



NIGHT LIGHT

The eternal witness of Christ

God speaks to us through...

- The Holy Spirit
- The Holy Bible
- His Community
- His Creation



Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.



Genesis 1

And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.



God gave us the sun and moon for signs, seasons, days, and years.

What greater events are there in human history than the birth, death, and resurrection of Christ?

Therefore what is the sign in the heavens for Easter?



The Moon is a Sign of Christ

Passover and Passion under the full moon

Christ is the light in our darkness

Christ reflects the glory of the Father

Christ never turns His back on us

Christ's back took our beating

Monthly burial and resurrection



What am I not saying?

I am not saying that the moon is God.

We do not worship the sun, moon, or stars.

They are signs that point us to
Christ the Son and God the Father.



Calendars – Solar vs Lunar

Sun

Days

Sun

Years

Sun

Seasons

Moon

Mo[on]th = ~29.5 days

Moon

1 quarter = ~1 Week

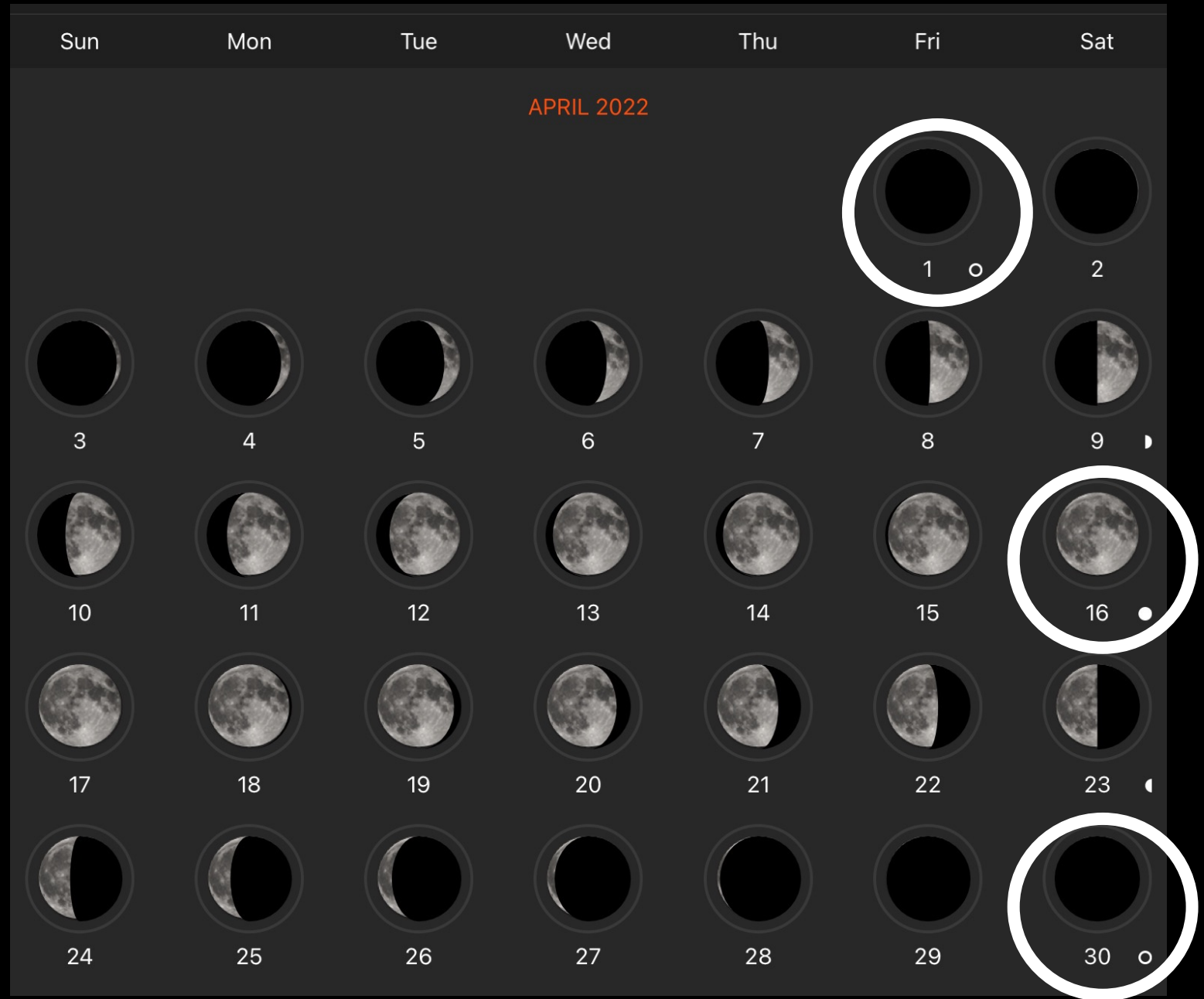
Sun

7 days = 1 Week



Full Moon
~14th day

New moon
First quarter
Full moon
Third quarter
New moon



Full Lunar Eclipse

May 15-16 12:11 AM





The Jewish People

Who were they?

What was their defining moment?

Jewish Lunar Calendar

1st month Nisan

12th month Adar

29.5×12 lunar months = 354 days

Every 2-3 years “leap month” added

1st month established at Exodus of Egypt



Exodus 12

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ... Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. ... and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.



Exodus 12

“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that night, ... It is the LORD'S Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.



Exodus 12

“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast. ... Therefore you shall observe this day, throughout your generations, as a statute forever. In the first month, from the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread until the twenty-first day of the month at evening. For seven days no leaven is to be found in your houses.



Numbers 33

They set out from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month. On the day after the Passover, the people of Israel went out triumphantly in the sight of all the Egyptians



The Passover Refrain

In the first month on the fourteenth day...

In the first month on the fourteenth day...

In the first month on the fourteenth day...

In the first month on the fourteenth day...

In the first month on the fourteenth day...

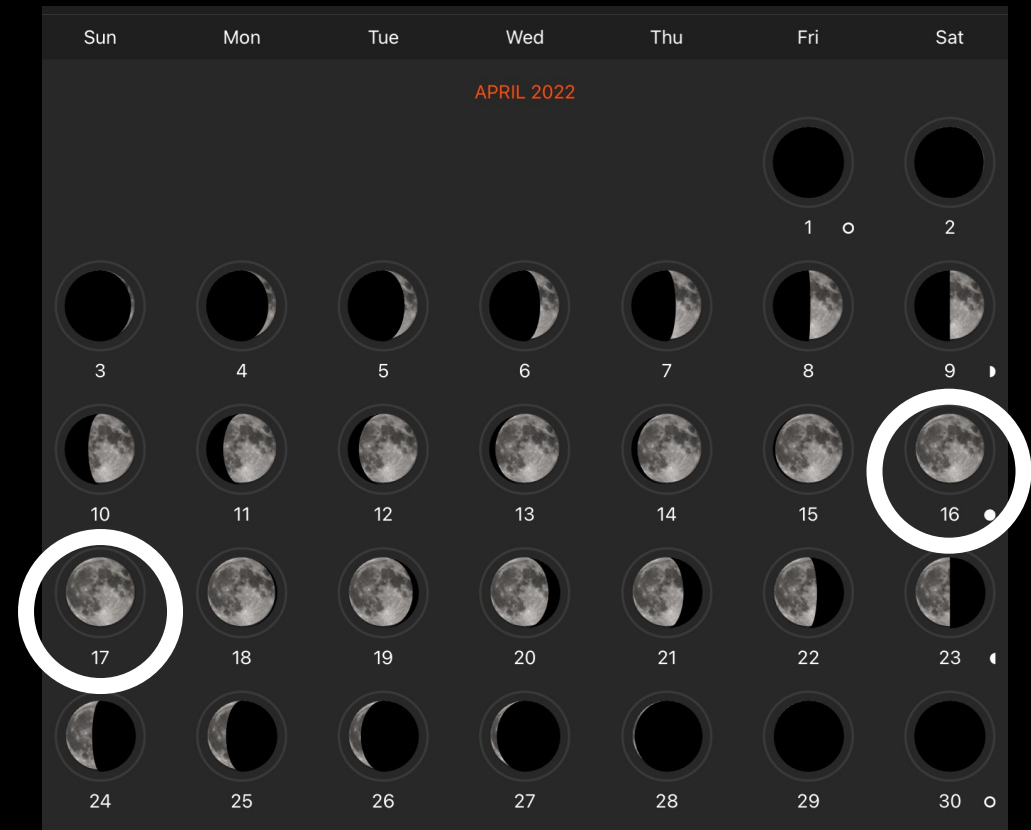
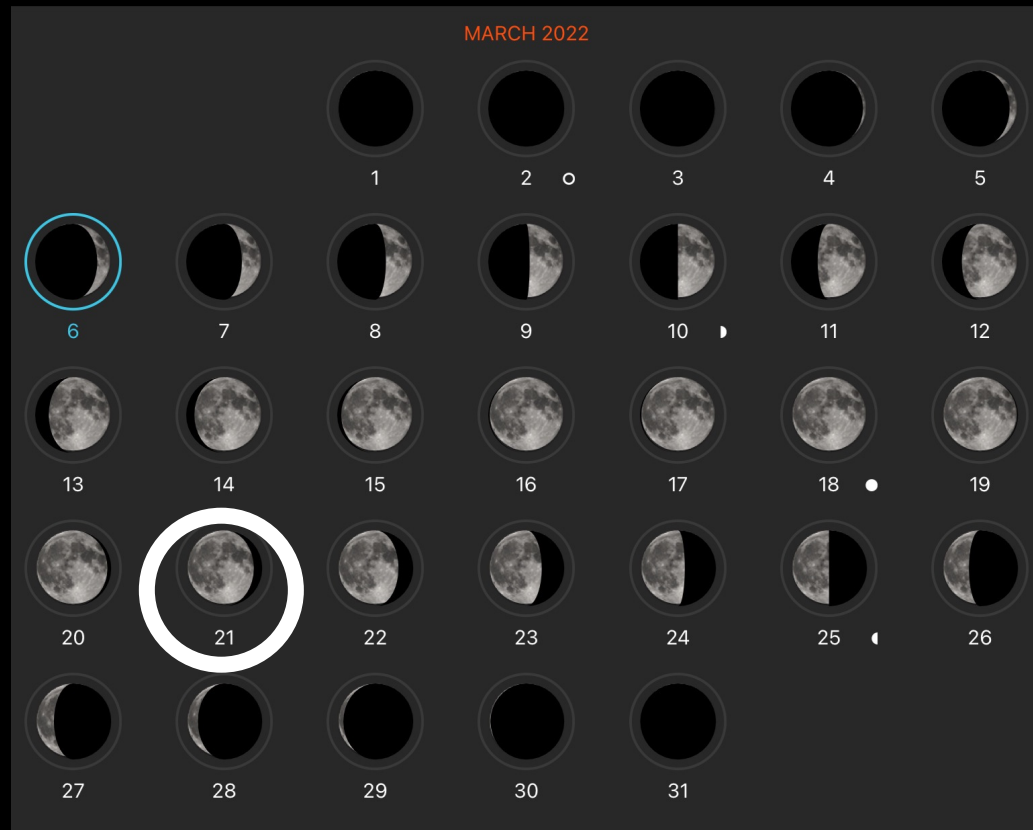
In the first month on the fourteenth day...

In the first month on the fourteenth day...



Christian Easter Sunday

First Sunday after the
First full moon after
Spring equinox
...approximating Passover



Genesis 1 - signs

And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years...



Psalm 89 - David's offspring

His offspring shall endure forever,
his throne as long as the sun before me.
Like the moon it shall be established forever,
a faithful witness in the skies. Selah

What is a "witness"?

What did the moon see?

Passover, Gethsemane, Burial, Us



The Passion of Christ took place during the full moon of Passover

John 19

So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out ... Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.



Christ is the light in our darkness



John 1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

The Son reflects the Father



John 1

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ... No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Hebrews 1

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Christ never turns His back on us

While the moon rotates in orbit, it does so in such a way that it is always facing us. It never turns its back to us. It is gravitationally locked to always face us.

Deuteronomy 11

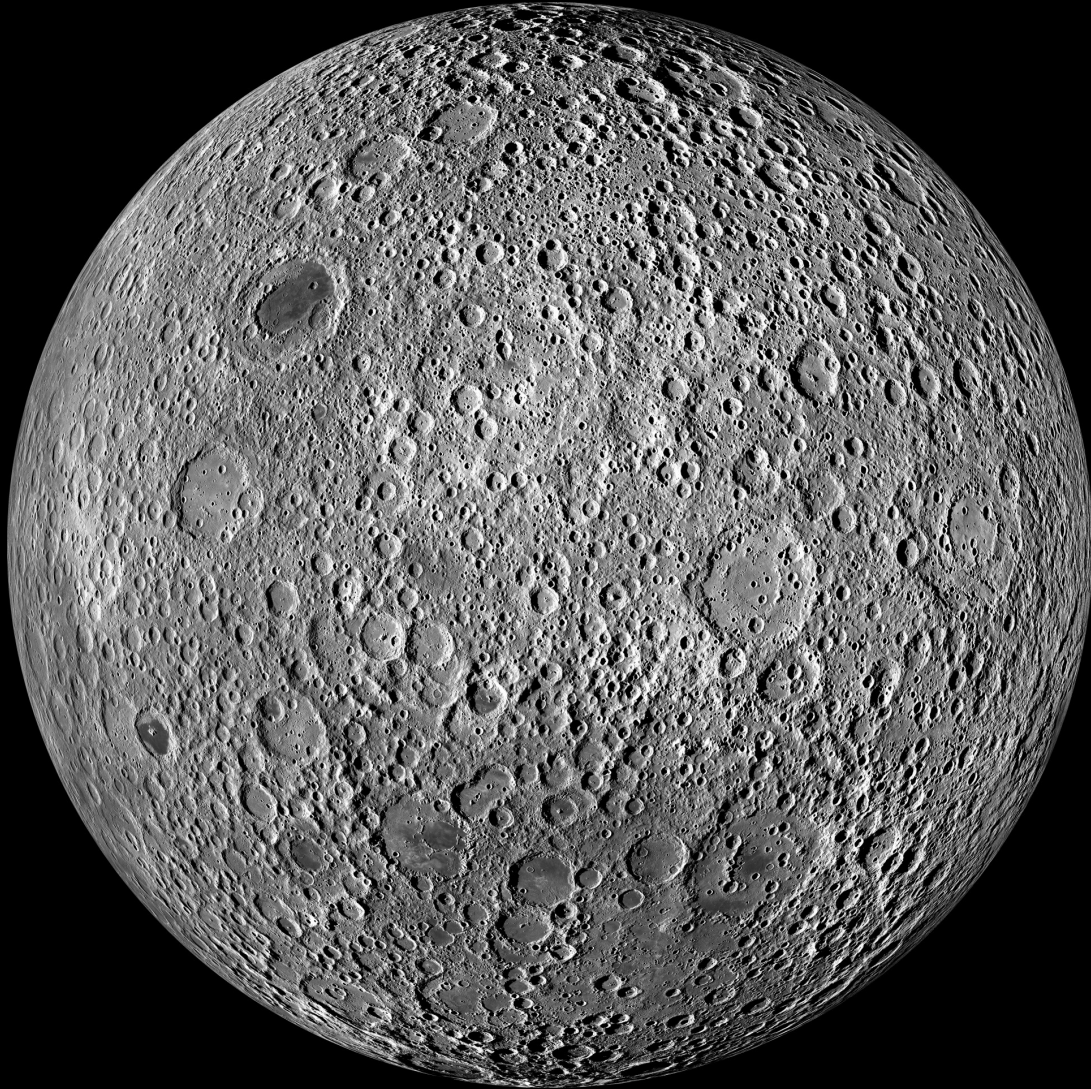
The eyes of the LORD your God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

Hebrews 7

He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.



Christ's back took our beating



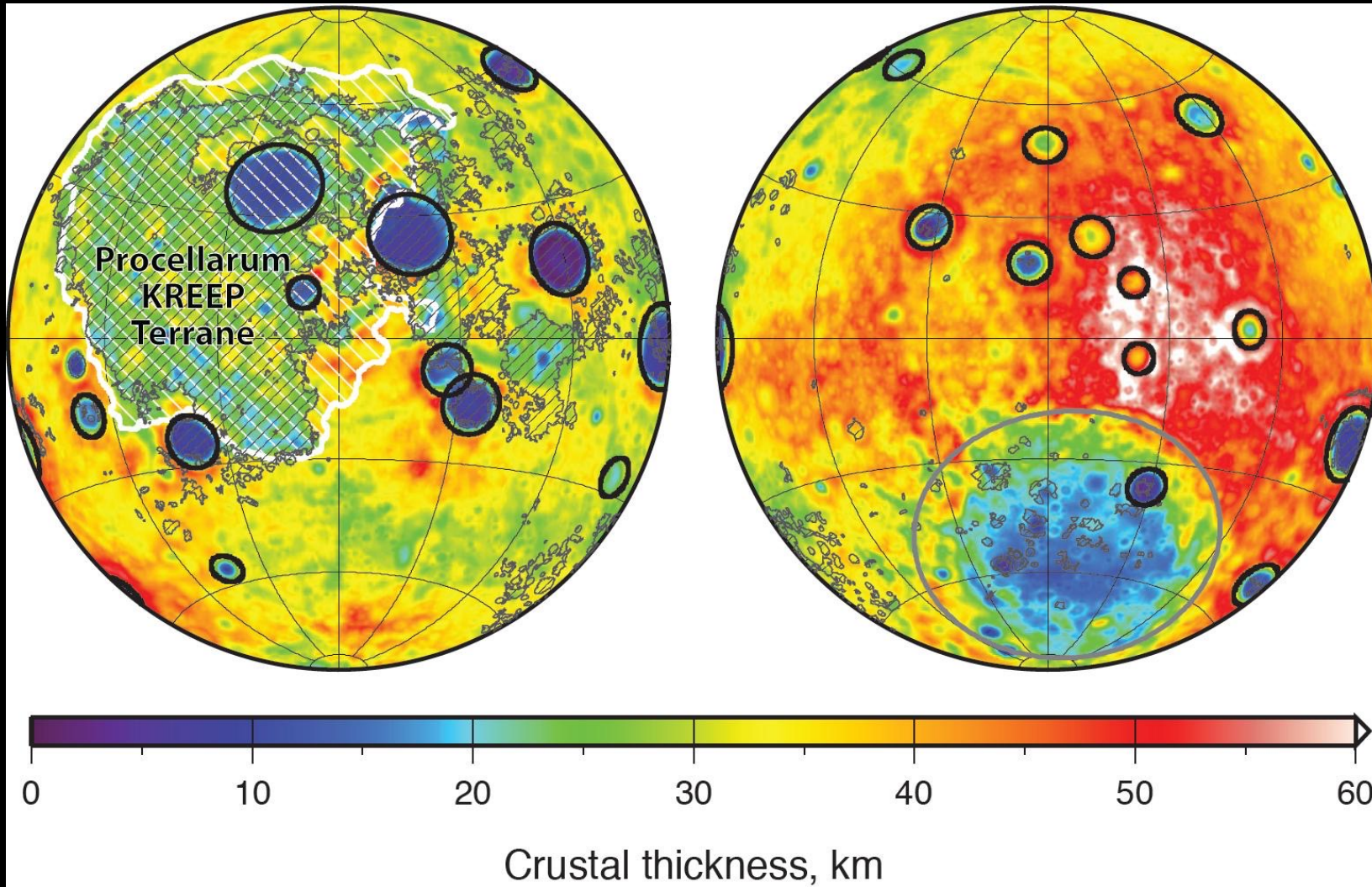
Isaiah 53

But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that
brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.



Thank you Judy Zollinger...

The back is thicker than the face



Exodus 12

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ... the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.



Matthew 27

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ... And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.



Matthew 28

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women,



Matthew 28

“Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

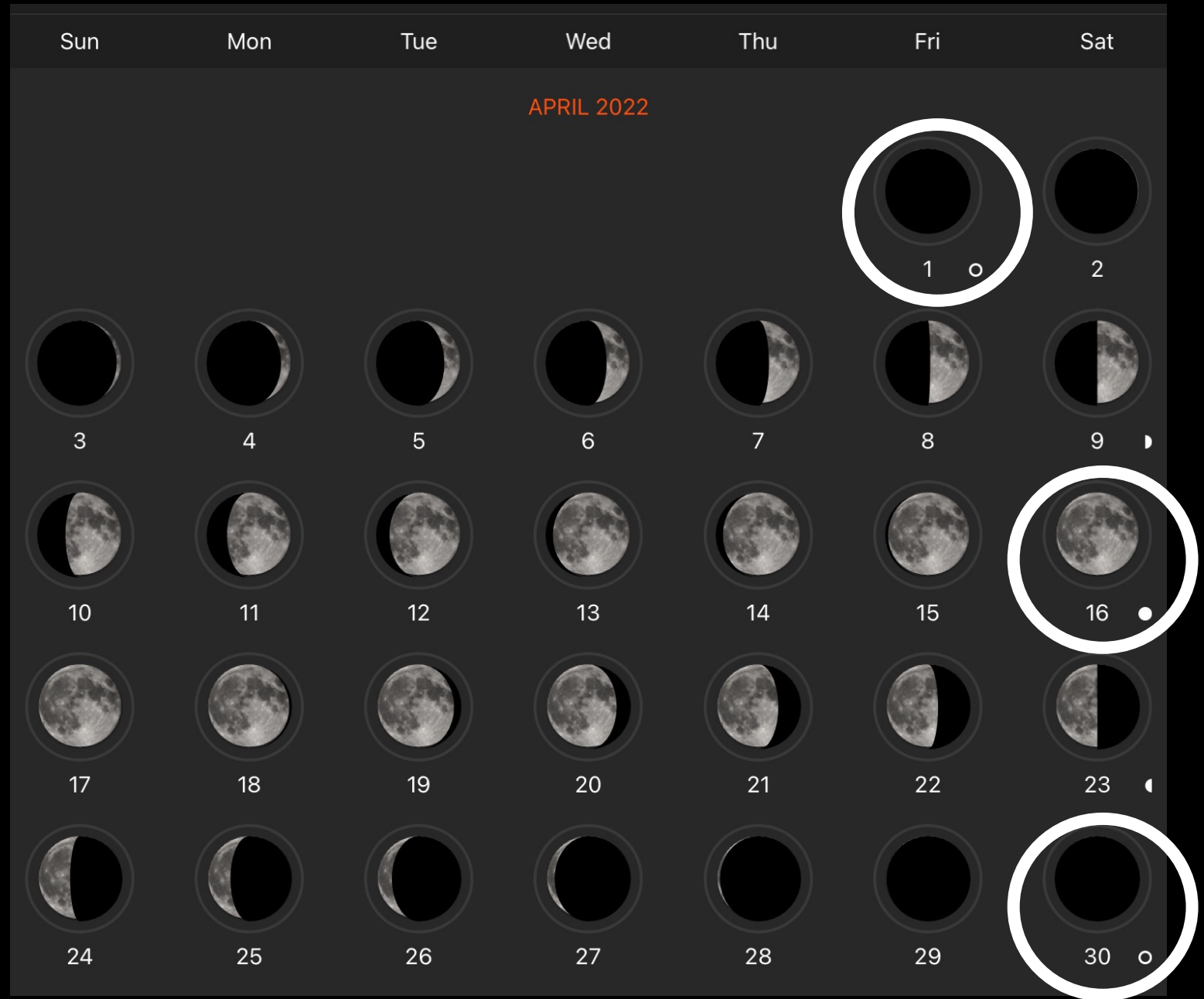


Monthly death and resurrection

New moon

Full moon

New moon





The empty tomb is our Passover refrain
Our defining moment



“An undevout astronomer is mad.”

Sir William Herschel

Psalm 8 – timeless wonder

O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?



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Romans 1 - call to repentance

For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.



Deuteronomy 30 - choose

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days...



Far from God?

