

**Scriptural and Historic Keys
That Establish When Christ Began His Ministry
And When Jesus the Christ is Baptized**

"Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene, Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins; As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." *Luke 3:1-4*

"Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, And the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased. **And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age**, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli," *Luke 3:21-23*

Mat 3:13-17 "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer *it to be so* now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

NOTE: This was about the 10th hour (3-4:00 PM) on Friday, August 2, 26AD. Since John 1:35 and 39 indicates that John had ended baptizing about the 10th hour when he saw Jesus returning from the wilderness we can safely assume that Jesus was the last one baptized on this day and that John ended his preaching and baptism each day around the same time.

This day is the day before the count of 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness. The first day in the wilderness would be Sabbath, August 3, 26AD. Jesus left immediately after being baptized and went up into the wilderness. He would have arrived shortly before sunset and then remained there for the next 40 nights and 40 days to then be tempted by Satan towards the end of the 40th day (Which I believe to be the end of the Day of Atonement, September 11, 26 AD)

“And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”
Mark 1:9-11

Jesus Is Driven (Thrust) Into the Wilderness

“And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness. ...” *Mark 1:12*

“And Jesus being full of the Holy Spirit returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ...” *Luke 4:1*

Mat 4:1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil ...”

After Jesus’ baptism He was thrust into the desert to begin His 40 days and 40 nights fast. This would have been between the hours of 4-6:00 PM. (John 1:39) The first night of the fast in the wilderness began after sundown. It can be assumed that Jesus had not eaten any food from noon onward of the day of His baptism. Therefore when the Tempter came to Jesus to tempt Him toward the end of the fast, Jesus had already been 40 full nights and 40 full days without food.

Jesus Is Tempted of the Devil

“And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness. And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.” *Mark 1:12-13*

Mat 4:1-3 "Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread." The Interlinear Bible by Jay P. Green, Sr. translates it: "...And having fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He hungered, And coming near Him, the Tempter said, ...”

Luke 4:1-13 “And Jesus being full of the Holy Spirit returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread. And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread

alone, but by every word of God. And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season." *Luke 4:1-13*

Deu 9:18 "And I fell down before the LORD, as at the first, forty days and forty nights: I did neither eat bread, nor drink water, because of all your sins which ye sinned, in doing wickedly in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger."

John 1:29 "Moses returned to Mount Sinai a second time after breaking the tablets of stone where he fasted another 40 days and nights. Moses said he did so because of all the sins of Israel. Since Jesus was the "Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world*" it would be appropriate to say that as Moses (fasting for forty days and forty nights) had done so did Jesus. And since Moses fasted without bread or water so would have Jesus. *John 1:29

As the 40th Day (*the proposed Day of Atonement, our Wednesday, September 11, 26 AD*) was coming to an end, after Jesus had been fasting 40 days and 40 nights (or it might be better said 40 nights and 40 days) the Tempter came to Jesus and tempted him three times. Once the day (*Day of Atonement?*) had ended the scripture says the angels came and ministered to Jesus. They came and gave him water and food. Besides fasting forty days and nights he also did not drink water on that fortieth day if it was the Day of Atonement. It is not clear whether Jesus drank any water those other 39 days, but the example that Moses set in Deuteronomy indicates that Jesus also did not but it would be certain he had no water that 40th day if this is the Day of Atonement.

The Temptation May Be at the End of the Day of Atonement

It would be fitting that the temptation of Jesus and the defeat of Satan would have been on the Day of Atonement. Leviticus chapter sixteen pictures the putting away of sin. Every year in ancient Israel one segment of the solemn ceremonies held on Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) pictured the time when Satan's deception of "the whole world" (Revelation 12:9) would be stopped. It is the belief in the Churches of God that

Satan will be bound for a thousand years on the Day of Atonement. It would be reasonable to assume that Jesus' defeat of Satan in the wilderness on the Day of Atonement was the first of the three times that Satan will be defeated. The second time is when he is bound for a thousand years and the last time is "...when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, ...And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Rev 20:7-10). I believe that all three of these events will be on the Day of Atonement.

[Calendar of 26 AD](#)

Holy Days for Year 26 AD (Julian)

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March							April							May																																														
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
August							September							October																																														
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Passover: *

Friday, March 22

Trumpets:

Monday, September

First Unleavened Bread: Saturday, March 23

Atonement:

Wednesday, Septe

Last Unleavened Bread: Friday, March 29

Feast of Tabernacles:

Monday, Septembe

Pentecost:

Sunday, May 12

Last Great Day:

Monday, Septembe

* Observed previous evening, after sunset

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A time line has been created that shows that Jesus was born around the Feast of Tabernacles in 5 BC. We have used this as an approximate birth date and that he was about 30 years old (Luke 3:23) when he was baptized and began his ministry (fall 26 AD).

Jesus the Messiah

Jesus did not announce that he was the Messiah at the beginning of his ministry. It would be reasonable to assume the following chronology:

1. Jesus was baptized on the 29th day of the 5th month (our Friday, August 2, 26AD)
2. Jesus instantly was thrust by the spirit into the desert 40 days
3. Jesus was tempted 3 times on the 40th day which would have been the Day of Atonement.
4. After the 40th day (Day 41, Thursday, September 12, 26AD) Jesus returns from the wilderness

And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season." Luke 4:1-13. Mathew 4:11 said: "Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him." This is the end of day one through forty of the fast.

Jesus then returns the next day passing by the River Jordan where he had been baptized by John and John seeing Him coming says: "The next day (*'on the morrow, the second day from John 1:19*) John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29 Jay P Green, Sr. renders it: "On the morrow John sees Jesus coming toward him, and says, Behold the Lamb of God taking the sin of the world." *This is day 41 (Thursday, September 12, 26 AD).*

John 1:19: "And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou?" (*'the first day John 1:19*) Verses 19-28 help to establish that verse 29 is day forty one? John had been speaking the previous day (on the Day of Atonement?) with the priests and Levites who were sent by the Jews to inquire who he (John) was. The next day is a reference to the day after John had been speaking to the priests and Levites. John was the son of a priest and was to follow in his fathers footsteps and serve in the temple according to his order (8th course, Abia; Luke 1:5). When John was not serving in the temple as the other priests, but was preaching and baptizing in the wilderness the Jews wanted to know why. Luke (3:15) says: "And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not;" *This I propose to be the Day of Atonement, the 40th Day of Jesus in the desert, (Wednesday, September 11, 26).*

John 1:28-29 These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing. The next day (¹*on the morrow, the second day from John 1:19 Thursday September 12*) John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away (*who is taking away*) the sin of the world. John 1:32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. John 1:34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God. *Verse 28 is day 40 and verse 29 is day 41, Thursday, September 12, 26.*

(*John 1:26-27*) Jesus continued to be the perfect Lamb of God when He resisted the Tempter three times. John now testified to this. He did not testify that Jesus was that lamb at Jesus baptism nor any time during the 40 days and nights Jesus was in the wilderness. John did testify that "...there standeth one among you, whom ye know not; He it is who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose. (1:26-27)

When John saw Jesus returning from the temptation he declared Him to be the perfect Lamb of God, the sacrifice by which atonement is made for sin; the sacrifice that would reconcile man to God and John was now testifying to it. It is understood that God the father and His son Jesus the Christ carries out major events to the establishment of the kingdom of God on our annual holy days. It is most probable that Jesus first defeated Satan on the Day of Atonement. We are also told that on the Day of Atonement after Christ returns and establishes the kingdom on this earth (after the first resurrection) That Jesus the Messiah will bind Satan for a thousand years. (*Pictured in Leviticus chapter 16, and Revelation 19, 20*)

Joh 1:35-37 "Again the next day (*Friday, September 13*)(¹*the third day from John 1:19*) after John stood, and two of his disciples; And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus." Putting these verses together with verse 39 would indicate that John had just finished baptizing between 3-4:00 PM (10th hour) and was still standing with two of his disciples in the Jordan river, most likely with one on each side of him assisting him with the baptisms, when they saw Jesus walk by. *This is day number 42 from the time that Jesus was first baptized and is day three, Friday, September 13, 26 A.D.*

John 1:43 The day following (*Sabbath, September 14*)(¹*the fourth day from John 1:19*) Jesus would go forth into Galilee, (*first day from the start to Galilee*) and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me." *This is day number 43 from the time that Jesus was first baptized; this is the Sabbath, September 14, 26 A.D.*

John 2:1-2 “And the third day (*Tuesday, September 17*)²*seven days from John 1:19; on the day the third (locative case), from the start to Galilee when Philip was found*) there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage.” John 2:11 “This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.” *This is day 46 from the time that Jesus was first baptized and would correspond to the afternoon of our Tuesday, September 17, 26 AD. This would be the second day of the Feast of Tabernacles*

The first day of the Feast of Tabernacles was on Monday September 16, 26 AD. This marriage would have taken place in Cana after the start of this feast. It is not the custom of Israel; and this includes the priests, Levites, Sadducees, Pharisees and those called Jews to have a wedding on a Sabbath or high Sabbath (annual holy day). This wedding was on Tuesday, September 17, 26 AD, the second day of the Feast of Tabernacles.

⁴*Refer to the Holy Days for Year 26 AD (Julian) at the end of this paper*

John 2:12-14 “After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days. And the Jews' Passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting...” ³*Passover that year was Wednesday, April 9, 27 AD. ⁴Refer to the Holy Days for Year 27 AD (Julian) at the end of this paper.* There is six months between the wedding at Cana (Feast of Tabernacles) and the Passover of 27 AD. Jesus most likely used this time to call and teach his disciples.