

Julian Calendar

In the year 46 B.C., Julius Caesar, Emperor of Rome, hired Egyptian astronomers to make a new calendar. This new calendar, called the Julian calendar, had $365\frac{1}{4}$ days, which is about 11 minutes and 14 seconds longer than the time the earth takes to move around the sun. This seemed too small to notice, but after 1,500 years had gone by, it made a big difference. This is the reason:

Twice in every year as the earth travels around the sun, the centre of the sun comes directly over the earth's equator, and the day and the night at these times are equal. This happens around March 20 and September 23, and it is called an equinox, meaning "equal night."

Because the year on the Julian calendar was longer than it should have been, the March equinox came a little earlier each year. By the year 1580, when the March equinox came it was only March 11 on the Julian calendar, and it should have come on March 20.

Gregorian Calendar

Two years after this happened, Pope Gregory XIII of Rome decided to correct the mistake. He did this by taking 10 days out of the calendar in October 1582.



Men in the ancient world told the time by the position of shadow of a stick placed in ground

Therefore people went to sleep on the night of October 4 and woke up on the morning of October 15!

Because it was Pope Gregory who made this correction, and a few other slight adjustments, in the Julian calendar, his calendar was called the Gregorian calendar. This is the one we use today.

"Roses and Thornes"

The Roses and the Thornes live side by side in Board homes at Walgett.

Below, Karen Rose, Alan Lake, Debbie, George and Cynthia Rose, play with three of the Thorne children, and at right, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Thorne are pictured outside their home with their children Neville, Michael, Wendy, Theresa, and their latest baby.

