## Jesus' Birthdate

Introduction by: Bell Research Laboratory

To introduce this topic and the two totally independently developed conclusions which match is very exciting. These two authors (Franklin S. Fowler Jr., M.D., \& Roy A. Reinhold), are friends of mine, and show with reasonable certainty the exact birth date of Jesus. Also, make special note of when Roy's Bible code article was written. Absolutely amazing! As usual, if theological views are discussed and / or mentioned in the materials or referenced materials below, always investigate for yourself to determine if they are true; we do not necessarily endorse all of these views. We hope that you enjoy the information.


## When Was Jesus Born

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Christ's birth, death and resurrection have influenced human history more than any other event. Millions of pages recording the impact of Christ's life have been written. That God would become a man, allow beings He created to kill Him and then translate that event into a pathway of salvation is the most astonishing story ever told. Yet, when those events occurred remains in dispute.

To understand several prophetic timing messages requires that we know when those events occurred. In turn, that helps us to grasp key end-time events that relate to the great Jewish holidays - festivals.

Here's the challenge: The Passover lamb was to be killed on the $14^{\text {th }}$ of the Jewish month of Nissan (Abib), prepared and eaten that night (after sundown, Nissan the $15^{\text {th }}$, when a new day began). This date must occur at a full moon. That, in turn, is predicated on a subjective beginning of the month stated by observers when the new moon (first silver of its crescent phase) was seen. Jesus, the Passover Lamb, was killed on Friday (the preparation day), which would have to be Nissan 14 at full moon.

Since the beginning of the month could be off one to two days and since no one can tell with certainty which year a Jewish "leap" month was added 2000 years ago (a 13-month year), scholars have defended A.D. 27, 30, 33 and 36 as crucifixion dates.

Adding complication to this conflict are the many calendars used to date time. Often an event was dated by the year a king was in power. The Julian calendar was introduced by Julius Caesar in 46 B.C., chosen after consultation with the Alexandrian astronomer Sosigenes. That calendar had a year of 12 months and a "leap year" added every four years - not a leap month.

In 525 A.D. Dionysius Exiguus invented, at Pope John I's request, B.C. (before Christ) and A.D. (Anno Domini - Year of our Lord). He did not accurately know when Christ was born. In addition, in transferring from 1 B.C. to 1 A.D. he failed to put in a "zero."

It took nearly 400 years for this system to be adopted. In combination with the Julian calendar (which determined the beginning of the months and years), Dionysius' system continued until 1582 A.D.

In 1582 A.D. Pope Gregory XIII set about to deal with growing inaccuracies of the Julian and Dionysius systems. Because a year was not exactly 365 days long, seasons were beginning to occur at different times of the year. The rules he set up were exactly like the Julian calendar except for a leap-year system. This was done by bringing the vernal equinox back to March 21.

Although software can handle dates as far back as 4700 B.C., it is not totally objective. Various countries adopted these calendars at vastly different times. Thus, their records are often inaccurate. Astronomers can show in detail the sequence backward of the new and full moons, but can't be certain when Friday, Nissan 14 occurred because of problems in Jewish timing. Since prophecy is tied to the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus, some system of dating must exist to guide our Biblical understanding. It is possible to take astronomically the yearly sun and moon cycles and set a "yearly" sequence of these celestial objects. Tying that to the simple fact that the movement from A.D. to B.C. and visa versa must include the year zero, an accurate numerical sequence can be made. Then one can plug in historical events, with all the clues God has given to date Biblical messages. He knew that "timing" issues would be a challenge. That is why so much of the prophetic Scripture is time- and event-related!

## Clues that Matter

Jesus' baptism was during the $15^{\text {th }}$ year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar (Luke 3:1, 21). That is historically determined to be 27 A.D. This was prophesied over 500 years previously in Daniel 9:25 by the end of the 69 weeks when Messiah the Prince would make His debut.

The "commandment" to "restore and to build Jerusalem" to "Messiah the Prince" began in 457 B.C. That "decree" related to the re-establishment of the Jewish theocratic nation. It was given by Artaxerses I (Longminus). It was a spiritual decree as was the word Jerusalem used spiritually. This prophecy relates to the restoration of a people, God's church, a holy nation. To Messiah the Price would be 69 Sabbatical Sabbaths or 483 years. Sabbatical Sabbaths were the issue involving captivity (II Chronicles 36:21) and restoration (Daniel 9:24).

## Calculations:

483 years of prophetic timing

- 457 B.C. - year of restorative decree

26 A.D.
+1 year for the missing year of "zero"
27 A.D. in the Gregorian calendar
Now we have developed two ways to determine 27 A.D. - Daniel's 9:25 prophecy and the $15^{\text {th }}$ year of Tiberius Caesar. This becomes a key for additional timing issues.

This year is when Jesus is baptized, anointed of God and enters His $31 / 2$-year ministry. His work as the Messiah began then. Luke 3:23 notes that Jesus was "about 30 years of age" at this time. This would coincide with the age a male in Israel would enter the priesthood (Numbers 4:3).

This information would mean that Jesus was born in 3 B.C.
Calculation:
30 years of age
-27 A.D.
3 B.C. (includes B.C. 0-1-2-3


123

The Gospels tell us that Herod, king of Judea, died shortly after Jesus' birth (Matthew 2:15). A traditional view holds this to be 4 B.C. More recently W. E. Filmeri, Ernest L. Martinii and Ormond Edwardiii have argued that 4 B.C. was too early. Josephus had noted that Herod died between a lunar eclipse and the Feast of Passover. The traditional date assumed an eclipse of March 13, 4 B.C. There was also a spectacular total eclipse on September 10, 1 B.C., which Josephus also mentions. This would allow for Jesus to be born in the fall of 3 B.C.

Four early Christian writers additionally reported that Jesus was born in $3 / 2$ B.C. (Irenaeus $2^{\text {nd }}$ century, Clement of Alexandria - approximately 200 A.D., Tertullian - early $3^{\text {rd }}$ century and Africanus - early $3^{\text {rd }}$ century).

Luke's account says: "There went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city." Luke 2:1-3. Some translations say "census," others "registration." This fulfills the prophecy of Daniel 11:20.

The census of Caesar Augustus was during the time of Cyrenius (Latin Quirinius). The Syrian providence at that time included Judea where Herod the Great was still its head.
"Cyrenius was, however, not an ordinary governor; he was a Roman procurator who had powers directly from Augustus, which in contemporary terms means a powerful 'man-Friday', a Legatus Augusti [Justin Martyr said that Roman records showed Quirinius as the procurator of Syria: Apol. I, 34. The Cambridge Ancient History, vol. X, pg. 216, has this revealing comment on the role of a Roman procurator: 'Each province had its equestrian procurator who in the eyes of the provincials was almost as important as the governor himself \{see Tacitus, Agric., 15\}. These procurators were appointed by the Emperor quite independently of the legatus \{governor\} and the relations between the two were frequently none too friendly']."iv

In 3 B.C. Quirinius was special governor during the time of the Syrian governorship of Saturninus, who was responsible for conducting the special census, preparing for the Pater Patriae for Augustus.

The Pater Patriae was a title of "Father of My Country," conveyed to Augustus by the Roman Senate. This was given on February 5, 2 B.C. when he was 60 years old and at his Silver jubilee. The census and taxation was all part of the preparation for this time of celebration. All people were to sign an oath to Rome at that time.

There are other documents that substantiate the timing of this census.
"The Armenian historian, Moses of Khorene, said that the native sources he had available showed that in the second year of Abgar, king of Armenia (3BC), the census brought Roman agents 'to Armenia, bringing the image of Augustus Caesar, which they set up in every temple'"v
"One Orosius, who lived in the fifth century and quoted early sources, wrote: '[Augustus] ordered that a census be taken of each province everywhere and that all men be enrolled...This is the earliest and most famous public acknowledgment which marked Caesar as the first of all men and the Romans as lords of the world, a published list of all men entered individually... This first and greatest census was taken, since in this one name of Caesar all the peoples of the great nations took oath, and at the same time, through the participation in the census, were made a part of one society' [VI, 22 and VII, 2; he also identified the year as 3BC]."vi

Josephus mentioned that an oath of allegiance was demanded by Augustus about twelve or fifteen months before the death of Herod.vii

## Death of Christ

Evidence suggests that Jesus was born in the fall of the year at the time of the Feast of Tabernacles. This would be beautifully symbolic and draws on the meaning of His name Emmanuel - God with us - He now tabernacles with us.

Daniel's 70 weeks of years prophecy noted that Jesus the Messiah - the Prince - would be cut off in the midst of the last week. That week of seven years would be divided in half, making a $31 / 2$ ( 1260 days) and 312 (1260 days) time division.

Jesus begins His ministry at about 30 years of age (fall of 27 A.D.). Three and a half years later, 31 A.D. in the spring, at the time of the Passover, He is killed. This had to be, by divine directive, Nissan 14, Friday, the preparation day at full moon. Many have challenged this because of "astronomical data" (which allegedly shows a full moon cannot be on Friday, Nissan 14, except on 30 or 33 A.D.). That is why we did not use the Jewish calendar in this analysis. There are too many problems in looking backward through this time.

Based upon clear Biblical data and historical documents we can clearly state that Jesus was born 3 B.C., anointed or baptized 27 A.D. and died 31 A.D. At this season when anti-Christian
voices are rising, we can welcome the celebration of Jesus' arrival on planet earth as Biblically true, historically factual and as a "God with us" and "for us!"

## Exact Date Of Yeshua's Birth,

By: Roy A. Reinhold February 1, 2001

A few days before January 1, 2001, I decided to see if the Bible code could identify the exact day of Yeshua's birth (Jesus), since a ton of books and articles have been written forwarding different views and theories. The traditional day celebrated in the church is December 25, 1 BC, although that day wasn't designated until about 360 AD. All the ante-nicene church fathers did not specify in their writings, the exact day that Yeshua (Jesus) was born.

The following multi-part article complements the 2-part article on this website called, The Pagan Aspects of Christmas. In that article, there is evidence from the calculated possible birth date of John the baptist (Yochanan the Immerser), that he was born around Passover in the spring of the year. Since John the baptist was 6 months older than Yeshua (Jesus), that would place the birth of Yeshua in the fall of the year around Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement), plus or minus 3 weeks. Using the Bible code, the test was to see if Yeshua was born in the fall of the year around the time of the fall feasts of Israel, or whether He was born on December 25.

This multi-part article will present multiple Bible code matrices and other scholarship to show that with a fair degree of certainty, we can specify the exact day the angel Gabriel visited Miriam (Mary) and announced that she would bear a child conceived by the Ruach HaKodesh (Holy Spirit), the exact day Mary conceived the child, the exact day of the birth of Yeshua, and the exact day Mary and Joseph took the child to the Temple on the 8th day to dedicate the firstborn with the necessary sacrifice and perform the Brit Milah (circumcision). The matrices shown are all different views of the same overall matrix. In other words, the overall matrix has everything in it related to the conception and birth of Yeshua.

In beginning the process, I was predisposed to believe that the Bible code would show Yeshua's birth on a feast day. The fall feast days of Israel are as follows.

Rosh Hashanah (Yom Teruah, or Feast of Trumpets), occurs on 1 Tishri in the jewish calendar.
Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement), occurs on 10 Tishri in the jewish calendar.
Succot (Feast of Tabernacles), starts on 15 Tishri and runs for 7 days, where the 15 th and 21 st are annual Sabbath days.

Why was I predisposed to believe it would fall on a feast day of Israel? In the gospel of Luke, it states the following:

Luke 2:1-7

Now it came about in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all were proceeding to register for the census, everyone to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (actually, Beit Lechem), because he was of the house and family of David; in order to
register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and who was with child. And it came about that while they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger (feeding trough), because there was no room for them in the inn.

What I wanted you to see are 3 clues necessary to sort out this process of looking for exact date of Yeshua's birth. One, they left Nazareth and went to Bethlehem to register for the census, because both Mary and Joseph were descended from king David along different family lines. The birth took place in Bethlehem. Secondly, the days were completed for her to give birth, which tells us that the child was born at the correct gestation time. The Encyclopedia Brittanica shows that the average human gestation period for a female child is 266-267 days, and 270-271 days for a male child. That will come into play in pre-calculating the expected day of conception when Mary became pregnant. Thirdly, it states that there was no room at the inn (motel for you modern folks).

I would have guessed that the day of birth of Yeshua was on one of the feast days, because there was no room at the inn. Bethlehem is only $3-5$ miles south of Jerusalem, and during the fall feast days, jewish people from all over the world would arrive ahead of time and overflow into the surrounding towns. According to the scriptures, all Israel was only required to appear before the Lord at the Temple 3 times a year (Passover, Shavuot or Pentecost, and the Feast of Tabernacles). However, because they didn't have airplanes, trains, and cars then, jewish people from other countries would arrive early and be there for Rosh Hashanah through Succot (a 3 week period). Therefore, it would have been difficult to find a room at the inn anytime during the fall feast days.

Specifically, John 1:14 led me to believe that the birth of Yeshua was probably on the 15th of Tishri, the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles; where it says, "And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us." I believed that I would most likely find 15 Tishri going into this process, but that IS NOT the day of birth of Yeshua.

The matrix I used has a center term at an equidistant letter spacing (ELS) of 19 letters. The center term is khag hamolad (holiday of the Nativity, chet gimel--hey mem vav lamed dalet), a term often falsely stated as christmas, but literally it means holiday of the Nativity. The matrix is only 19 letters wide, but is probably a couple of hundred rows high. This is obviously a 3D matrix spread out in 2D format. In other words, it would actually be a cube where the center panel has the center term and panels above the center panel would go in front of the center panel, and those below would go behind the center panel. The reason is that Hebrew is read from right to left and top to bottom. We are currently designing a 3D codes program on paper, but it is currently beyond what is available for use right now. If shown in a 3D cube, the related terms would all be right next to each other. I want to point that out, because hopefully, we can build the 3D codes program soon, and this holiday of the Nativity matrix is an easy to see example of it. However, for now we have to view the matrix flattened out into a 2 D format.

I should mention that if we were only looking for one date (the actual birth date of Yeshua), it would be very difficult to try and prove one date in a matrix, even with day-month-year. However, since we know from the scriptures that we have 3 dates that all have to be shown and are related
in a tight way, it is more conclusive. We know there is a date for the day Yeshua was born. From that date, we must see a date of conception exactly 270-271 days prior to the birth date. Finally, the scriptures say that the Brit Milah (dedication and circumcision) took place on the 8th day following the birth. Since we have at least 3 specific dates that are inter-related, if all show up, then we have much more certainty that we have found the exact dates for all of them.

Part 2 will show the birth date of Yeshua matrix and discussion. Part 3 will show the day the angel announced to Mary that she would conceive the child, and the day she conceived the child. Part 4 will show the Brit Milah (dedication of the first-born and circumcision at the Temple). Finally, part 5 will show other sholarship by Dr. Ernest Martin on his calculations of the birth date of Yeshua based on the signs in the sky. All agree and paint a composite picture where we can state with a fair degree of certainty that we now know that Yeshua (Jesus) was born in the fall of the year, in September, in 3 BC . And we can state the exact day for each event.

First, I want to show you the center of the overall matrix (ELS 19), which has the term "khag hamolad" (holiday of the Nativity) in red and above it "ranu ami" (Sing or Rejoice, My people). The area of the matrix with the date of birth information on Yeshua (Jesus) is below the center area of the overall matrix, so it is good to look at the center of the matrix and have a perspective.

| Center of the Holiday of the Nativity Matrix |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Term | Translation Skip | R Factor in Matrix | Start Letter of term |
| ד\% | IT holiday of the Nativity -19 | 5.225 | Proverbs Ch 15 V 26 Letter 11 |
| ר | Sing (Rejoice), My people 19 | 2.518 | Proverbs Ch 15V17 Letter 9 |
| The ELS reference is 19 characters between rows. There are 2 displayed terms in the matrix. |  |  |  |
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| There are 2 displayed terms in the matrix. <br> The matrix spans 323 characters of the sufface text. |  |  |  |


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Note that I turned off all other terms in the matrix from the display, so that you could see the center of the overall matrix without any clutter. Ranu ami (Sing or Rejoice, My people) is read in green from top to bottom, while khag hamolad (holiday of the Nativity) is read in red from bottom to top. That's why the matrix report above shows the holiday of the Nativity term in the report at a skip or ELS of -19, while Sing (Rejoice), My People has a +19 skip or ELS. That's kind of basic Bible codes knowledge for viewers who are unfamiliar with the Bible code. What is significant is that these terms are vertical in the same line and near each other, and they set the topic for the overall matrix.

For people new to the Bible code, the R -value in the matrix in the above report is a statistical measure of significance on a log 10 scale. An R-value of 0.0 means there is a $50-50$ chance of the term showing up in a matrix this size, negative R-values mean that the term is likely to show up in the matrix by chance (shorter terms), while higher positive R -values show little likelihood that this is by chance. An R-value of +1.0 is a 1 chance in $10,+2.0$ is 1 chance in 100 , +3.0 is 1 chance in $1000,+6.0$ is 1 chance in a million, and so on because it is on a log 10 scale. This is a rough way to calculate the odds, although we won't go into statistical calculations in this article. I only point this out because it is in the matrix report above.

The overall matrix was first discovered by researchers at Bible Code Digest http://www.biblecodedigest.com/, (Ed Sherman, Dr. Nathan Jacobi, and Dave Swaney) although they hadn't sorted out all the information when I decided to look and see if we could determine the actual birthdate of Yeshua from the matrix. Bible Code Digest puts out a monthly newsletter on the Bible code at a very modest price, at the website above.

The Yeshua (Jesus) Birth Matrix Report:


I'll show part of the matrix below, but for most people, the above matrix report is easier to handle in analyzing what is in the matrix, because you have the terms in Hebrew and in English.

What it shows is that Yeshua (Jesus) was born on Rosh Hashanah (head of the year), which is also called Yom Teruah (day of blowing) and in English the Feast of Trumpets. It's also Rosh Khodesh which means the head of the month. Rosh Hashanah occurs on the 1st of Tishri every year in the jewish calendar, and is in the fall of the year. The matrix shows that the birth
occurred in the jewish year 3759, which is the fall of 3 BC. In 3 BC, the 1st of Tishri occurred on September 11, 3 BC. With the matrix showing Rosh Hashanah, Yom Teruah, Rosh Khodesh, and "on 1 Tishri", it is clearly showing 1 Tishri as the exact day of Yeshua's birth.

The matrix shows that Joseph (Yosef) and Mary (Miriam or Miryam) were in Bethlehem (Beit Lechem) and stayed in a succah, a stable. Yeshua the Messiah came from heaven, to the earth, and His name is Wonderful, and Counselor, and the Son of Man. The manger or feeding trough is mentioned where Mary laid the baby after the birth. The Ruach Hakodesh (Holy Spirit) was present and the shepherds came to pay homage. It mentions the angels who announced the birth to the shepherds, and the star in the sky announcing His birth.

All the details from the gospels are present and there is probably much more in this matrix than I have shown, since it didn't take me too long to develop it as is. Have we proven that Yeshua was born exactly on September 11, 3 BC? No, because if the matrix doesn't have the conception 270-271 days prior to September 11, 3 BC, then it didn't meet the criteria showing all the aspects surrounding Yeshua's conception and birth. If we count up the days from January 1 to September 11 in $3 B C$ (a non leap year, because $4 A D$ is a leap year which would make $1 B C$ a leap year), then we get 254 days. That means 18 days backwards in December of 4 BC , should be the exact date of the conception (December has 31 days). Our target should then be December 13, 4 BC for the date of the conception based on a 271 day average human gestation period for male babies. I should mention that the Hebrew word for pregnancy is "herayon" (hey resh yud vav nun). Since Hebrew letters also have numerical values it would be as follows:
hey $=5$, resh=200, yud=10, vav=6, nun=50; or total $=5+200+10+6+50=271$
OK, first take a quick look at the matrix below (it'll look cluttered to you), and then on to the next section showing the date of the announcement to Mary by the angel and the subsequent conception by the Holy Spirit (Ruach HaKodesh). I think you'll be happy to know that it agrees with out calculation above.

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The matrix above is cluttered, but if you were to trace the letters, you would see things like Ruach and HaKodesh crossing, Angels and Star crossing, Rosh and Khodesh crossing, Rosh and

Hashanah crossing, manger and succah (stable) crossing, and other related terms crossing or closely parallel, or close together. It's better to look in the matrix report and see what is there.

Is there scriptural support for Yeshua (Jesus) being born on the 1st of Tishri? Yes, in 1 Corinthians $15: 45$ it says in talking about Yeshua, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul. The last Adam became a life-giving spirit." In 1 Corinthians 15:22, it states, "For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ (the Messiah) all shall be made alive." Yeshua is the second Adam, and the rabbi's have long taught that Adam's birthdate was on 1 Tishri. So it is no coincidence that the second Adam has the same exact birth date.

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[^0]:    ${ }^{\text {i }}$ Filmer, W. E.; Martin, Ernest L. and Edward, Ormond; "The Chronology of the Reign of Herod the Great," Journal of Theological Studies 17 (1966): 283-298.
    ${ }^{\text {ii }}$ Martin, Ernest L., The Birth of Christ Recalculated, 2d ed. (Pasadena, CA: Foundation for Biblical Research, 1980).
    iii Ormon Edwares, "Herodian Chronology," Palestine Exploration Quarterly (1982): 29-42.
    ${ }^{\text {iv }}$ www.versebyverse.org/doctrine/birthofchrist.html (emphasis added).
    ${ }^{\mathrm{v}}$ History of the Armenians, trans. R. W. Thomson, Book II, 26.
    vi Josephus, Flavius; Antiquities, VI, 22 and VII, 2.
    vii Josephus, Flavius; Antiquities, XVII, 41-45.

