let him save himself if he is really God's Messiah, the Chosen One."

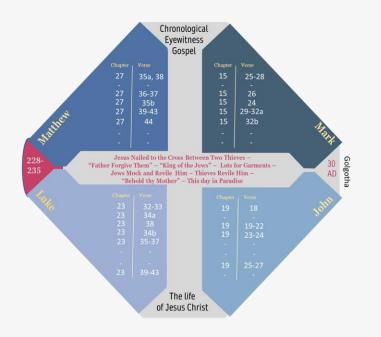


The leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders also mocked Jesus. "He saved others," they scoffed, "but he can't save himself! So he is the King of Israel, is he? Let this Messiah, this King of Israel, come down from the cross so we can see it and believe him!

"He trusted God, so let God rescue him now if he wants him! For he said, 'I am the Son of God."

The soldiers mocked him, too, by offering him a drink of sour wine. They called out to him, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

Even the revolutionaries who were crucified with him ridiculed him in the same way.

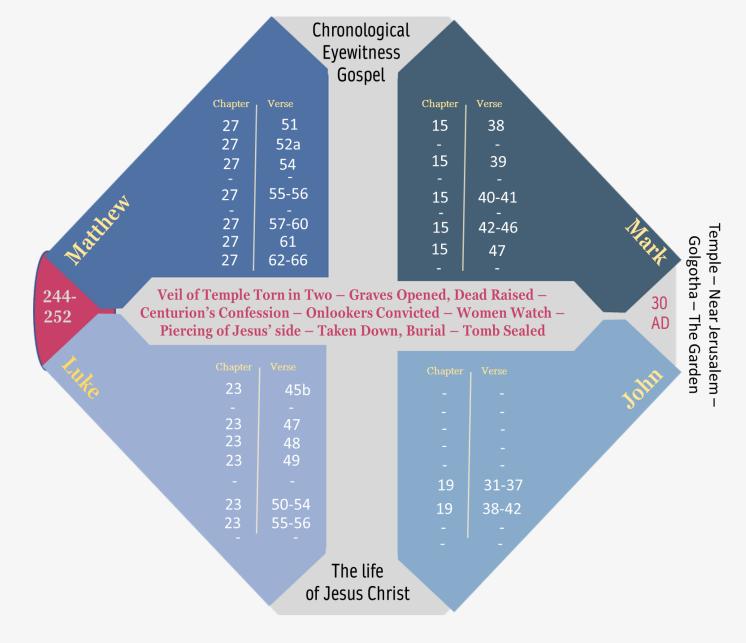


Standing near the cross were Jesus' mother, and his mother's sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, "Dear woman, here is your son." And he said to this disciple (Note to reader: presumably John, from the Gospel of John), "Here is your mother." And from then on, this disciple took her into his home.

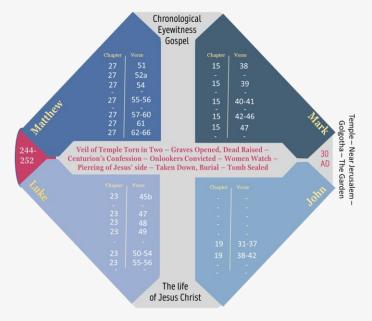
One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, "So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you're at it!"

But the other criminal protested, "Don't you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn't done anything wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom."

And Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise."



XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL



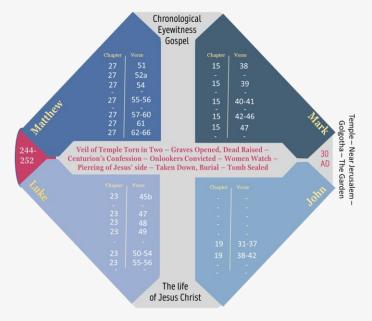
XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL

Phenomena Accompanying Christ's Death

The light from the sun was gone. And suddenly, at that moment the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn in two, down the middle, from top to bottom.

The earth shook, rocks split apart, and tombs opened. The bodies of many godly men and women who had died were raised from the dead. (They left the cemetery after Jesus' resurrection, went into the holy city of Jerusalem, and appeared to many people.)

When the Roman officer, a Centurion overseeing the execution who stood facing him saw what had happened, how he had died, he worshiped God and said, "Surely this man was innocent." The Centurion and the other soldiers at the crucifixion were terrified by the earthquake and all that had happened. The Centurion and the others said, "This man truly was the Son of God!"

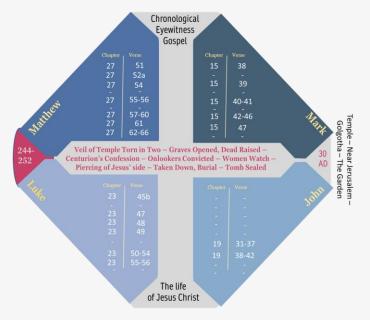


XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL

Phenomena Accompanying Christ's Death

And when all the crowd that came to see the crucifixion saw what had happened, they went home in deep sorrow.

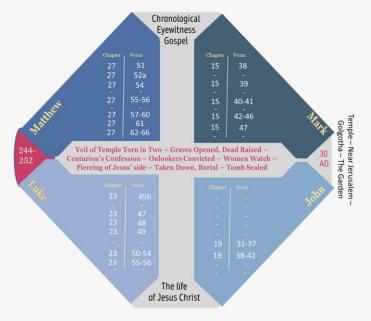
But Jesus' friends, including the many women who had followed him from Galilee to care for him stood watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary (the mother of James the younger and of Joseph), and Salome, the mother of James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They had been followers of Jesus and had cared for him while he was in Galilee, and many other women who had come with him to Jerusalem were also there.



XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL

Phenomena Accompanying Christ's Death

It was the day of preparation, and the Jewish leaders didn't want the bodies hanging there the next day, which was the Sabbath (and a very special Sabbath, because it was Passover week). So they asked Pilate to hasten their deaths by ordering that their legs be broken. Then their bodies could be taken down. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the two men crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead, so they didn't break his legs. One of the soldiers, however, pierced his side with a spear, and immediately blood and water flowed out. (This report is from an eyewitness giving an accurate account. He speaks the truth so that you also may continue to believe.) These things happened in fulfillment of the Scriptures that say, "Not one of his bones will be broken," and "They will look on the one they pierced."



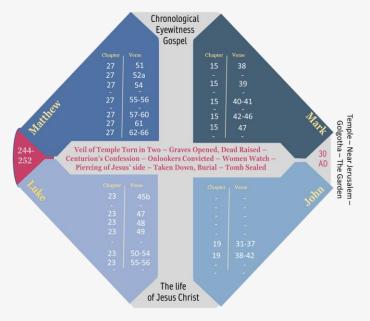
XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL

Phenomena Accompanying Christ's Death

As evening approached, there was a good and righteous man named Joseph who had become a follower of Jesus. He had been a secret disciple of Jesus (because he feared the Jewish leaders), and he was an honored member of the Jewish high council, but he had not agreed with the decision and actions of the other religious leaders. He was from the town of Arimathea in Judea, and he was waiting for the Kingdom of God to come.

This all happened on Friday, the day of preparation, the day before the Sabbath. As evening approached, Joseph of Arimathea took a risk and went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body.

Pilate couldn't believe that Jesus was already dead, so he called for the Roman officer and asked if he had died yet. The officer confirmed that Jesus was dead, so Pilate told Joseph he could have the body and issued an order to release it to him.



XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL

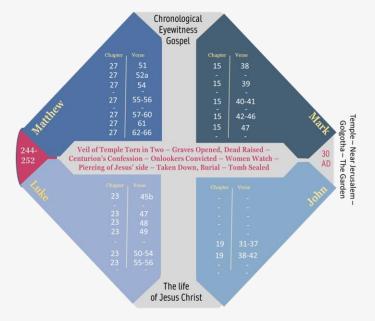
Phenomena Accompanying Christ's Death

When Pilate gave permission, Joseph came and took the body away. With him came Nicodemus, the man who had come to Jesus at night. He brought about seventy-five pounds of perfumed ointment made from myrrh and aloes.

Joseph bought a long sheet of linen cloth. Then he took Jesus' body down from the cross and wrapped it in the long sheet of linen cloth and laid it in a new tomb that had been carved out of rock.

Following Jewish burial custom, they wrapped Jesus' body with the spices in long sheets of linen cloth. The place of crucifixion was near a garden, where there was a new tomb, never used before. And so, because it was the day of preparation for the Jewish Passover and since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Then he rolled a great stone across the entrance and left.

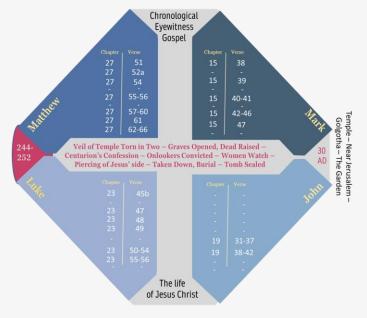


XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL

Phenomena Accompanying Christ's Death

As his body was taken away, the women from Galilee followed and saw the tomb where his body was placed. Both Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting across from the tomb and watching, so they both saw where Jesus' body was laid. Then they went home and prepared spices and ointments to anoint his body. But by the time they were finished the Sabbath had begun, so they rested as required by the law.

This was done late on Friday afternoon, the day of preparation, as the Sabbath was about to begin.

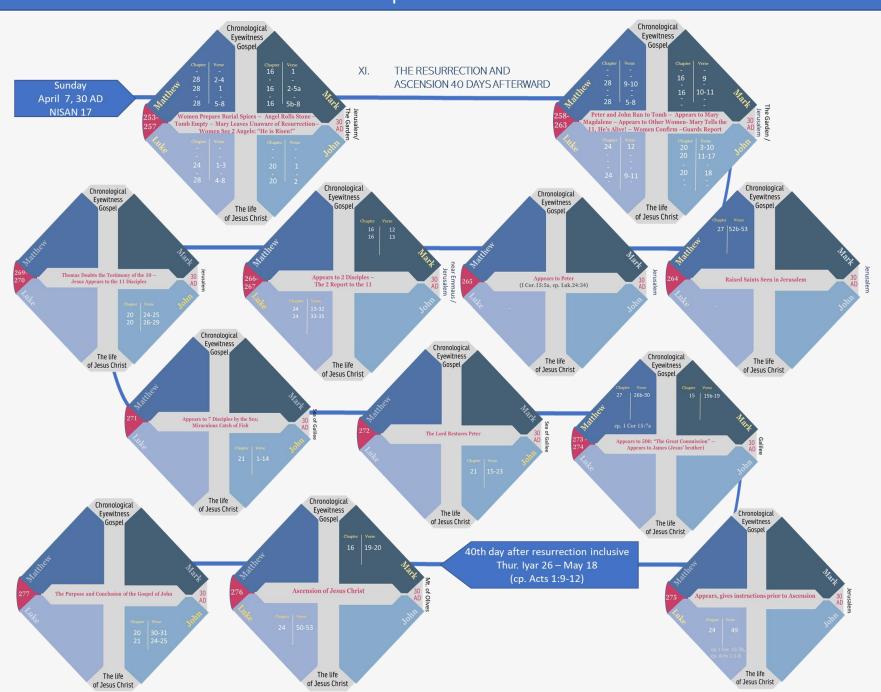


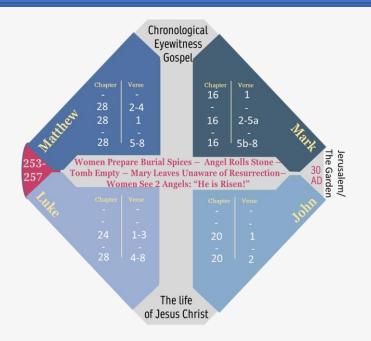
XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL

Phenomena Accompanying Christ's Death

The next day, on the Sabbath, the leading priests and Pharisees went to see Pilate. They told him, "Sir, we remember what that deceiver once said while he was still alive: 'After three days I will rise from the dead.' So we request that you seal the tomb until the third day. This will prevent his disciples from coming and stealing his body and then telling everyone he was raised from the dead! If that happens, we'll be worse off than we were at first."

Pilate replied, "Take guards and secure it the best you can." So they sealed the tomb and posted guards to protect it.

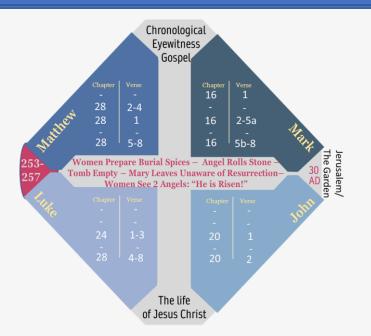




XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

SUN. APRIL 7, AD 30 NISAN 17 Saturday evening, early on Sunday Morning when it was still dark, when the Sabbath ended Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went out and purchased burial spices so they could anoint Jesus' body. Very early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning at sunrise, the women went to the tomb taking the spices they had prepared.

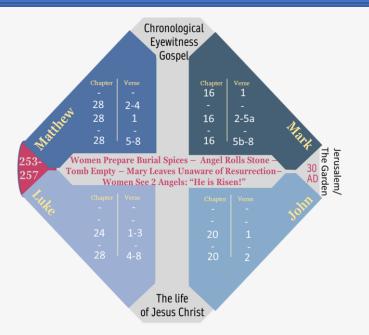
On the way they were asking each other, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" But as they arrived, they looked up and saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled away from the entrance. So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus.



Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. As the women stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes. When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a white robe sitting on the right side. The women were shocked. They were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground.

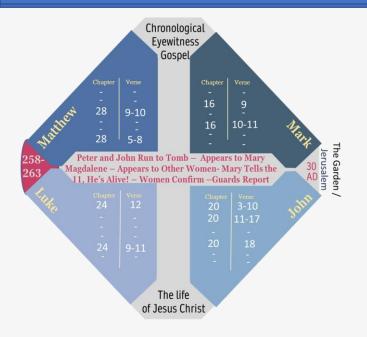
Then the men asked, "Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what he told you back in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day."

Then they remembered that he had said this.



The women were shocked, but the angel said, "Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Look, this is where they laid his body. Now go and tell his disciples, including Peter, that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you before he died."

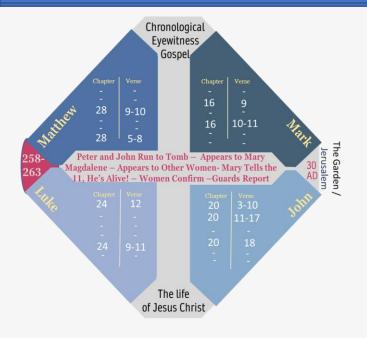
The women fled quickly from the tomb, trembling and bewildered, and they said nothing to anyone because they were too frightened. They were very frightened but also filled with great joy, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel's message.



XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

SUN. APRIL 7, AD 30 NISAN 17 Mary Magdalene found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, so they immediately started out for the tomb. Peter jumped up and ran to the tomb to look. Stooping, he peered in and saw the empty linen. They were both running, but the other disciple (John) outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn't go in.

Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed - for until then, they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead. Then they went home again, wondering what had happened.



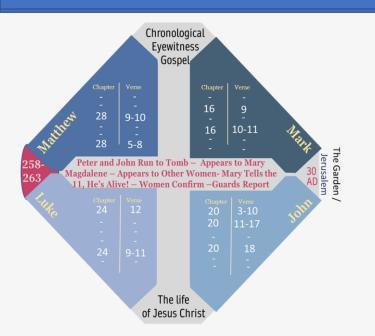
XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

SUN. APRIL 7, AD 30 NISAN 17 But Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. "Dear woman, why are you crying?" the angels asked her.

"Because they have taken away my Lord," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put him."

She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognize him. "Dear woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?"

After Jesus rose from the dead early on Sunday morning, the first person who saw him was Mary Magdalene, the woman from whom he had cast out seven demons. She thought he was the gardener. "Sir," she said, "if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him." "Mary!" Jesus said.

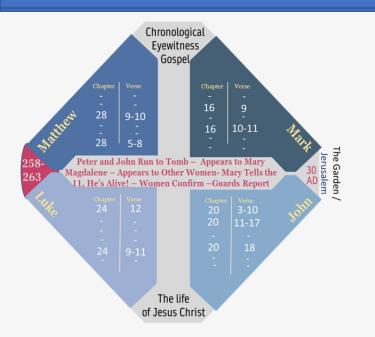


She turned to him and cried out, "Rabboni!" (which is Hebrew for "Teacher").

"Don't cling to me," Jesus said, "for I haven't yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

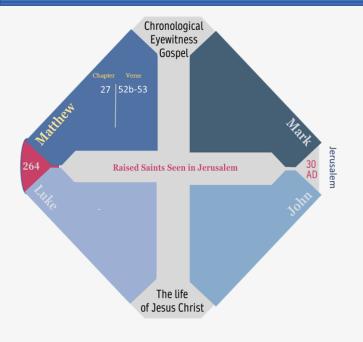
Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there."

So they rushed back from the tomb to tell his eleven disciples—and everyone else—what had happened. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and several other women who told the apostles what had happened. And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, grasped his feet, and worshiped him.



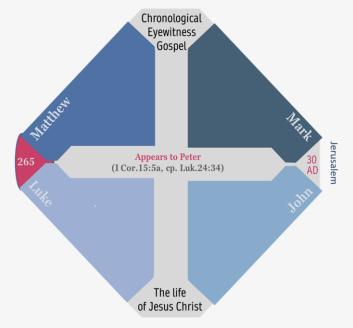
Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, "I have seen the Lord!" Then she gave them his message. She went to the disciples, who were grieving and weeping, and told them what had happened. But when she told them that Jesus was alive and she had seen him, they didn't believe her. The story sounded like nonsense to the men, so they didn't believe it.

As the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and told the leading priests what had happened. A meeting with the elders was called, and they decided to give the soldiers a large bribe. They told the soldiers, "You must say, 'Jesus' disciples came during the night while we were sleeping, and they stole his body.' If the governor hears about it, we'll stand up for you, so you won't get in trouble." So the guards accepted the bribe and said what they were told to say. Their story spread widely among the Jews, and they still tell it today.



XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

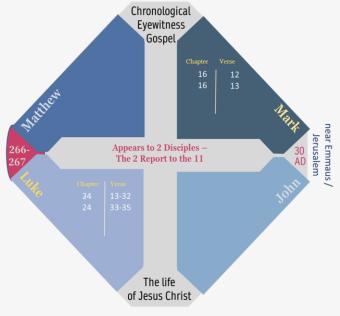
Tombs opened. The bodies of many godly men and women who had died were raised from the dead. They left the cemetery after Jesus' resurrection, went into the holy city of Jerusalem, and appeared to many people.



XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

Testimony from the Apostle Paul's first letter to the Corinthian church. Written about ten years later:

I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him. For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I'm not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God's church.



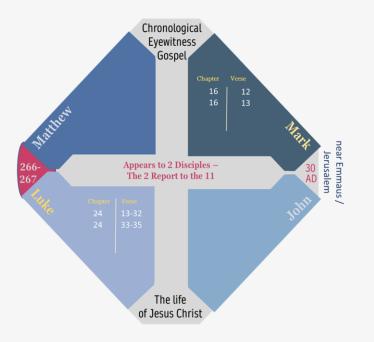
XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. As they walked along, they were talking about everything that had happened.

Afterward he appeared in a different form to two of his followers who were walking from Jerusalem into the country. As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. But God kept them from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?"

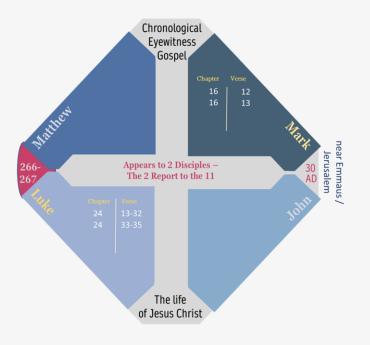
They stopped short; sadness written across their faces. Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days."

"What things?" Jesus asked.



"The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.

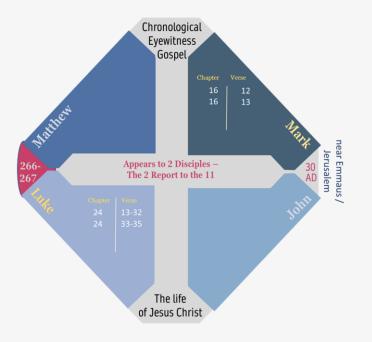
"Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said."



Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?" Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

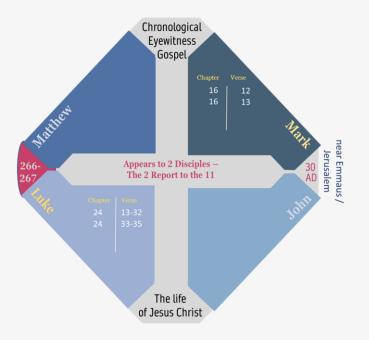
By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, but they begged him, "Stay the night with us, since it is getting late." So he went home with them. As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared!

They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?



And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven disciples and the others who had gathered with them, who said, "The Lord has really risen! He appeared to Peter." They rushed back to tell the others, but no one believed them.

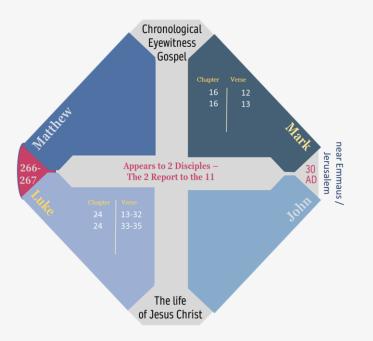
Still later he appeared to the eleven disciples as they were eating together. That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. As they were eating, the two from Emmaus told their story of how Jesus had appeared to them as they were walking along the road, and how they had recognized him as he was breaking the bread. And just as they were telling about it, Jesus himself was suddenly standing there among them. "Peace be with you," he said.



As Jesus spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! But the whole group was startled and frightened, thinking they were seeing a ghost! "Why are you frightened?" he asked.

He rebuked them for their stubborn unbelief because they refused to believe those who had seen him after he had been raised from the dead: "Why are your hearts filled with doubt? Look at my hands. Look at my feet. You can see that it's really me. Touch me and make sure that I am not a ghost, because ghosts don't have bodies, as you see that I do."

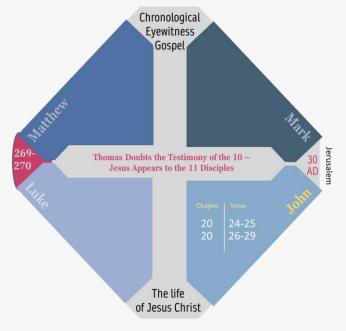
As he spoke, he showed them his hands and his feet. Still they stood there in disbelief, filled with joy and wonder. Then he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he ate it as they watched.



Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.' You are witnesses of all these things.

Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."



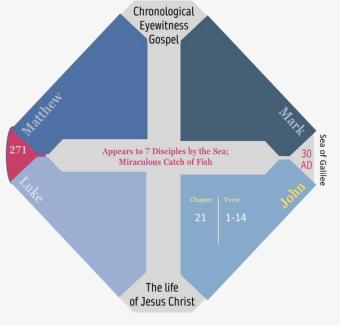
XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. They told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."

Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"

"My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed.
Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me."



XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

Later, Jesus appeared again to the disciples beside the Sea of Galilee. This is how it happened. Several of the disciples were there—Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples.

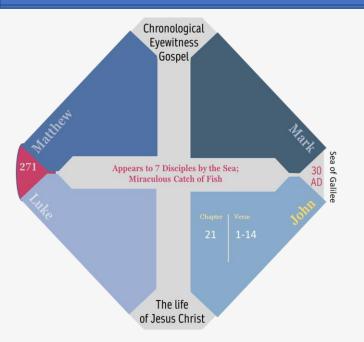
Simon Peter said, "I'm going fishing."

"We'll come, too," they all said. So they went out in the boat, but they caught nothing all night.

At dawn Jesus was standing on the beach, but the disciples couldn't see who he was. He called out, "Fellows, have you caught any fish?"

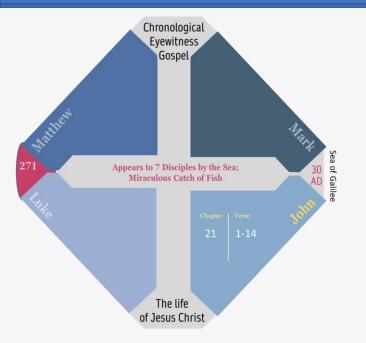
"No," they replied.

Then he said, "Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you'll get some!" So they did, and they couldn't haul in the net because there were so many fish in it!



Then the disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord!"

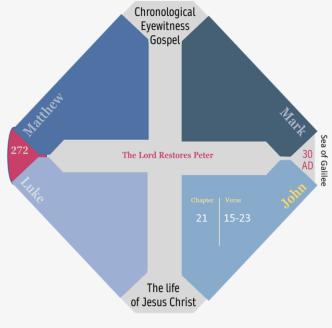
When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his tunic (for he had stripped for work), jumped into the water, and headed to shore. The others stayed with the boat and pulled the loaded net to the shore, for they were only about a hundred yards from shore. When they got there, they found breakfast waiting for them—fish cooking over a charcoal fire, and some bread.



"Bring some of the fish you've just caught," Jesus said. So Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore. There were 153 large fish, and yet the net hadn't torn.

"Now come and have some breakfast!" Jesus said.

None of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Then Jesus served them the bread and the fish. This was the third time Jesus had appeared to his disciples since he had been raised from the dead.



XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," Peter replied, "you know I love you." "Then feed my lambs," Jesus told him.

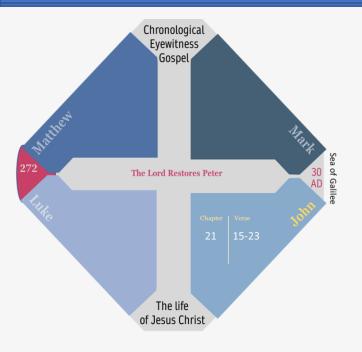
Jesus repeated the question: "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

"Yes, Lord," Peter said, "you know I love you." "Then take care of my sheep," Jesus said.

A third time he asked him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you."

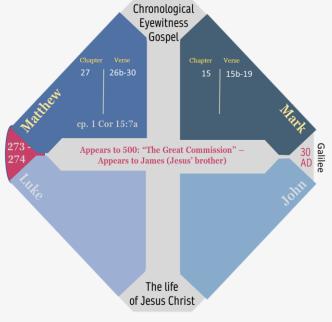
Jesus said, "Then feed my sheep."



"I tell you the truth, when you were young, you were able to do as you liked; you dressed yourself and went wherever you wanted to go. But when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and others will dress you and take you where you don't want to go." Jesus said this to let him know by what kind of death he would glorify God. Then Jesus told him, "Follow me."

Peter turned around and saw behind them the disciple Jesus loved (*John*) - the one who had leaned over to Jesus during supper and asked, "Lord, who will betray you?" Seeing him, Peter asked Jesus, "What about him, Lord?"

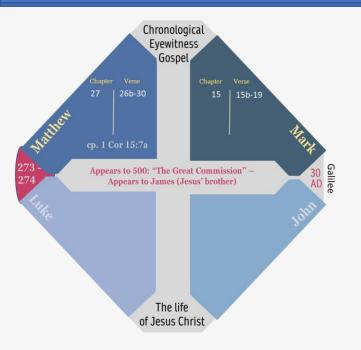
Jesus replied, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? As for you, follow me." So the rumor spread among the community of believers that this disciple wouldn't die. But that isn't what Jesus said at all. He only said, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?"



XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted!

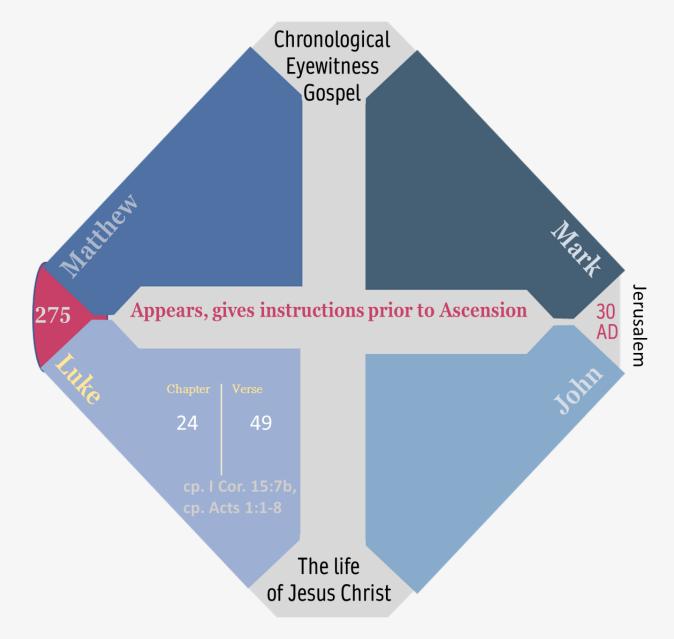
(Paul reports in his first letter to the Corinthian Church about 10 years later: he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he was seen by James, and later by all the apostles.)



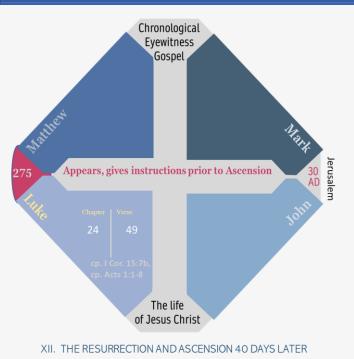
Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.

Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned. These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages. They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed."

And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.



XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER



Acts 1: 1 -5

In my first book I told you, Theophilus (which means friend of God or (be)loved by God), about everything Jesus began to do and teach until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God.

Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."



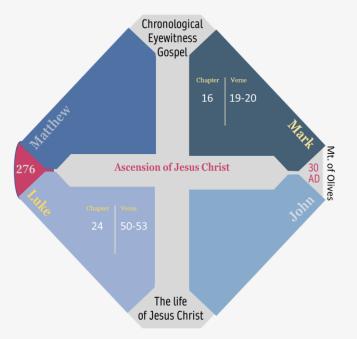
Luke 24:49

"And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven."

Acts 1: 6 − 8

So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?"

He replied, "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

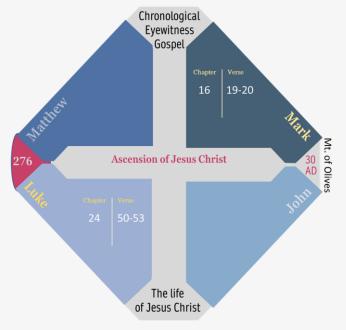


XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

40th day after resurrection inclusive **Thur. Iyar 26 – May 18** (cp. Acts 1:9-12)

Then Jesus led them to Bethany, and lifting his hands to heaven, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. He left them and was taken up to heaven. When the Lord Jesus had finished talking with them, he was taken up into heaven and sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand. So they worshiped him.

As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!"

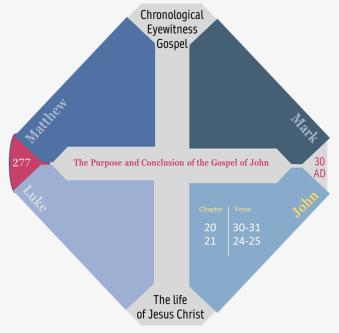


XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

40th day after resurrection inclusive **Thur. Iyar 26 – May 18** (cp. Acts 1:9-12)

So Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath's day journey, filled with great joy. And they spent all of their time in the Temple, praising God. Amen.

And the disciples went everywhere and preached, and the Lord worked through them, confirming what they said by many miraculous signs. Amen.



XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS LATER

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

This is the disciple who testifies of these things (John) and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true.

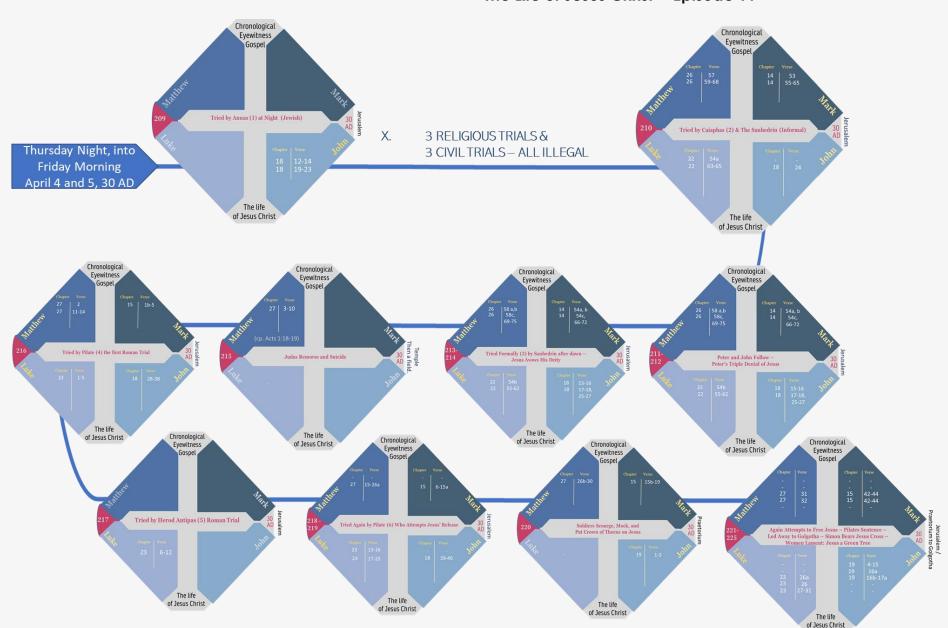
And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

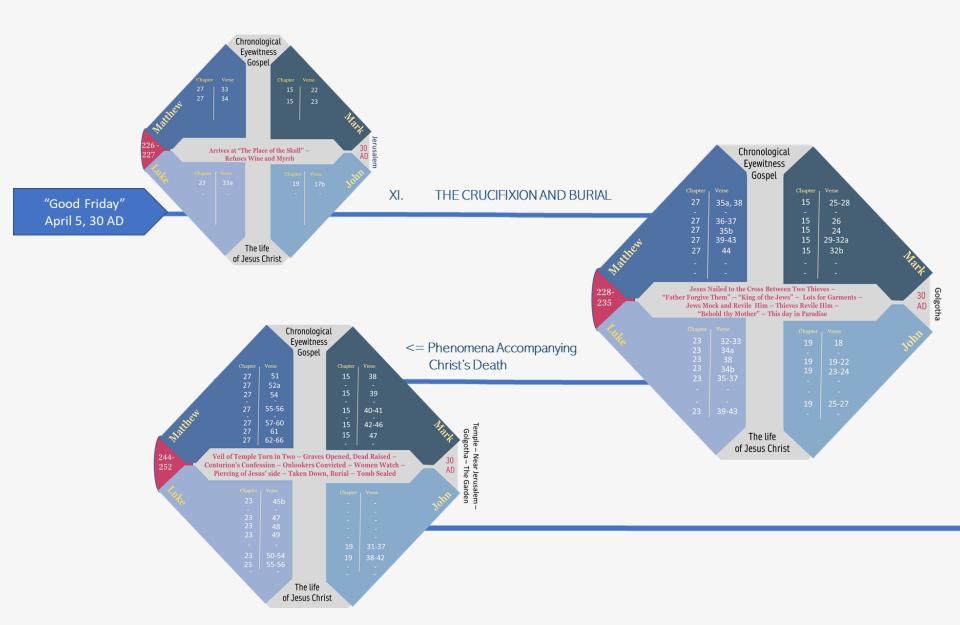
- X. 3 RELIGIOUS TRIALS & 3 CIVIL TRIALS ALL ILLEGAL
- XI. THE CRUCIFIXION AND BURIAL
- XII. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION 40 DAYS AFTERWARD

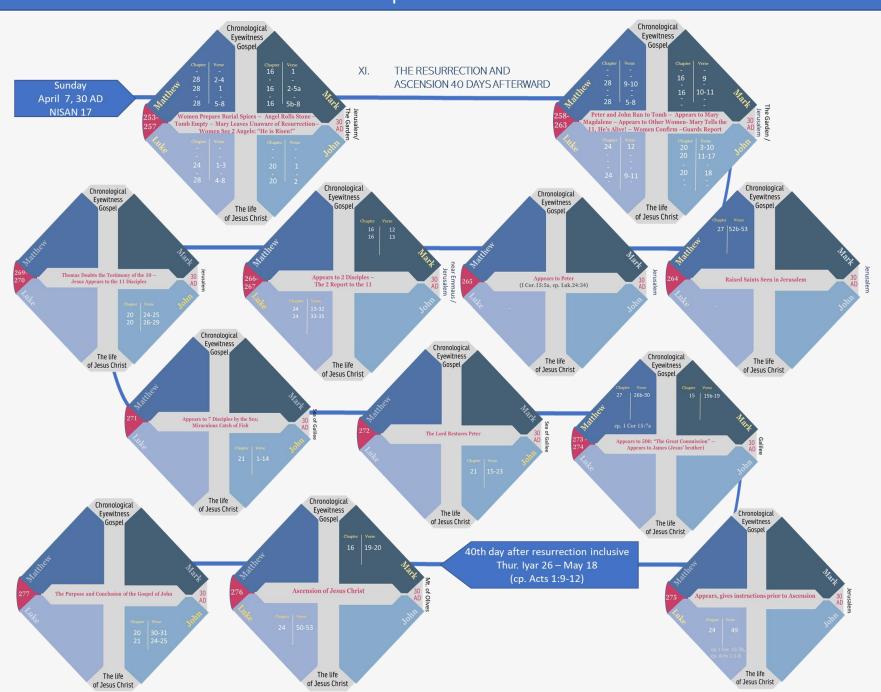


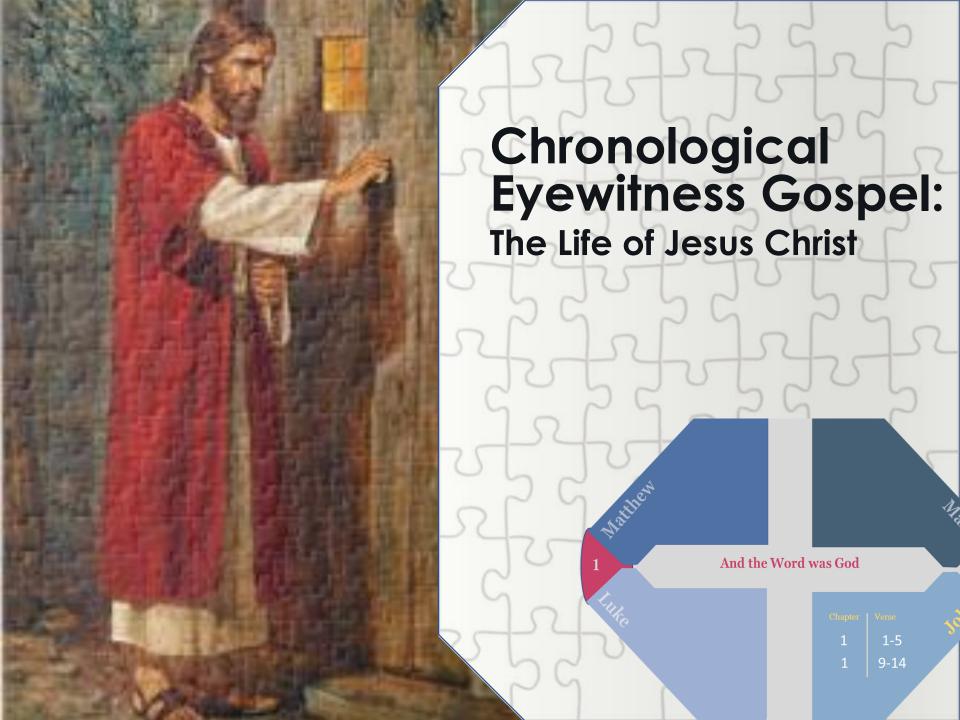
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