

הַיּוֹם בַּאֲשֶׁר קוֹמֵם יֵשׁוּעַ
הַמָּשִׁיחַ מִן־הַמָּתִים



**The Resurrection Day
Of Messiah Yeshua**

When It Happened

According To The Original
Texts

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(laid out in book order)

first year of sole rule. This is what the coins show. So to say that Luke 3:1 was reckoned from A.D. 12 or earlier, so as to allow for an A.D. 30 Friday crucifixion, is out of the question, and on the same level of speculation as simply saying that Luke's number is wrong.

Roman historians, in fact, all total up the number of years of Tiberius close to the actual figure: 22 years 6 months 26 days,²⁴⁶ and end it in A.D. 37. These years fit neatly from A.D. 14 to A.D. 37. And never before A.D. 14 is Tiberius Emperor.

One would suppose that here no door was open to controversy, and yet some chronologers ... have endeavored to evade the express testimony of Luke as to the fifteenth year of Tiberius, by surmising that the reign of Tiberius was computed by him not in the ordinary mode from 19th Aug. A.D. 14, the death of Augustus, but from some point of time two years earlier, in A.D. 12; and they rely upon certain passages in Tacitus, Suetonius, and Vell. Paterculus, but which, when taken together, show only that in A.D. 12 large powers were conferred on Tiberius, but not that he was then emperor jointly with Augustus, or that his reign was ever supposed to commence from that period. Other chronologers, as Burton, admit that the fifteenth year of Tiberius must begin in [be reckoned from] A.D. 14, but then they maintain that instead of being computed from 19th Aug. of that year, it must be referred back to 1st January of the same year; for as the Romans reckoned their year from one first of January to another, the whole year within these limits was, according to Burton and his followers, considered the fifteenth year of Tiberius.²⁴⁷

These hypothesis are open to one overwhelming objection, viz. that the reign of Tiberius, as beginning from 19th Aug. A.D. 14, was as well-known a date in the time of Luke as the reign of Queen Victoria

²⁴⁶ Theoph. Ant. 22 years; Dio Cassius 22 yr. 7m. 7d; Cassiodorus 23 yr. Pascal Chronicle: 22 yr. This is no more than rounding off 22 years and a fraction, or rounding up to 23, or the historian making the best estimate as he can of 22 years and the fractional year. See page 2, *Fasti Romani*, Vol. II, H.F. Clinton, 1850.

²⁴⁷ For the 15th year, the difference is between the consular year Jan 1, A.D. 28 to Dec 31, A.D. 28, and the 15th factual year of Tiberius' reign (Aug 19, A.D. 28 to Aug 18, A.D. 29). This is some eight months earlier, but such a supposition is devoid of any proof.

in our own day [20 June 1837], and that no single case has ever been or can be produced in which the years of Tiberius were reckoned in any other manner.

Tacitus opens the fourth book of his *Annals* with these words, ‘C. Asinius and C. Antistius being consuls, it was the *ninth* year of Tiberius;’²⁴⁸ that is, the consulship of Asinius Pollio and Antistius Vetus, reckoned from 1st Jan. A.D. 23, fell in the ninth year of Tiberius up to 19th Aug. A.D. 23, when the tenth year would commence. Dion Cassius again reckons in the same way, for in speaking of the year A.D. 24 he mentions, that in the course of it (viz. on 19th Aug.) ‘ten years of the reign of Tiberius expired;’²⁴⁹ and again, he places the consulship of Licius Vitellius and Fabius Persicus on 1st Jan. A.D. 34, in the twentieth year of Tiberius.²⁵⁰ So Philo computes the reign of Tiberius in round numbers at twenty-three years; and as Tiberius died in A.D. 37, Philo, of course, dated the commencement of the reign from 19th Aug. A.D. 14.²⁵¹ ... And again, Josephus reckons the reign of Tiberius at 22 years, 5 months, and 3 days;²⁵² or, as in another place, at 22 years, 6 months, and 3 days;²⁵³ and as the death of Tiberius occurred on 16th March A.D. 37, Josephus refers the commencement of the reign to 19th Aug. A.D. 14.

There are two coins of Antioch, however, which have been thought to countenance the notion that Tiberius began to reign in A.D. 12. One of them has the head of Tiberius, with the inscription *Καισαρ Σεβαστος*, ΓΜ, i.e. in the 43rd year of the Actian era, commencing from 2nd Sept. B.C. 31, and therefore struck in A.D. 13-14;²⁵⁴ and as the head of Tiberius is found on these coins with the title of *Augustus*, it

²⁴⁸ C. Asinio, C. Antistio consulibus nonus Tiberius annus erat. Tac. Ann. iv. 1.

²⁴⁹ Διελθθοιτων δε των δεκα ετων της αρχης αυτου. Dion, lvii. 24; and so Dion, lviii. 24.

²⁵⁰ Dion, lviii. 24. See page 424 to locate these two consuls in the list.

²⁵¹ τρία πρὸς τοῖς εἴκοσιν ἔτη γῆς καὶ θαλάσσης ἀναψάμενον τὸ κράτος. Philo, Legatio ad Gaium 1:141.

²⁵² Jos. Ant. 18:224.

²⁵³ Jos. War 2:180.

²⁵⁴ Eckhel, iii. 276.

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