

## OUR LORD'S MEMORIAL DATE FOR 2024

— Friday, March 22, after 6:00 p.m. your local time —

*Methods for calculating the annual date for the Memorial differ among Bible Students. We do not insist that ours is the perfect way, but the UK Bible Students use the trusted method presented here. Should you find an error in our calculations, please write to us at <[epiphuk@protonmail.com](mailto:epiphuk@protonmail.com)>*

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From the astronomical tables, determine the following:

1. Date and time of the Vernal Equinox for the given year
2. Date and time of the New Moon *preceding* the Equinox
3. Date and time of the New Moon *following* the Equinox
4. Date and time of the New Moon which occurs *closest* to the Equinox

To find **Nisan 1** an additional step is required:

5. Add *2h 21m* to account for the time difference at the meridian in Jerusalem

There are differences, on the usually trivial order of seconds, between various data sources, but these are not statistically significant overall, though we do take them into account in our calculations. Our working data is from *Astronomical Tables of the Sun, Moon, and Planets*, by the Belgian astronomer, [Jean Meeus](#), the acknowledged expert and we default to his tables.

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The data for **2024** follow:

Times are expressed in 24-hour Universal Time (*UTC*), in hours and minutes (ignoring seconds, which do not affect the results for this year), and shown in parentheses in the familiar 12-hour clock time (*a.m./p.m.*).

1. Date and time of the Vernal (Spring) Equinox  
**March 20 at 03h 07m (03:07 a.m.)**
2. Date and time of the New Moon *preceding* the Equinox  
**March 10 at 09h 01m (09:01 a.m.)**
3. Date and time of the New Moon *following* the Equinox  
**April 08 at 18h 22m (06:22 p.m.)**

***Therefore:***

4. Date and time of the New Moon which occurs *closest* to the Equinox is

**March 10 at 09h 01m (09:01 a.m.)**

5. To this add the time difference of *2h 21m* at the meridian in Jerusalem:

March 10 09h 01m  
+           02h 21m

This results in **March 10 at 11h 22m (11:22 a.m.)**

Remember that the day of the Memorial corresponds to a Jewish day running from *evening to evening*, unlike the customary midnight to midnight. As the 2024 Jerusalem meridian time is **March 10 at 11h 22m (11:22 a.m.)**, we need to locate the start of Nisan 1; we do this by **backing up** to the previous day, *March 9 at 6:00 p.m.*, which falls within the evening to evening day. Thus, Nisan 1 begins at **18:00 (6:00 p.m.), Saturday, March 9.**

Count **14** days from Saturday, March 9 to 6:00 p.m. Friday, March 22, which latter date begins Nisan 14.

The Memorial day, March 22, runs from 6:00 p.m. to March 23, closing that day at 6:00 p.m.

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#### PRIMARY SOURCE

**Astronomical Tables of the Sun, Moon, and Planets, Jean Meeus (Willmann-Bell, Inc.; 1983), pp. 3-43, 4-21.**