



The 7000 Year Theory

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The Seven Thousand Years Theory

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The “Days” of Scripture

“For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.” (Exodus 20:11)

The 7000 Year Theory is the idea that there will be 6000 years of mankind’s history and that the 7000th year will be the Millennial Reign of Christ. Initially it may seem to be a wild proposition in these days when much of the Church is so ignorant of the Lord’s Return. However this idea **was believed** by the first century Church, and those people had access to the Apostles, as we will see. This series is not based on any definitive Scripture but is rather drawn from an overview of many Scriptures and they, when combined, present a certain picture. You will be able to decide for yourself if there is any merit in it, but it is an assessment that you will find interesting and thought provoking.

Why did the Lord make the earth and the entire universe, and everything in that universe in six days? Why did He not make it in one-second? He is omnipotent (all powerful) and could have done so, but He chose to make it in six days. These “days” are 24 hour days, not centuries or millions of years. This is clearly shown when God reveals at the end of each day that, *“the evening and the morning were the first day... And the evening and the morning were the second day”* (Gen 1: 5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31) and this fact is repeated over each of the six days of creation. God knew that man would pervert His truth and so He made sure to clearly declare that His creation took only six days of 24 hours each. Despite God detailing the creation account many, many Churches today go along with the perversion of God’s Truth that Darwin invented.

After the sixth day God declared the seventh day was to be *“a day of rest”* as in the Ten Commandments. *“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shall you labour, and do all your work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord your God: in it you shall not do any work...”* (Ex 20: 8-10) So God has established a divine order, six days of work and one of rest, a sabbath.

The Bible also talks of other ‘sevens.’ *“And the Lord spoke unto Moses in Mount Sinai, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When you come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto the Lord. Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; But the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the Lord: you shall neither sow your field, nor prune your vineyard. That which grows of its own accord of your harvest you shall not reap, neither gather the grapes of your vine undressed: for it is a year of rest unto the land.”* (Lev 25: 1-5) So we see that God has defined a “day” as consisting of 24 hours and also another “day” as *“a year of days.”*

This principle is accepted by society who call it *“a sabbatical year.”* The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines the sabbatical year, *“We tend to think of sabbatical in academic terms, as a school year free from teaching duties that can be devoted to research, travel, and writing. Traditionally, this occurs every seventh year... we may easily miss what is hiding in plain sight: that sabbatical is related to Sabbath, which refers to the Biblical day of rest, or the seventh day. We trace the origins of both sabbatical ... to the Hebrew word shabbāth, meaning ‘rest.’”* Source: (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/sabbatical>)

There Are Also Other “Days” In The Scriptures

The Scriptures talk of “days” in various ways. We also see that the Scriptures talk of 1000 year “days.” The best known one is *“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”* (2 Pet 3:8) Another is *“For a thousand years in Your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.”* (Psalm 90:4)

Here is a further evidence of that Biblical *“1000 year day.”* *“And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat. But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it: for in **the day** that you eat thereof you shall surely die.”* (Gen 2: 16-17)

Adam did eat that fruit but he did not drop dead at the moment he bit into it. We read *“And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died.”* (Gen 5:5) So death came to Adam but God had said it would come *“in the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die.”* This is an example of the one thousand year day for Adam died at 930 years, that is *“in the day that he ate”* based on the 1000 year day. The early Church had this understanding for in an ancient book Irenaeus, (130 - 202 AD), a disciple of Polycarp, (and Polycarp was a disciple of St John) wrote: **“Now Adam died on the same day in which he did eat. For God said, “In that day on which ye shall eat of it, ye shall die by death ... for since ‘a day of the Lord is as a thousand years,’ he did not overstep the thousand years, but died within them, thus bearing out the sentence of his sin ... Adam did not overstep the thousand years, but died within their limit, it follows that, in regard to all these significations, God is indeed true.”** (Irenaeus “Against Heresies,” Book 5, Chapter 23 Source : <https://carm.org/irenaeus-heresies5-19-31>)

In the illustrations above we see some of the defining background to the 7000th Year Theory.

The 7000 Year Theory

Evidence That The Early Church Believed This Theory

There is evidence that the first century Church believed in the 7000 year theory. There are books still existing that give evidence of this, but those books do not form a part of the Holy Scriptures.

One of them was written by Barnabas, a companion of Paul. We read that after Paul (Saul) was converted to Christ he met Barnabas ...

“And when Saul (Paul) was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he (Paul) had seen the Lord in the way, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.” (Acts 9: 26-27)

Barnabas thus became a companion of Paul and accompanied him for we are told *“As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul (Paul) for the work whereunto I have called them.”* (Acts 13:2)

A little known fact about Barnabas was that he wrote an Epistle and it is still available to us. It is not deemed to be a part of Scripture. Please note that the *“Epistle of Barnabas”* is quite different from the fake document called the *“Gospel of Barnabas.”* Here are some verses from his Epistle.

*“Of the Sabbath He speaketh in the beginning of the creation; And God made the works of His hands in six days, and He ended on the seventh day, and rested on it, and He hallowed it. Give heed, children, what this meaneth; He ended in six days. **He meaneth this, that in six thousand years the Lord shall bring all things to an end; for the day with Him signifyeth a thousand years; and this He himself beareth me witness, saying; Behold, the day of the Lord shall be as a thousand years. Therefore, children, in six days, that is in six thousand years, everything shall come to an end. And He rested on the seventh day. This He meaneth; when His Son shall come, and shall abolish the time of the Lawless One (Antichrist), and shall judge the ungodly, and shall change the sun and the moon and the stars, then shall he truly rest on the seventh day.** But if after all then, and not till then, shall we truly rest and hallow it, when we shall ourselves be able to do so after being justified and receiving the promise, when iniquity is no more and all things have been made new by the Lord, we shall be able to hallow it then, because we ourselves shall have been hallowed first. Finally He saith to them; Your new moons and your Sabbaths I cannot away with. Ye see what is His meaning ; it is not your present Sabbaths that are acceptable [unto Me], but the Sabbath which I have made, in the which, when I have set all things at rest, **I will make the beginning of the eighth day which is the***

beginning of another world.” (Barnabas 15: 3-8 the brackets are in the original but the word Antichrist is mine.)

The *“Epistle of Barnabas”* is **NOT** Holy Scripture, but it does provide evidence that the early Church had this understanding. So it is reasonable to ask where Barnabas got this collection of thoughts? All we do know is that he was a close associate of St Paul and that Barnabas wrote his Epistle.

Another early Christian writer expressed the same ideas. He was Lucius Caecilius Firmianus Lactantius and was an early Christian author from around the years 250 to 325 AD. In *“The Divine Institutes”* Lactantius expected

- an earthly reign of the resurrected saints with Jesus after His second advent for one thousand years before the universal judgment.

He presented, in sharp chronological summary,

- the premillennial second advent,
- the two resurrections,
- the millennial period,
- and the reign of Christ with the saints on the earth.

These are all definitive premillennial concepts based on the Scriptures. The ancient writer Irenaeus (130 - 202 AD), a disciple of Polycarp, (and Polycarp was a disciple of St John) also speaks of this saying *“The whole apostasy of six thousand years, and unrighteousness, and wickedness, and false prophecy, and deception; for which things' sake a cataclysm of fire shall also come upon the earth... And therefore, when in the end the Church shall be suddenly caught up from this (the rapture), it is said, "There shall be tribulation such as has not been since the beginning, neither shall be.”* (Irenaeus Against Heresies, Book 5, Chapter 29 Source: <https://carm.org/irenaeus-heresies5-19-31>) {My words in brackets}

The Bible teaches that there remains *“a day of rest for the people of God”* and it is likened to the seventh day of Creation and is thus linked to the Millennial reign of Christ (which is **the day** of rest) viz *And God did rest the seventh day from all His works. And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest. Seeing therefore it remains that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief: ... To day if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts. **For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest to the people of God.** For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.* (Heb. 4:4-11) Revelation describes this *“day of rest”* (the 1000 year millennium) when the whole world will be at peace for Jesus reigns on the earth, and Satan is bound. See Revelation 20: 1-7.

The 7000 Year Theory

Enter Bishop James Ussher

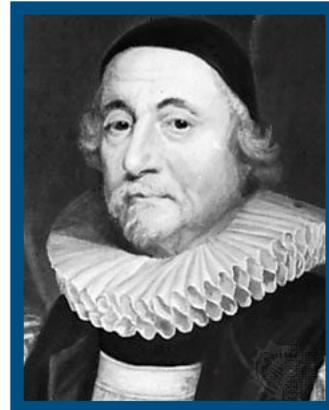
So far we have seen that the early Church had certain understandings that do not exist today in much of the modern Church. They reveal that the ancient Church had the understanding that the Bible spoke of “days” and these “days” may not have always been of 24 hours. In fact some Biblical “days” are 1000 years in length, as we have seen.

So what does this all mean? For an answer we must look to another early writer, Bishop James Ussher (b 4/1/1581 - d 21/3/1656). Bishop Ussher was an extremely clever man. He received his *Bachelor of Arts* degree by the age of 17, and was a *Fellow and Master of Arts* by age 19. He gained a *Bachelor of Divinity* at 26 years and a *Doctor of Divinity* at 31 years. In May 1602 (age 21), he was ordained in the Trinity College Chapel as a deacon and Priest in the *Protestant Church of Ireland*. He was *Primate of All Ireland* between 1625 and 1656. (Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Ussher)

Bishop Ussher is best known today for his monumental work called “*The Annals Of The World*” in which he determines the date of creation entirely from the Holy Scriptures. He is mocked these days by many who put their faith in science rather than the Holy Bible. Ussher, using the Bible, which is full of dates and long family trees (look at 1Chronicles 1 for a good example of this) determines the creation date. God had these long genealogies recorded to reveal the history of His people. With all this detail we may work out the age of the world and Bishop Ussher did. He shows us how reliable the Bible is.

“*The Annals Of The World*” is a monumental work. My copy was published in October 2003 and has 960 pages of detailed arguments and calculations, so it is not a superficial work. **Ussher determines that the creation took place in 4004 BC.** He also shows the birth of Christ to be 5 BC. Others writers reach similar dates for creation and the birth of our Lord. The problem for us is that our modern calendars are not totally accurate and have been altered over time. For example “*eleven days were dropped from the month of September in 1752*” just to make the calendar line up with observed reality, seasons etc. There are very many problems with our calendar. If you want to know more about our faulty calendar/s then look here. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calendar_reform)

So what has all this to do with the 7000 Year Theory? As St Paul says, “*Much in every way*” for without knowing the date of creation we cannot understand many truths that the Bible expounds. God is the Author of the Holy Bible and He inspired the various writers to reveal to us great detail regarding dates and chronologies.



Here is a simple example of the detail that God provides. In Genesis 36 the Lord reveals a very detailed history in which he details perhaps as many as 100 people (I did not count them), and it finishes with these words “*And these are the kings that reigned in the land of Edom, before there reigned any king over the children of Israel.*” (Gen 36: 31) Why did God ensure that that information was recorded? So that we, Bishop Ussher and many others, relying on all this inspired and therefor accurate information, revealed that creation happened in 4004BC. The modern Jewish calendar says that 2019 is 5779 years since creation so we may see the confusion. By using Ussher’s 4004 BC we get a starting date.

Abraham was born in 2008 since creation (Ussher) and is the father of the Jewish race. Christ was born in 5BC (Ussher) and that is approximately in the year 4000 since creation. We can easily understand this for our calendar starts with the birth of Christ and we are now “2019 years” since His birth. However our year 2019 is not certain due to our calendar not being truly accurate. Just what the real date is impossible to know, but we do know that approximately 6000 years have expired. That means there was about 2000 years of the Gentiles (*from the creation and up to Abraham*), followed by 2000 years of the Jews (*Abraham, Moses, the exodus etc*) and now 2000 years of the Church age, making 6000 years in total. But things must yet happen before the Church age runs out, and that we will see on the page that follows.

Gentiles 2000 years approx.	Jews 2000 years approx.	Church 2000 years approx.
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We are truly in the “end times” and the Millennial Reign of Christ is on the near horizon as will be shown on the next *Single Paged Paper*.

The 7000 Year Theory

Hosea Reveals All And Brings Light And Joy

*“I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek My face: in their affliction they will seek Me early. Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for He has torn, and He will heal us; He has smitten, and He will bind us up. After **two days** will He revive us: in **the third day** He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight.* (Hosea 5,15, 6: 1-2)

This is a rather remarkable passage from the ancient prophet Hosea. He could hardly have understood it but we, from our vantage point in history, are able to see its significance. The prophecy above comes from chapters five and six of Hosea but, as we know, the chapters and verses were added in modern times and were not in the original document. Thus Hosea 5:15 and 6: 1 and 2 immediately follow each other.

Hosea reveals Jesus, who he describes as *“the offended one.”* Christ was offended by the national rejection of most Jews. The “offended One” says, *“I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek My face.”* We know that He did go. He returned *“to His place”* after the resurrection viz. *“And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight.”* (Acts 1: 9)

This happened about 2000 years ago, right at the beginning of the Church age. He said that He will return when the Jews acknowledge their offence and He adds a rather solemn note to that when He proclaims *“in their affliction they will seek Me early.”* This “affliction” refers to the awful time in the Tribulation when the Jews are being slaughtered by the armies that surround Israel.

Speaking to those Russian led armies the Lord says *“And you shall come up against My people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring you against My land, that the heathen may know Me, when I shall be sanctified in you, O Gog, before their eyes.”* The Lord goes on *“And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, says the Lord God, that My fury shall come up in My face. For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel...”* The great armies that attack are wiped out for God fights for Israel. (Ezekiel 38:16, 18-19) For detail of this attack click here <https://www.thesinglepagedpapers.com/are-the-end-times-near> (Refer to pages 7-9)

Israel during this time is facing defeat and become so desperate and they do call upon the Lord. Hosea tells us that one day Israel will say, *“Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for He has torn, and He will heal us; He has smitten, and He will bind us up.”* (Hosea 6:1) and they do call upon the risen Lord Jesus at last.

When is this to happen? If we look at Hosea’s prophecy we are told that it will happen, *“After **two days** will He revive us.”* What does that mean? Jesus after the resurrection *“went to His place”* and promised to return after *“they seek His face in their affliction.”* Now Jesus returned to His place about 2000 years ago. If we take the “1000 year day” as our guide then the promise is that *“after two days He will revive us.”* And when is two times “1000 year days” after His resurrection? **It is about now, isn’t it?** This year is 2019 and our dating system starts at the birth of Christ, so we are now living in Hosea’s “second day” following the Lord’s ascension!

Hosea goes on to say that *“in the **third day** He will raise us (Israel) up, and we shall live in His sight.”* So the “third day” is the third “1000 year day” after Jesus returned to His place. This is a reference to the millennial day when Christ is ruling on the earth. That “millennial day” begins immediately Christ returns when all the promises to national Israel will be realised. Israel will truly *“live in His sight”* for Christ Himself will be reigning on the earth from Jerusalem. This will bring much joy to the people of Israel and to the world.

There are more things to happen before the Church age closes, such as the rapture followed by the seven year tribulation all of which happens before the Millennial begins. The exciting news is that **THE LORD IS COMING AND SOON!** Are you waiting and watching for the Lord’s return in great glory?

