

How Long Was Christ In The Tomb?

No. 183

Introduction.

I. Once the scribes and Pharisees came to Christ and said, "Teacher, we would see a sign from thee." (Matt. 12:38).

A. Jesus answered. (Matt. 12:39,40).

B. Jesus affirmed that he would be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights and then He would be raised from the dead.

II. I would like for us to make a detail study of this significant prophecy of Christ. No prophecy ever made is more important than this one.

I. **The Day Christ Died** - The first thing we need to determine in our study is the day Christ died.

A. Some believe Christ died on Wednesday and was raised from the dead on Saturday. Most of the people who hold this position contend that Saturday is the commanded day of worship. Several arguments are used to support this doctrine.

1. Daniel 9:24-27 is used in an effort to prove that Jesus was crucified on Wednesday.

DAN 9:24-27 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place. 25 "So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. 26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

a. This is a Messianic prophecy. This expression "in the midst of the week" in this Messianic prophecy is interpreted to mean that Christ was to die on Wednesday.

b. **This is a fallacious for a number of reasons.**

1) First, Hebrew scholars inform us that the expression "in the middle of week" does not necessarily mean the halfway during the week, but simply means sometime during the week.