# ABRAHAM JESUS AND THE CROSS

WHAT IS THE CONNECTION?

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# **Chapter 1 - Introduction**

The old testament in the bible can be a very hard book to read. There is a great deal of information about genealogies, animal sacrifices, dietary laws, and the very detailed plans for the tabernacle. Reading all this can be very challenging and for this reason many people neglect this all important part of the bible.

We must remember that Jesus often quoted from the bible. But the new testament had not been written while he was still alive on the earth. It was only written by the apostles well after Jesus died on the cross, was resurrected, and ascended into heaven. So the old testament was Jesus' bible.

The Apostle Paul was referring to both testament when he made the following statement in 2Ti 3:16.

2Ti 3:16 Every Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness,

The old testament is an absolute gold mine for information. So whoever neglects to study it is missing out on some of the greatest knowledge available to them about the plan God has for his creation.

This book of ancient words actually anticipates God's plan for rescuing humanity. The entire old testament points to the person of Jesus Christ and his coming as the Messiah. This was something that the Pharisees simply did not understand, even though they knew the old testament backwards. They were expecting a conquering king to come at the time Jesus was here, but not a suffering servant as our Lord was the first time he came to the earth. Jesus rebuked these Pharisees for not understanding this when he declared the following to them in Joh 5:39.

Joh 5:39 "You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and these are they which testify about me.

In this book, I will now focus on some of the text in the old testament that anticipates the coming of our Lord in a way that is rarely comprehended even today. As this story unfolds, I hope you will appreciate the incredible value in studying both the old and the new testaments.

# <u>Chapter 2 - What time of the day was Jesus</u> <u>Crucified-1</u>

Jesus Christ did not die at the hour we would normally expect, the same hour the Passover lambs were killed. The death of Jesus on the cross on the 14th of Nisan in the afternoon and at about 3pm must have very special significance.

The first thing I would like to say on this matter is this. Almighty God had all of eternity to plan what was going to happen here on His earth. He created Adam and Eve to start humanity. He caused the great flood to erase most of humanity after their sins became so great. Through His power, He has made kings and brought down kingdoms. God has constantly displayed His power and control over His entire universe, not just the earth.

With this incredible power and control, He planned everything down to the smallest detail. Therefore, we can be 100% certain that Jesus Christ was born at exactly the correct time. He ate the Passover meal at precisely the correct time. He suffered and died on the cross, and rose from the dead at exactly the correct time. There is nothing in all of creation that is not under His feet, as we see in Eph 1:22.

Eph 1:22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church.

Now, with those thoughts in mind, let me ask you these 2 questions. Did Jesus Christ keep the Passover meal at the correct time, and did he also die on the cross at precisely the correct time? The times that he and his heavenly father had planned from all eternity past. Or did he somehow get the times mixed up?

I believe that anyone who has faith in our Lord Jesus Christ will agree he made no mistakes. His timing all throughout all time has been perfect. Therefore, he kept the Passover meal at the correct time. He also died on the cross at the correct time. All we need to do is to trust Him and to follow his perfect example and we cannot go wrong.

The death of our Lord on this Roman cross is one of the greatest moments in all of history. Therefore, there must be a lesson we can learn from this about why such a historic and world-changing event would happen on that day, and at that very hour of the day. At about 3pm on the 14th of Nisan.

I will repeat what I said earlier, all this was according to God's the eternal plan. This was not an accident, or a change in plans, or Christ making a monumental mistake.

It is also very interesting to note. The day and the time of the day of Jesus Christ died on the cross does not appear to coincide with any holy day or any other special event. Or does it??

So, finding the significance of that day and hour, we must look into God's holy scriptures. Let us delve into that all important old testament for the first part of the answer in Exo 12:40-42. From the AFV version of the bible.

Exo 12:40 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years,

Exo 12:41 And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, it was even on that very same day, all the armies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

Exo 12:42 It is a night to be much observed to the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt. This is that night of the LORD to be observed by all the children of Israel in their generations.

The Israelites had fulfilled all the requirements for the Passover on the 14th day of Nisan. Their last action on this day was to travel to Rameses to be ready to depart Egypt the following night. The following verses reaffirm the Israelites left Egypt from Rameses on the 15th day of Nisan. This is important to remember that they left at night. After sundown, and at the very start of the 15th of Nisan as we see in Num 33:3 and also Deu 16:1.

Num 33:3 The Israelites set out from Rameses on the fifteenth day of the first month, the day after the Passover. They marched out defiantly in full view of all the Egyptians,

Deu 16:1 Observe the month of Aviv and celebrate the Passover of the LORD your God, because in the month of Aviv he brought you out of Egypt by night.

According to Num 33:3 and Deu 16:1, the Israelis left Egypt at night at the very start of the 15th of Nisan. Now notice what Exo 12:41 above revealed to us. They left after 430 years "even on the very same day". This is easy to read over and not give it another thought. But what is that "even on that very same day" referring to? It must be looking back to something that has already happened. It cannot be some day in the future, it can only be a day in history.

And that same day is the time of the original promise God

had made to Abraham, some 430 years earlier, to the very day, as we can see in Gen 15:1-9.

- Gen 15:1 After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward."
- Gen 15:2 But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?"
- Gen 15:3 And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir."
- Gen 15:4 Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir."
- Gen 15:5 He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."
- Gen 15:6 Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.
- Gen 15:7 He also said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it."
- Gen 15:8 But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?"
- Gen 15:9 So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon."
- Gen 15:10 Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half.

Now the scene is set, and God is about to ratify his

promise to Abraham. This type of promise and the way it is sealed are important to understand. The person making this promise, and in this case it is God Himself, must suffer the same fate as the animals and be cut in half if he does not keep his promise. Therefore, this is no insignificant promise. Consider the promises God made to Abram in the above verses. Abram's descendants would come from his own body, even though he and Sarah were both beyond child-bearing ages. They would be as numerous as the stars. The other part of the promise is he would inherit the land.

Once God has ratified this promise, or covenant, with Abram, it is then up to God to keep his promise. It is very important to understand the type of covenant God is about to enter with Abram, and the penalty for not keeping the promise. This is well documented for us in Jer 34:18-20.

Jer 34:18 I will give the men who have transgressed my covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant which they made before me, when they cut the calf in two and passed between its parts:

Jer 34:19 the princes of Judah, the princes of
Jerusalem, the eunuchs, the priests, and all the people of the land, who passed between the parts of the calf;

Jer 34:20 I will even give them into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life. Their dead bodies will be food for the birds of the sky and for the animals of the earth.

So here we have a very graphic description of what happens to those who failed to keep such an important covenant or promise. And as we will see soon, this is the same type of promise God made to Abraham. And since it will be God Himself who will walk between the carcasses, he is declaring that may he be cut in half if he does not keep his part of the promise. God also explains to Abram what his

offspring will have to endure in the future. This promise was made in the late afternoon as the sun was going down, as is clear from Gen 15:12.

Gen 15:12 When the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. Now terror and great darkness fell on him.

Gen 15:13 He said to Abram, "Know for sure that your offspring will live as foreigners in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them. They will afflict them four hundred years."

Gen 15:14 I will also judge that nation, whom they will serve. Afterward they will come out with great wealth;

The Israelites plundered the Egyptians on the 14th day of Nisan just before they left Egypt the following night on the 15th of Nisan, so fulfilling this part of God's promise, they would come out with great wealth. We know this from Exo 12:36.

Exo 12:36 Yahweh gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. They plundered the Egyptians.

So how can we be certain the Egyptians were plundered on the 14th day of Nisan. God reveals this truth to us in the book of Exodus, chapter 3:19-22.

Exo 3:19 But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless a mighty hand compels him.

Exo 3:20 So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders that I will perform among them. After that, he will let you go.

Exo 3:21 "And I will make the Egyptians favorably disposed toward this people, so that when you leave

you will not go empty-handed."

Exo 3:22 Every woman is to ask her neighbor and any woman living in her house for articles of silver and gold and for clothing, which you will put on your sons and daughters. And so you will plunder the Egyptians.

Here, even before Moses goes to the Israelites to lead them out of Egypt. God confronts Moses in the burning bush. Now notice what he tells Moses is going to happen. Verse 19, God told Moses the king of Egypt would not let them go unless a mighty hand compels him. Then listen carefully to what God says in verse 20. He will strike Egypt will **all his wonders** and only after God has performed all 10 of his wonders would the king will let them go.

We can see ALL THE wonders God performed, and this obviously includes the last wonder of killing of all the firstborn of Egypt, both man and beast. It was after **all these wonders** were carried out that God told Moses, "he will let you go". The last wonder was the death of the firstborn, and we know this happened at midnight on the 14th of Nisan from Exo 11:4-5.

Exo 11:4 Moses said, "This is what Yahweh says: 'About midnight I will go out into the middle of Egypt,'

Exo 11:5 and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of livestock.

In Exo 3:20, we heard how God would stretch out his hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders, and all the wonders must also include the last wonder of killing all the firstborn of Egypt at midnight on the 14th day of Nisan. And it

is only after this Pharaoh would allow the Israelites to leave Egypt. Then notice the last part of this verse, "after that", after all the wonders have been completed, what happens next.

In verses 21 and 22, God foretells Moses: the Israelites will not leave empty-handed and they will plunder the Egyptians. Therefore, the plundering could only have happened after midnight on the 14th. But we must also consider Exo 12:22.

Exo 12:22 You shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin; and none of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning.

Therefore, since the Israelites could not leave the house until the morning. They could only have plundered the Egyptians during the daylight hours of the 14th of Nisan. The reason they could not leave the house before sunrise was the fact they would no longer be protected by the blood from the lambs. The blood that was on the doorposts and lintels of their homes. If they left the house before sunrise, then their eldest offspring would then be subject to being killed by the death angel as he passed over the land of Egypt.

Therefore, since God had instructed the Israelites, they were not to leave their homes until morning. The only time left for plundering the Egyptians was after the sun rose, and during the early daylight portion of the 14th. After this, they set out to gather at Rameses to be ready to leave Egypt after sunset on the 15th of Nisan.

Another reason this plundering would not happen prior to this is until this time, the Egyptians still regarded the Israelites as their slaves. And they certainly would not have handed over all their valuables to their slaves. Plus, by now they are burying their dead and are terrified of all dying at the hands of the God of Israel. This was the twofold effect of the last wonder. First, the Pharaoh was now keen to be rid of the Israelites. And second, they were now easy to plunder because of their fear of what may happen to them if they refuse to hand over their wealth.

Therefore, when God told Abraham in Gen 15:14, they will go out with great wealth. This was referring to the 15th of Nisan, the day they left Egypt. Exactly 430 years after, he made this promise to Abram.

God promised Abram he would inherit the land. But Abram asked God how could he possess it since he had no descendants. This is when God makes Abram an unconditional promise he will indeed have the land. The promise is found in Gen 15:7-10.

Gen 15:7 He also said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it."

Gen 15:8 But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?"

Gen 15:9 So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon."

Gen 15:10 Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half.

This is when God made his unconditional promise to Abraham. He has instructed Abraham to bring these animals together and divide them in two, then to arrange the parts opposite each other. This is the same type of covenant God was referring to in Jer 34:18-20. The penalty for those who refused to keep this promise was to be handed over to their enemies, and their bodies would be food for the birds.

Now, back in Gen 15:13-14. We are told it was late in the afternoon as the sun was going down. Abram went into a deep sleep. While Abram was in this deep sleep. God tells him his offspring will be slaves in Egypt, but will then come out with great wealth. This is followed by God now ratifying his promise to make it binding on Him to deliver this promise. Notice it is now when the sun had gone down. A new day has started since Abram prepared the animals, as God had instructed him to do.

Gen 15:17 It came to pass that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold, a smoking furnace and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.

Gen 15:18 In that day Yahweh made a covenant with Abram, saying, "I have given this land to your offspring, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates:

It is interesting to note that the day the *smoking furnace* and a flaming torch passed between the carcasses happened after the sun had set. When it was dark, signifying the start of a new day. This happened the day after Abraham arranged the animal pieces to prepare for the promise to be ratified by God.

In the two verses below, we see God described as a smoking furnace and as a flaming torch. The same symbols that passed between the carcases of the animals as recorded above in verse 17. This proves it was God Himself who passed between the parts of the animals.

Exo 19:18 All of Mount Sinai smoked, because Yahweh descended on it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.

Dan 10:6 His body also was like the beryl, and his

face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as flaming torches. His arms and his feet were like burnished brass. The voice of his words was like the voice of a multitude.

In Gen 15:17, a smoking furnace and a flaming torch passed between the pieces of the animals. This is God putting his signature on the promise. Now the promise is unconditional and God must keep his end of the deal. Remember how binding and final this type of covenant is, and the penalty for not keeping this type of covenant. Let us hear this warning again to reinforce just how important God views this type of promise in Jer 34:18-20.

Jer 34:18 I will give the men who have transgressed my covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant which they made before me, when they cut the calf in two and passed between its parts:

Jer 34:19 the princes of Judah, the princes of

Jerusalem, the eunuchs, the priests, and all the people of the land, who passed between the parts of the calf;

Jer 34:20 I will even give them into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life. Their dead bodies will be food for the birds of the sky and for the animals of the earth.

God cannot lie, and he is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Therefore, this promise is binding. God's promise to Abraham was he would make him a great nation, and that all nations on earth would be blessed through him. This is recorded in Gen 22:15-18.

Gen 22:15 The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time

Gen 22:16 and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not

withheld your son, your only son,"

Gen 22:17 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, Gen 22:18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.

God made this covenant with Abraham to reassure him his descendants would inherit the land. But this goes a lot deeper than just the land. As we see in verse eighteen, "all nations on earth will be blessed". So this is also a spiritual promise.

The promise God made to Abraham about the vast number of his offspring goes beyond the physical children. In Gal 3:29, those who belong to Christ are also Abraham's children. Not through physical descent, but by faith in Jesus.

Gal 3:29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

It is very interesting to note what Gal 3:8 tells us. Abraham heard the good news preached and knew all the earth would be blessed through him.

Gal 3:8 The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the Good News beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you all the nations will be blessed."

Jesus also spoke of Abraham seeing Him in the future in Joh 8:56.

Joh 8:56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day. He saw it, and was glad.

My question here is, did Abraham, while he was in this deep sleep, actually see in a dream what was going to happen to Jesus on the cross? Knowing who he would be, this could have been the reason for the terror and great darkness that came over Abram. Also, this type of death penalty was never used in Abram's day. So the very sight of anyone dying in this manner would have been a horrific sight for him to see.

Another thing to consider is the darkness that came over Abram late in the afternoon as he was asleep. This may have been the same type of darkness that came over all the land the day Jesus was dying on the cross as in Mat 27:45.

Mat 27:45 From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land.

God made another promise to Abraham in Gen 13:14-15.

Gen 13:14 Yahweh said to Abram, after Lot was separated from him, "Now, lift up your eyes, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward,"

Gen 13:15 for I will give all the land which you see to you and to your offspring forever.

But the only land Abraham possessed during his lifetime was the small plot of land he purchased for his wife Sarah to be buried in. Therefore, in these verses, we see a promise of eternal life and of inheriting all the land Abraham could see. This will occur when Jesus Christ returns in all power and glory and resurrects the dead.

This will include Abraham, his direct descendants, and those who belong to Abraham through their faith in Jesus Christ. They will be raised incorruptible and will inherit the land.

When Jesus died on the cross, this is when the promise God had made to Abraham that all nations would be blessed through him became a reality. At 3pm, the moment Jesus died on the cross on the 14th of Nisan as recorded in God's bible. This is the lesson we learn about the timing of the death of our Lord on the cross. This very day and hour coincides with the very day and hour God made this amazing promise to Abram. He signed his name to the promise on the 15th of Nisan just after the sun had set and a new day had begun when he passed between the pieces of the animal carcasses. This was on the 15th of Nisan, 430 years earlier to the very day.

Jesus died for all peoples, all nations, that their sins may be forgiven. This opens the door for those who choose to enter the Kingdom. For those who are the children of Abraham by both birth and by faith in Jesus Christ.

The day after this promise was made to Abraham was when the promise was ratified by God passing through the pieces of the carcasses on the 15th day of Nisan.

When the Israelites left Egypt on the 15th day of Nisan at night, the same time of the day God passed between the pieces of the carcasses, they went from being slaves to the Egyptians to being a free people. They were now a great nation, and after plundering the Egyptians, they came out with great wealth. Fulfilling God's promise to Abraham that he would be a great nation, as we read in Gen 22:17-18.

Gen 22:17 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, Gen 22:18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.

Another very interesting prophecy is found in the book of Isaiah chapter 66:8. Israel became a great nation in one day when they left Egypt in the original exodus. Then they became a nation in one day again in 1948 when the United Nations

declared Israel to be a nation. Listen to.

Isa 66:8 Who has heard of such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall a land be born in one day? Shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she gave birth to her children.

Both parts of this amazing promise were ratified on the 15th when God passed between the parts of the animal carcasses. All nations are now blessed since the sacrifice of Jesus. Israel became a great and wealthy nation when they left Egypt on the 15th of Nisan.

The promises God made to Abraham have been partially fulfilled. The entire world has been blessed because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Israel became a great nation. All that is needed now is the return of Jesus. Abraham and his children, both physical descendants and his spiritual children, to be resurrected and to claim the land God promised.

Christ's sacrifice confirming the New Covenant occurred on the anniversary of God's promise to Abraham, <u>it was even on that same day</u> on the same day and hour! Its specific timing draws our attention to the "eternal inheritance" promised to Abraham and his spiritual seed.

Jesus set the example of when and how he wants us to observe the Passover. At the beginning of the 14th of Nisan, and then on that afternoon, he shed his blood so that a New Covenant could be completed.

This covenant is an outgrowth of the covenant God made with Abraham, making his "great nation" a reality. It provides for justification based on faith, for Israelite and Gentile alike, and promises eternal life to those who continue to the end in faith. Christ is our Passover. Not by lining up with the timing outlined in the instructions given to Israel for the killing of

the Passover lambs. But by renewing and advancing the covenant God made with Abraham 430 years earlier, *even on that same day.* 

So yes, this day and the hour of Christ's death on the cross coincide with a special event in history. God's eternal promise to Abram and his offspring of both eternal life and of our redemption through the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ.

# Chapter 3 - when to eat the Passover meal-1

There are many thoughts and teachings about the death and resurrection of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. Not everyone can agree on the day he was crucified, and therefore cannot agree on the day he was resurrected from the dead.

One major issue is that many people assume the death of Jesus Christ on the cross must coincide with the time the Passover lambs were killed. But this is incorrect, as I have shown you in the previous chapter.

One question we have here is this. Should we observe the Passover at the same time of the day Jesus did with his disciples, from the very beginning of the day immediately after sunset on the 14th of Nisan? Or should we observe it at the time Jesus died on the cross at about 3pm that day? Another idea is the Passover meal should be kept in the early hours of the 15th of Nisan, the day after the Passover and on the first day of the feast of unleavened bread. It is important that you understand the truth on this matter, otherwise you will celebrate this most important feast at the wrong time of the day.

Before I search the scriptures for the answer to this, I think it is vitally important that we all remember that God is sovereign over the entire universe. He has had total control over everything since the very first day of creation, right until

today. Therefore, Almighty God had all of eternity to plan what was going to happen here on his earth. He created Adam and Eve to start humanity. He caused the great flood to erase most of humanity after their sins became so great. Through his power, he has made kings and brought down kingdoms. God has constantly displayed his power and control over his entire universe, not just the earth.

With this incredible power and control, he planned everything down to the smallest detail. Therefore, we can be 100% certain that Jesus Christ was born at exactly the correct time. He suffered and died and also rose from the dead at exactly the correct time. There is nothing in all of creation that is not under his feet. Jesus was born when the fullness of time came, which simply means he was born at exactly the correct time in history as we see in.

Gal 4:4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent out his Son, born to a woman, born under the law,

Gal 4:5 that he might redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of children.

We can also see and understand that God the father placed everything under the control of Jesus Christ, as has been revealed to us in Ephesians 1: 22.

Eph 1:22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church.

In the previous chapter, we covered the timing and the reason for the timing of Christ's crucifixion. In the following chapters, I would like to prove the correct time to keep the Passover meal.

The correct time of the day to observe the Passover meal

was recorded for us in the book of Numbers 9:1-5.

Num 9:1 Yahweh spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,

Num 9:2 "Moreover let the children of Israel keep the Passover in its appointed season.

Num 9:3 On the fourteenth day of this month, at evening, you shall keep it in its appointed season—according to all its statutes, and according to all its ordinances, you shall keep it."

Num 9:4 Moses spoke to the children of Israel, that they should keep the Passover.

Num 9:5 They kept the Passover in the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening, in the wilderness of Sinai. According to all that Yahweh commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did.

I believe the instruction here are very clear. The Passover is to be kept on the 14th day of Nisan in the evening. It can only mean immediately after the sun has set and a new day is starting. (according to the Jewish times for the start and finish of each day). When reading the Old Testament, it is very important for us to remember that these days start and finish according to Jewish traditions. And according to these Jewish traditions. Every day starts and finishes as the sun sets, and not in the middle of the night, as is the custom for how much of the western world starts their days.

This is the timing for the Passover meal to be eaten.

Many people will disagree with this timing for the Passover meal to be eaten. Some claim it should be eaten at the same time Jesus Christ actually died on the cross, in the late afternoon of the 14th of Nissan. As I stated a little earlier. Jesus Christ died at exactly the correct time, and he

kept the Passover meal at exactly the correct time. All according to the eternal plan worked out for these events.

It should be obvious to anyone that Jesus could not be eating the Passover meal and be hanging on the cross at the same time. Therefore, these two events have to be at different times of the day, but on the same day.

There are many translations of the bible that give us differing times for the killing of the lambs and when the Passover meal is to be eaten. Let me give you a few examples so you can see what we are up against. I will list just 5 different versions of Exodus 12 and verse 6.

### (YLT) Young's Literal translation

Exo 12:6 And you shall keep it up until the beginning of the fourteenth day of the same month. And the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it between the two evenings. [from the Hebrew term - ben ha arbayim]

### (BBE) Bible in Basic English

Exo 12:6 Keep it till the fourteenth day of the same month, when everyone who is of the children of Israel is to put it to death between sundown and dark. [from the Hebrew term - ben ha arbayim]

### (KJV) King James Version

Exo 12:6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. [from the Hebrew term - ben ha arbayim]

### (NIrV) New International Readers Version

Exo 12:6 Take care of them until the 14th day of the

month. Then the whole community of Israel must kill them when the sun goes down. [from the Hebrew term - ben ha arbayim]

### (WEB) World English Bible

Exo 12:6 and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month; and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at evening. [from the Hebrew term - ben ha arbayim]

You can clearly see the problem here. There are 5 different time markers for the same event, all translated from the same Hebrew term "ben ha arbayim".

Without a precise meaning to this term "ben ha arbayim" we cannot tell which of the above interpretations is correct. And yes, it makes an absolutely massive difference in determining the correct timing for the Passover lambs to be killed, and the Passover meal to be eaten.

My aim here in this book is to go to the word of God and give you an exact time that this phrase refers to. Only one of the above can be correct.

There is a way to pinpoint precisely the timing of the Passover meal. It will require some study of God's word for the meaning of two Hebrew words.

The first word is "Ba Erev", and this means at sunset, and the second is "Ben Ha Arbayim" and this is referring to the time immediately after the sun has set, and a new day has begun according to the Jewish way of calculating the starting time for each day. This is where a great deal of confusion arises, because of a misunderstanding of these Hebrew words. Therefore, it is very important we establish a clear understanding of the meaning of these 2 Hebrew words.

The confusion is because of the word 'ben ha arbayim" as

referring to approximately 3:00 PM in the afternoon, at the same time Jesus died on the cross. Others will say this refers to any time of the day between midday and sunset. Therefore, it is vitally important we comprehend the true meaning of this word before going any further in this book.

I will discuss these two words in the next two chapters. It may take a little time to explain them. But at the end, there should be no doubt in the minds of those who will believe the word of God over the words of a man about the correct time to eat the Passover meal.

# <u>Chapter 4 - The exact meaning of the Hebrew word</u> <u>ba erev-1</u>

It is very common knowledge that God's day's start and finishes at sunset. I know we all agree with that statement. God is very precise in everything He does. Therefore, we must find in God's scriptures the term He uses for the beginning and ending of every day. We know the start times from the position of the sun in the sky. But to fully understand the meaning of the term 'ben ha arbayim' we must establish the term God uses to tell us when a new day starts. The precise time, not an estimate or a guess, or close enough. The term must mean sunset. Not evening, because that can last for up to an hour, and God is much more precise than that.

I will now show you from scripture where we can get this information.

One excellent example of this we will find in Lev 23:27-31. It is the start and finish times of the "Day of Atonement". God gave very strict instructions on how the people were to keep this day. These instructions for keeping the "Day of Atonement" were to be strictly adhered to. The penalty for not doing this was very severe, as you will hear from the King James Version of the bible in lev 23:27-31.

Lev 23:27 Also on the tenth day of this seventh month

there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

Lev 23:28 And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God.

Lev 23:29 For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people.

Lev 23:30 And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people.

Lev 23:31 Ye shall do no manner of work: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

The instructions God has given here demand the people keep them exactly as He has taught them. The penalty is extreme for any who disobey them. Look at verses 29 and 30. The penalty for disobeying is to be cut off from their people, at the very least, banished. But verse 30 is even more severe in its penalty. God will destroy those who refuse to obey.

If the starting time of this day depended on the interpretations and opinions of man, this would lead to tragedy. Therefore, it is on God to advise them the exact time this day starts and finishes. If He doesn't make this clear, some may disobey, and suffer punishment.. We can see in the very next verse, verse 32, where God defines the start and finish times of this "Day of Atonement".

Lev 23:32 It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, בַּעֶּבֶב  $b\bar{a}$ -'e-reb,] from even [בַּעָב  $a\bar{d}$ -'e-reb, '] to evening

ba- e-rev means "at evening".

me -e-rev means "from evening".

ad- e- rev means "to evening".

God's day's start and finishes at sunset. This is very common knowledge and the Hebrew term to define this precise time is 'ba erev', not evening as we already know but at sunset. Therefore, the exact time of sunset God calls 'ba erev'.

One website I came across gave the following as his idea of ba erev.

So, each time you read even or evening in the Bible, you must discern by the context, which even or evening is being spoken of:

- (1) noon,
- (2) sundown,
- (3) any time between noon and sundown, or
- (4) the entire period between noon and sundown.

If the Israelites adopted this approach when keeping the day of atonement, there would have been a lot of dead Israelis on that day.

Now let us look at the feast of unleavened bread to find further proof of this term.

Passover is one day, Nisan 14, followed by the seven-day Feast of Unleavened Bread, starting Nisan 15.

Exo 12:18 In the first month you are to eat bread made without yeast, from the evening [ba erev] of the fourteenth day until the evening [ba erev] of the

twenty-first day.

Exo 12:19 There shall be no yeast found in your houses for seven days, for whoever eats that which is leavened, that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is a foreigner, or one who is born in the land.

We know the feast of unleavened bread starts after sunset on the 14th that is the beginning of the 15th. It continues until the end of the 21st again when the sun sets. This is exactly seven days, and the time required for this feast of unleavened bread. So these two evenings [ba erev] signify the beginning and the end of the seven days of the feast of unleavened bread.

This verse clearly tells us the feast of unleavened bread starts at sunset **[ba erev]** at the very end of the 14th and the start of the 15th. Now count forward the full seven days for this feast and you come to the 21st day of the month at evening **[ba erev]** sunset and the start of the 22nd day of the month. This is the exact time the feast of unleavened bread was to be kept. Exactly seven days.

From these two examples, we see the term 'ba erev' as the start and finish times of these days. This can only refer to the exact time of sunset, not evening, but the precise time the sun goes under the horizon.

Let God have the last word here in Gen 1:5. The fifth verse in the entire bible.

Gen 1:5 God called the light "day", and the darkness he called "night". There was evening [e reb] and there was morning, the first day.

When we examine the scriptures, we can see how God defines the start and finish times for the feast of unleavened bread. He uses the term "ba erev" or sunset. A very precise time in any day. This command for the feast of unleavened

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bread is consistent with God's command for keeping the day of atonement. Using the term "ba erev" proves conclusively this Hebrew term marks the exact time every day starts and finishes.

We all know when God's day's start, the purpose of this part of the message was to impress upon you the true meaning of the term 'ba erev'. To fully understand the term 'ben ha arbayim' it was imperative we first fully understand the term 'ba erev'.

# <u>Chapter 5 - The true meaning of ben ha arbayim-1</u>

The traditional Jewish interpretation of the term "ben ha arbayim" is that time of the day, from soon after midday until sunset. Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan is one who holds to this tradition. But is he correct in his interpretation of God's word, or is this his own personal idea to suit what he wants it to say? This chapter shows why he is not correct, but is very misleading in what he teaches.

Jesus was aware of the corruption of God's word by those who were the leaders of the people. Those who should have understood the word of God and taught it accurately. But what did Jesus say to the religious leaders about replacing the commandments of God with the traditions of their own? Read what He told them in Mar 7:9.

Mar 7:9 He said to them, "Full well do you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition"

God has revealed the true meaning of the phrase "ben ha arbayim" in Exodus 16. This piece of scripture shows how God will use scripture to reveal scripture so we do not have to rely upon the traditions of men like Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan. By following the order of events in Exodus 16, we will plainly see the exact time "ben ha arbayim" begins.

This chapter, Exodus 16, starts as Israel comes into the wilderness of sin. Verse one advises us this was on the fifteenth day of the second month after leaving Egypt. We can be certain that the meaning of the term "ben ha arbayim" did not change in these forty-five days since God instructed Moses how the Passover was to be observed. So what ever we discover now about this term must have had the same meaning just forty-five days earlier.

This chapter covers one full week with the first day being a Sabbath day, a day of rest to the last day, another Sabbath day of rest.

This region, called the wilderness of sin, is a very barren and inhospitable place. It would have been impossible to feed this vast number of people, as well as all their livestock, from any food that may have been growing in the region. This is made clear in Exodus 16:3.

Exo 16:3 and the children of Israel said to them, "We wish that we had died by Yahweh's hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots, when we ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

The Israelites were hungry and angry and wanted to return to Egypt and again be slaves to the Egyptians. Then we see in verses 4-8 God promising to feed them. This happened on the fifteenth day of the month and this was a Sabbath day. This is the day God made the promised, but it is not the day He fulfilled the promise, as we will see later. But now listen to Exo 16:4-8.

Exo 16:4 Then the LORD said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way, I will test them and see whether they will follow

my instructions."

Exo 16:5 On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days.

Exo 16:6 So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening [Hebrew, e rev at evening] you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt,"

Exo 16:7 and in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?

Exo 16:8 Moses also said, "You will know that it was the LORD when he gives you meat to eat in the evening [ba erev at sunset] and all the bread you want in the morning, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the LORD."

The Manna God provided was a miracle. He fed the entire nation with this manna in a place of true wilderness where there was nothing else to eat. It is also a powerful message about the importance of the Sabbath day and keeping it holy. That no work was to be done on the seventh day of the week. Also, notice in verse 8, God will give them **MEAT to eat** in the evening.

For the first five days of the week, God provided enough of this manna for their daily needs. But on the sixth day, He provided twice the amount, enough to sustain them for the sixth and the seventh days of the week.

An important part of this miracle was that they were to gather only enough for each day. If they gathered too much, it rotted by the next day, as we see in verses 19 and 20.

Exo 16:19 Moses said to them, "Let no one leave of it until the morning."

Exo 16:20 Notwithstanding they didn't listen to Moses, but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and became foul: and Moses was angry with them.

But when the sixth day came, they were to gather twice as much as on the other days. Keeping some until the next day, the Sabbath, and it did not go rotten, as we will hear a little later.

Part of this miracle of the manna was to impress on the people of Israel the importance of keeping the Sabbath. For forty years they were fed this way, but never did the manna come on a Sabbath day.

Shortly after this, God gave the Israelites the "Ten Commandments" with the fourth being the commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy.

One valuable lesson we can learn from the miracle of the manna that fed the Israelites for forty years is this. <u>God honours His own Sabbath</u>. He did not feed the people on any Sabbath for forty years, but provided enough on the sixth day to feed them for the last two days of the week. If we are to truly understand the rest of Exodus sixteen, we must keep the importance of the Sabbath day observance in mind.

When God created everything, He blessed the seventh day and made it holy. It was made so every man could rest on that day and spend time in a relationship with God. This day is never to be used for providing a living. This is a valuable lesson we can learn from the miracle of the Manna.

Unfortunately, most Christians today have changed God's Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday. But God has clearly made the seventh day, Saturday, or the Sabbath holy, not Sunday the

first day of the week. Man has changed the day of rest from Saturday to Sunday to suit their own agendas. They reason that since Jesus was resurrected on the first day of the week, then this is when we should worship God. The problem here is that Jesus was resurrected from the dead on the Saturday Sabbath, as I have detailed in my book. "How Long Was Jesus Christ in the Tomb".

We can see that it makes a great deal of difference which day we honour as our Sabbath from the events that happened for forty years and the miracle of the manna.

The Israelites gather manna for five days and any left over to the next day was rotten. But when they gathered twice what they need on the sixth day, and kept it for the following day, the Sabbath, the manna did not rot. When the 6th day of the week came around, they gathered twice as much as they did on the other 5 days as we see in.

Exo 16:22 On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much—two omers for each person—and the leaders of the community came and reported this to Moses.

After this we see 2 things. First, what they saved until the Sabbath did not go rotten. Second, when they went out on the Sabbath day to find more manna, they did not find any. Because God did not provide manna on the Sabbath, he was honouring his own day of rest.

We also see the proof that this was indeed on a Sabbath day in verse 25.

Exo 16:23 He said to them, "This is what the LORD commanded: Tomorrow is to be a day of sabbath rest, a holy sabbath to the LORD. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning."

Exo 16:24 So they saved it until morning, as Moses commanded, and it did not stink or get maggots in it. Exo 16:25 "Eat it today," Moses said, "because today is a sabbath to the LORD. You will not find any of it on the ground today.

Exo 16:26 Six days you are to gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will not be any."

Exo 16:27 Nevertheless, some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather it, but they found none.

Exo 16:28 Then the LORD said to Moses, "How long will you refuse to keep my commands and my instructions?

Exo 16:29 Bear in mind that the LORD has given you the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days. Everyone is to stay where they are on the seventh day; no one is to go out.

Exo 16:30 So the people rested on the seventh day.

By all this, God was stressing the importance of the Sabbath, and this we must comprehend if we are to understand the rest of Exodus 16.

As I have stressed before, God was very precise in everything he did, and this is also clear in the times He sent both the manna and the meat for the people to eat. The timing is revealed in verses six through eight.

Exo 16:6 So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening [Hebrew ba erev, at sunset] you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt,"

Exo 16:7 and in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?

Exo 16:8 Moses also said, "You will know that it was the LORD when he gives you meat to eat in the evening [Hebrew ba erev, at sunset] and all the bread you want in the morning, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the LORD."

Notice in verses six and eight the Hebrew word ba erev is translated "at evening" and then "in the evening". But this is not the correct translation of ba erev. These verses should read "at sunset". A very precise time, as discussed previously.

Now this is where we come to the meaning of 'ben ha arbayim'. That all important term that has been misinterpreted by many people to distort the truth about the correct time to eat the Passover meal.

God sends the quail at sunset, or the start of the new day. He did not send the quail before sunset because this promise was made on the Sabbath day, God's day of rest. If He sent them on that day, the people would have gathered, killed, cleaned, and cooked them on the Sabbath day. So God waited until sunset, the end of the Sabbath day and the start of the first day of the week before sending the quail at evening as is clear from.

Exo 16:13 In the evening, [Hebrew ba erev, at sunset] quail came up and covered the camp; and in the morning the dew lay around the camp.

Exo 16:14 When the dew that lay had gone, behold, on the surface of the wilderness was a small round thing, small as the frost on the ground.

The quail arrived at sunset, but since as we have established God honoured his own Sabbath, this must have been on the day after the Sabbath. God provided neither Manna nor the quail on the Sabbath. This was made obvious to us when we heard earlier in.

Exo 16:27 Nevertheless, some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather it, but they found none.

We heard in Exo 16:13-14 the quail arrived in the camp at sunset (**Hebrew ba erev**), and the manna arrived in the morning. It is obvious they could not eat the meat of the quails until they actually arrived in the camp after sunset and the first day of the week had begun. So now we can see precisely when they are the meat. It is recorded in verses eleven and twelve.

Exo 16:11 The LORD said to Moses, Exo 16:12 "I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight [translated from the Hebrew term "ben ha ardayim"] you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.""

This term twilight in Exo 16:12 is translated from the Hebrew phrase "Ben ha arbayim". Exactly the same as in Exo 12:6 when the Israelites are commanded to kill the lambs at twilight. Again, twilight is translated from the same Hebrew phrase "ben ha arbayim". Now if "ben ha arbayim" means immediately after sunset in Exo 16:12, then how can it possibly be translated as about 3pm in the afternoon in Exo 12:6?

When the Rabbis do this, they are twisting the meaning to suit their own agendas. If "ben ha arbayim" can mean both immediately after sunset, as is clear from Exo 16:12, and also at three in the afternoon, then there is no consistency in God's word. But God is consistent, therefore, this simply cannot be the case.

Whatever time 'ben ha arbayim' is referring to in both

these passages of scripture, the time of the day must coincide exactly. Otherwise, God would have used a completely unique phrase for one of them to differentiate between the two times of the day. Between at sunset and in the late afternoon. But He did not. So 'ben ha arbayim' either means immediately after sunset, or about 3pm. We can plainly see from the miracle of the quail that the only possible interpretation can be immediately after sunset.

When the quail arrived, at evening, [ba erev] did the Israelites catch, kill, cook and eat them immediately, yes they did. But if "ben ha arbayim" means in the afternoon, as some rabbis will claim. Then the quail definitely arrived at sunset, but the Israelites did not gather and cook them until late in the afternoon somewhere around 20 hours later. We cannot have it both ways. Either the quail were caught and cooked when they arrived at the camp. Or they arrived in the camp at sunset but were not caught, cooked and eaten for another 20 hours, very late in the afternoon.

Now we know the quail could not come before the sun had set, so here in Exo 16:12 we see when they were eating the quail, or meat. It was after 'ba erev', or sunset, at a time described by God as "ben-ha-arbayim".

When God used the term 'ben ha arbayim' in the Passover command in Exodus 12, and forty-five days later, used that same Hebrew phrase in Exodus 16:12. It conveyed the same meaning in both instances. Surely there can be no disputing this. Any other interpretation is from man and not from God. And what did Jesus say about the Rabbis of His day? We see the answer in.

Mar 7:8 You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.

Mar 7:9 And he continued, "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to

observe your own traditions!"

The only authority on this matter can be the authority of Almighty God. We must not follow the traditions of these Pharisees, the traditions of man. Let us hold fast to the words and teachings of our God.

Another passage of scripture well worth examining that uses the term "ben ha arbayim" is in Exo 30:8. Here, God is instructing Aaron about the lighting of the lamps.

Exo 30:8 He must burn incense again when he lights the lamps at twilight [again from the Hebrew term "ben ha arbayim"] so incense will burn regularly before the LORD for the generations to come.

Aaron would not light the lamps in the middle of the afternoon and waste oil. No, he would light the lamps when evening started, and it was getting dark. When the lamps were needed to give light.

If you accept the word of God, then you must accept the fact that the lambs were slaughtered at the very beginning of the day. This would be at "ben ha arbayim" immediately after sunset. The same time God used to describe when the Israelites would eat the meat of the quails.

Sorry for being so adamant and dogmatic. But I feel absolutely compelled to bring you God's proof. Not the so-called proof of rabbis or other scholars, but proof directly from the word of God. Remember Joh 17:17.

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

And also remember the warning in the book of Daniel.

Dan 7:25 He will speak against the Most High and oppress his holy people and try to change the set

times and the laws. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time.

I believe the Rabbis in the days of Jesus and our modern day rabbis are doing just that. Changing the set times and the laws while observing their own traditions. Very harsh words I know, but what other conclusion is there? We either believe the scriptures, the very words of God, or we believe the traditions of men.

On last thing I must cover here is what we call the "night to be much observed". Why is this night to be remembered? It is not because of the Passover that was the day before on the 14th, and everything associated with that day has been completed. We are now on the 15th day of Nisan and the start of the feast of unleavened bread. So exactly why do we need to keep a vigil that night? The answer is in Exo 12:41-42.

Exo 12:41 At the end of the 430 years, to the very day, all the LORD's divisions left Egypt.

Exo 12:42 Because the LORD kept vigil that night to bring them out of Egypt, on this night all the Israelites are to keep vigil to honor the LORD for the generations to come.

What does verse 41 say? They left Egypt 430 years later, to the very day. This is when all the Lord's divisions left Egypt. This cannot be referring to the 14th as they were all still in Egypt. Verse 42 tells us the Lord kept vigil that night. What night? The night He bought them out of Egypt, the night of the 15th of Nisan. This is the reason to keep the vigil, to keep the "night to be much observed", not for a Passover meal. Everything associated with the Passover day was accomplished the day before on the 14th of Nisan. The vigil was to remember how God delivered them from the land of Egypt and set them free on the 15th day of Nisan.

When we accept the traditions of man, that the Passover meal is on the evening of the 15th. Then we must also accept the death angel passed over Egypt at midnight on the 15th. Because he passed over Egypt after the blood of the lambs was on the doorframes of the houses and after the Passover meal, not before. When we do this, we are mixing God's holy days and blending them into one season. But when we do this, we are forgetting, or ignoring, the command from God to keep each feast as a separate season. Do we mix the feast of tabernacles and the last great day? Or do we recognise each one as a completely unique event?, celebrated concurrently, yes, but still separate events.

It is vitally important we remember God's instructions to Moses in.

Lev 23:4 "These are the LORD's appointed festivals, the sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their appointed times:"

The appointed time for the Passover is from the 10th day of Nisan, 4 days prior to the Passover. This is when all the households were to select their lambs and keep them separate until the Passover. These lambs were then to be slaughtered at Evening ["ben ha arbayim"] on the 14th, following this the blood was put onto the door frames, the lambs were roasted, eaten and anything remaining was to be burned by sunrise. The death angel passed over them that night (the 14th) at midnight. The Israelites were commanded to remain in their homes until morning. [Exo 12:22] After sunrise, they plundered the Egyptians before they gathered at Rameses, ready to depart Egypt that night after sunset at the start of the 15th day of Nisan. This ended the "appointed time" for the Passover.

The entire nation of Israel, comprising up to three million people, thousands of cattle and sheep, had to gather at Rameses from all parts of Goshem, where they were

scattered. Remember, they had to keep their Passover in their own homes. They could not leave their homes before sunrise. This left them only the 12 hours of daylight, on the 14th, to gather in Rameses. When the sunset on this day, that ended the "appointed time for the Passover", and the 15th day of Nisan began, the exodus also began immediately after sunset. And this was the start of the "appointed time for the Feast of unleavened bread".

Many Rabbis today, as well as Christians, mix these 2 separate feasts into one event. This is contrary to the commandment God gave to Moses. These 2 festivals are to be proclaimed in their appointed times, as we heard earlier in Lev 23:4.

Please do not mix God's "appointed time" for "Passover", a one-day event, and His "appointed time" for "the festival of Unleavened bread", a seven-day event.

# <u>Chapter 6 - How long does ben ha arbayim last-1</u>

I hope by now you can see when "ben ha arbayim" starts, at the very beginning of the day immediately after sunset, or ba erev. According to the miracles of the quails. God sent the quail at a time He referred to as "ben ha arbayim" and this is also the time He allocated for the killing of the Passover lambs.

The Israelites ate the quail after the sun had set, "ben ha arbayim". But how long does this period last? In the spring in that region of the world, the twilight lasts for about one hour and maybe a little longer.

Now we know when "ben ha arbayim" starts we can see there was sufficient time for these small birds to be caught, cleaned and cooked during this brief time of twilight. Since quail are small birds, they would not take long to cook and be ready to eat. So many of these birds could have easily been consumed before "ben ha arbayim" ended. But was it really necessary for all of them to be consumed by this time? Look again at Exo 12:12.

Exo 16:12 "I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight [translated from the Hebrew term "ben ha ardayim"] you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God."

Exo 16:13 In the evening, quail came up and covered the camp; and in the morning the dew lay around the camp.

God promised them they would eat meat at twilight ['ben ha arbayim''] and this is exactly what happened. But notice God did not say all the meat needed to be consumed by this time, during the hours of 'ben ha arbayim''. No, only that they would eat meat during 'ben ha arbayim''.

Consider what happened at the time of the killing of the Passover lambs. The only stipulation God made was that the lambs must be killed, not cooked and eaten. It would take considerably longer than an hour to kill, clean, and cook a one-year-old lamb. This is much bigger than a quail and would take a lot longer to finish cooking.

The Israelites had all night to actually eat the lamb, as long as there was nothing left over by the morning when anything left was to be burned.

One claim made by those who disagree with this is that this many birds could not be caught and cooked in such a brief space of time. But consider this, each household only had to gather enough for their own family. The birds covered the camp as we see in verse 13. So the Israelites only had to go outside their own tents to catch the quail. God made it easy for them so they could eat some of the quail in the evening [translated from the Hebrew term ["ben ha arbayim"].

God is precise, and He has made it very clear from the miracle of the quail the exact time for "ben ha arbayim". According to the miracles of the quail and the manna, it can only be immediately after the sun has set. If we accept this evidence, we can keep the seasons for Passover and the festival of unleavened bread in their appointed seasons as God instructed in Lev 23:4.

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But if we accept 'ben ha arbayim' as being at 3pm on the 14th of Nisan. We are then forced to mix these appointed times into one event and ignore the commands of God, and to keep the traditions of man.

# Chapter 7 - Conclusion-1

I hope you will weigh up all the evidence I have presented here in this book. It is a controversial and complex subject, so please give yourself sufficient time to examine the evidence. Since I have backup everything I have said from God's own words, you need to decide who you are going to believe. God, or the traditions of man.