

Part I Genesis and Regeneration

Part II Science and Scripture

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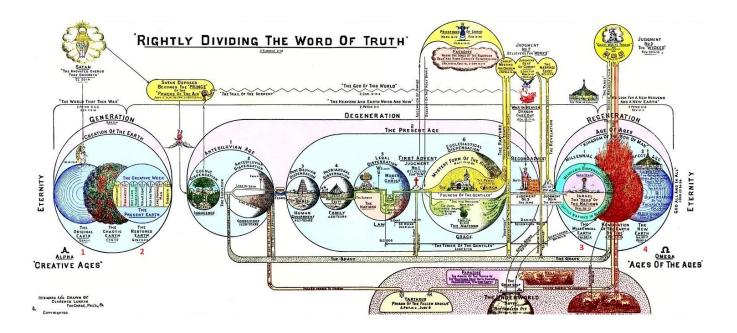
Part VII Research Resources

**Christianity and Creationism - Genesis and Geology** 



The Bible's Mystery of the *Void* and the *Darkness* - The Overlooked Wisdom and Purpose!

"For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby **the world that then was**, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." (2 Peter 3:5-7)



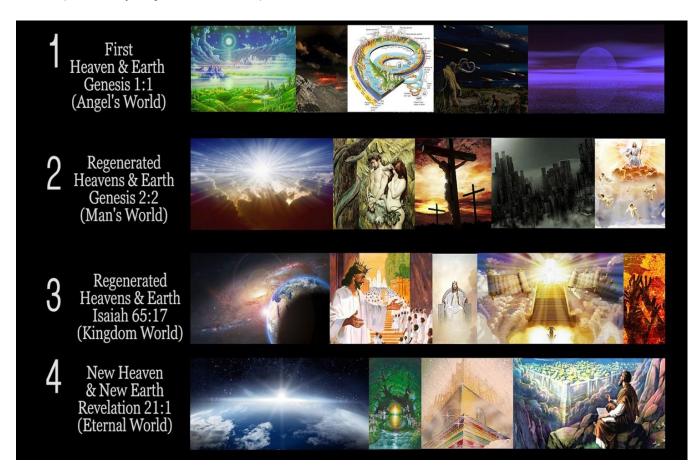
See: Illustration from "Dispensational Truth" by Clarence Larkin circa 1918 - Colorized and red numbers added by this website in a separate word file

The mighty revelations of the purpose of GOD cannot be apprehended until the issue of believing His Word has been faithfully met."

-- Lewis Sperry Chafer

#### Part I - Genesis and Regeneration

In the Holy Bible there are four distinct and separate "Creations" of the heaven and the Earth (*Biblically defined, as such*).



**1.** The Initial Creation of the "heaven and earth" (*Genesis 1:1 & Job 38:4-11 KJV*) The Angel's World (*Creation*)

Time frame: "In the beginning"

**Pre-existing conditions:** Eternity past. God created them Ex nihilo, "out of nothing"

- 2. The First Regeneration of the "heavens and the earth" (Genesis 2:1 & 2:4 KJV) Man's World (Regeneration) Time frame: About 6,000 years ago Pre-existing conditions: "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." (Gen 1:2)
- 3. The Second Regeneration of the "heavens and earth" (Isaiah 65:17-25 KJV)
  The Kingdom World (Regeneration)

**Time frame:** Following the Great Tribulation and before the one-thousand years reign of the Lord Jesus Christ upon the Earth (*Revelation 20*)

**Pre-existing conditions:** "I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was **without form, and void**; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger." (Jeremiah 4:23-26)

**4.** The new Heaven and new Earth of Eternity (*Revelation 21:1 KJV*)
The Eternal World (*New Creation*)

**Time frame:** Eternity following the Great White Throne Judgment.

**Pre-existing conditions:** "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works." (Rev 20:11-12)

The following characteristics apply to the four respective Creations:

- Creation events 1 and 2 happened in the past. Creation events 3 and 4 will happen in the future.
- At the first Creation and last creation there is no evil present. The same cannot be said for 2 and 3.
- Events 1 and 4 are Original (completely new) Creations. Those of events 2 and 3 are Regenerations.
- Creation events 1, 2, & 3 involve the present planet Earth. Event 4 is a completely new heaven and Earth.
- There is no "Sea" of division between God's creation and His Heavenly Throne at the times of Creation events 1 and 4. That "Sea" of division is established at the beginning of event 2 and remains in place until the end of the third Biblical Age.

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." (Rev 21:1)

The "sea" spoken of in the above verse is the same one referenced in this verse: "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 "Sabbath day" of the above verse (and Genesis 2:2) represents a promise given from God and points to the future reign of the Lord Jesus Christ upon the Earth, when He returns as the King of Kings. You see, there are seven-days in the

Genesis account. Each of those days, that were literal and 24-hours long, also prophetically-represents one-thousand years of human history. According to the Biblical chronology, there has already been about six-thousand-years of human history since the second creation (*The Seven-Days*) and the creation of "man" (*Adam and Eve*).

"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 Peter 3:8) Consequently, the seventh day represents the seventh-day of the one-thousand-years of future human history which is detailed in Revelation 20:

"1And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. <sup>2</sup>And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, <sup>3</sup>And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. <sup>4</sup>And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. <sup>6</sup>Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ and shall reign with him a thousand years. <sup>7</sup>And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, <sup>8</sup>And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea." (Rev 20:1-8)

So the seventh-day of human history begins after the third Creation event (*Isaiah 65:7*). And the fourth Creation event takes place after the one-thousand years of Revelation 20 (*Revelation 21:1*). To be truthful, very few "Christians" accept the literal interpretation of Revelation 20. Very few even know about the third Creative event, and even fewer know about (*or accept*) the regeneration second Creative event. For that reason, let's first analyse the third Creation event to see what the Bible reveals about it.

#### This is Creation #3 that takes place after the Great Tribulation:

"For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." (Isaiah 65:17)

As compared to the present evil world we live in (*Galatians 1:4*), the third Creative event will bring fourth some interesting changes on the Earth. I have added numbered word-points to the rest of Isaiah's passage to make it easier to point these out:

"18But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, {1} I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. 19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in {2} my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. <sup>20</sup>There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall {3} die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. <sup>21</sup>And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. <sup>22</sup>They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: {4} for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. <sup>23</sup>They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. <sup>24</sup>And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. (5) <sup>25</sup>The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and {6} dust shall be the serpent's meat. {7} They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD." (Isaiah 65:18-25)

- 1) God creates the earthly Jerusalem again. He creates a whole city to replace that which was broken down at the end of the Great Tribulation. This Jerusalem is NOT the "New Jerusalem" of eternity (*Revelation 21:2*).
- 2) These are the Hebrew people, who survived the Tribulation destruction.
- 3)The word "die" denotes that there is still human death during the one-thousand-year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ on the Earth. (see: 1 Corinthians 15:26 & Revelation 20:14)
- 4)The people will have age-spans like those that were on the Earth before Noah's flood (trees live hundreds of years)
- 5) The animals will once again be vegetarians and have no fear of man (as they were in the Garden and before the flood).
- 6) The serpent shall still be eating dust (see Genesis 3:14).
- 7)This is a righteous world, but not the final one.

And both the Lord Jesus Christ and the Apostle Peter specifically testified of its coming:

And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the **regeneration** when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." Matt 19:28

"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Peter 3:13

Take note that Lord Jesus Christ Himself called this Creative event a "regeneration" in its nature, so you know this is a Biblical definition. And also note that Peter said "heavens" (plural) which, in our King James Bible, also distinguishes this as a regeneration event, as compared to the first and last of the four listed Creative events. That is why the word "heaven" in Genesis 1:1 and "heavens" in Genesis 2:1 in the KJV are different, because the Holy Spirit is speaking of two different things. And that is why the singular word "heaven" is given in Revelation 21:1 (the fourth Creative event) because that "new heaven and new earth" are different than the "new heavens and new earth" of Isaiah 65:17. Compare:

"For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." Isaiah 65:17

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." Rev 21:1

**Revelation 21:1** also clarifies another important point: It clearly tells us that the first three Creative events (*Genesis 1:1, Genesis 2:2 and Isaiah 65:17*) all take place on the same core planet that exists now. Not until the fourth Creative event are **ALL THINGS** made completely new.

**In Isaiah 65:17-25** the prophet has outlined, in great detail, the conditions on the face of the Earth after the third Creative event, but what will be the conditions on the face of the Earth just before that happens? For that information, we can turn to the book of the prophet Jeremiah who prophesied about the conditions of the world in the immediate aftermath of the coming Great Tribulation:

"23I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. 24I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. 25I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, {1} and all the birds of the heavens were fled. 26I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and {2} all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and

by his fierce anger. <sup>27</sup>For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end. <sup>28</sup>For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black: because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it. <sup>{3}</sup> <sup>29</sup>The whole city shall flee for the noise of the horsemen and bowmen; they shall go into thickets, and climb up upon the rocks: every city shall be forsaken, and not a man dwell therein. <sup>30</sup>And when thou art spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair; thy lovers will despise thee, they will seek thy life. <sup>31</sup>For I have heard a voice as of a woman in travail, and the anguish as of her that bringeth forth her first child, the voice of the daughter of Zion, that be waileth herself, that spreadeth her hands, saying, Woe is me now! for my soul is wearied because of murderers." Jeremiah 4:23-31

I am aware that there are many "Gap Theory" supporters who claim that Jeremiah 4:23-31 is speaking of Genesis 1:2, because of the similarity of the words "without form, and void" used by the prophet, but they are mistaken. This passage clearly is speaking of the conditions on the Earth at the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. A breakdown of word-points refutes that notion:

- 1) Birds were not even made at this point in the Genesis narrative, so to say they have fled indicates they are present, at this time.
- 2)There were no cities present at the seven-days of Genesis they came later (Gen 4:17).
- 3)Again, there were no cities in the Garden in Genesis, but a city (*Jerusalem*) is spoken of through the rest of the passage.

Jeremiah 4:23-31 is future prophecy; it is not a description of a past event. Having said that, however, Jeremiah 4:23 is instructive in rightly dividing the Bible to determine the validity of Genesis 1:2, the conditions on the Earth prior to the second Creative event.

#### **Summation:**

I'm sure many of you are familiar with the Bible interpretation "Rule of First Mention" but, if not, it is well stated in this paragraph from another Bible website:

"The law (or principle or rule) of first mention is a guideline that some people use for studying Scripture. The law of first mention says that, to understand a particular word or doctrine, we must find the first place in Scripture that word or doctrine is revealed and study that passage. The reasoning is that the Bible's first mention of a concept is the simplest and clearest presentation; doctrines are then

more fully developed on that foundation. So, to fully understand an important and complex theological concept, Bible students are advised to start with its "first mention."

Application of the Rule of First Mention to the phrase "without form, and void" strongly supports the doctrinal application of a singular truth to both the Jeremiah 4:24 and Genesis 1:2 occurrences. Specifically, if the term, "without form, and void" in Jeremiah 4:23 denoted the conditions on the Earth prior to a future "regenerative" event, then the use of the same, exact phrase in Genesis 1:2 implies that the creation of the heavens and Earth during the seven-days of Genesis was ALSO a "regenerative" type of event.

The same use of the Rule of First Mention, if applied to the only two occurrences of the word "replenish" in the King James Bible, reveals the <u>Bible's definition</u> of the meaning of the word.

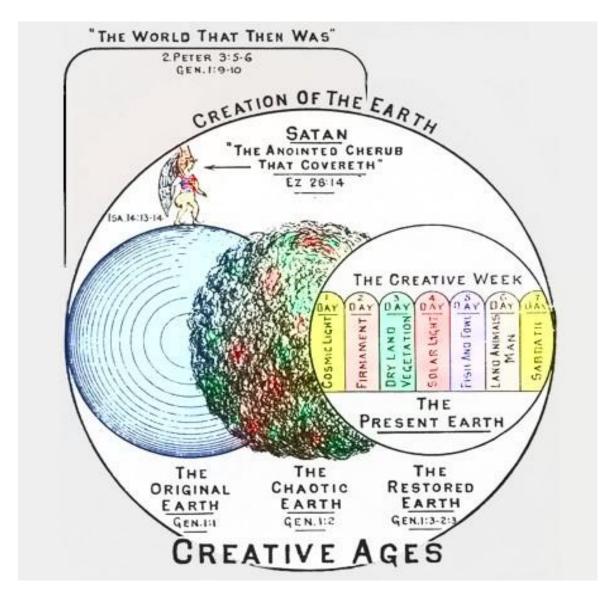
"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." (Gen 1:28)

"And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." (Gen 9:1)

The context and meaning of the word "replenish" as used following Noah's flood is clear and unmistakable to a reasonable person. Therefore, applying the Rule of First Mention to the word's first use in Genesis 1:28, the BIBLE'S definition of the word settles the question. I don't know about anyone else, but I'll take the authority of the King James Bible's definition of the word "replenish" any day over some Victorian era English dictionary's definition.

On the page that immediately follows, we will further discuss the so-called "Gap Theory" (*Creative event 2*) and the Church history behind the interpretation. And in other pages on this website, we will show you multiple proofs why there is, indeed, a time-gap between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2 in the Holy Bible.

#### The History of the Genesis Gap Theory Interpretation and its Basis in Bible Doctrine



The Bible says, "In the beginning God Created the heaven and Earth" (*Genesis 1:1*) and at Genesis 1:3 God says, "...let there be light", which is followed by the sevendays of "Creation" and the making of the world into which He placed Adam and Eve. But between those two verses there is the mysterious and enigmatic statement of Genesis 1:2 which says:

"And **the earth was** without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." (Genesis 1:2 KJV)

This verse should not be dismissively taken as just some 'throw away' statement of how God began the creation process, because it is a serious declaration of

factual conditions by the Holy Spirit to call the reader's attention to something that is abnormal and out of place. Those facts are: 1) The "Earth" already exists, 2) The planet is void of life, 3) There is great darkness everywhere, 4) Water already exists. WHY? When was all this created?

That mysterious verse is the Holy Spirit's guidance to a key Scriptural Truth. Specifically, the heaven and Earth of the original creation (*Genesis 1:1 & Job 38:4*) had been destroyed and corrupted as a result of Lucifer's sin of rebellion back in Earth's ancient past (*Isaiah 14:12-16 & Ezekiel 28:13-17*). That first world on the face of the Earth was now in complete ruin. What remained was shrouded in a great physical and spiritual darkness and the power of death. The reason? Sin in Deep-Time.

The Apostle Peter spoke of this mystery in the New Testament:

"For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire

People assume that the mention of the word "water" in the above passage makes it a reference to Noah's flood and the antediluvian world of man, but it is not. The phrase "willingly ignorant" and common sense should tell you otherwise. After all, anybody even remotely familiar with the Bible knows about Noah's flood. No, the verse is speaking about something else, and the only other place in the Bible where the Earth was covered in waters is Genesis 1:2. The ramifications are obvious: The Bible itself reveals that the "heavens and the earth, which are now" (made during the seven days) was not the first-time creation of all things. The Word of God is telling the observant reader there was a previous world on the face of this old Earth before the present world of man.

The Lord God created the heavens and the Earth, and He authored the Bible through His Holy Spirit. Those are two (2) witnesses to God's truth (*Matthew 18:16*). One witness is the Earth's geology, which reveals evidence of death in the fossil record extending back millions and millions of years. The other witness is the written word of God which, when rightly divided, can tell men why there is death in the fossil record. The Genesis Gap Doctrine, commonly called the "Gap Theory" or "Ruin-Reconstruction" interpretation of Genesis, is not a modern-day interpretation of the Holy Bible. It is a theological teaching that was espoused by the early Church and even the fundamental Protestant faith in the years before Darwin's Theory of Evolution was even published, at a time when the geological

sciences were still in their infancy. The Genesis Gap Doctrine has always been within the Holy Bible. It was there when Moses penned the book of Genesis, it is not a recent notion.

The Genesis Gap Doctrine does not contradict the modern-day geologic observations that indicate an Earth that is at least 4.5 billion years old with known evidence of death in Earth's fossil record extending back at least three-billion years, nor does it contradict the Holy Bible. On the contrary, the doctrine clarifies why these apparent contradictions between the Bible and Science exist. Why the old "world that then was" ended, and why God made a new world and modern Man (Adam), requires a study into the ancient origins of Lucifer and the Angels. This Biblical knowledge opens a clearer window into understanding why we see the world as it is today. It also provides a more perfect understanding and warning against what is yet to come upon the world in the near future, and why. The subjects of the Bible and Geology are not mutually exclusive concepts. The Earth has an ancient natural history that can be deciphered from the geologic record, but it also has an equally important ancient spiritual history that can only be deciphered from a Rightly Divided Holy Bible. Knowledge of both, and enlightenment through the Holy Spirit, brings comprehension of the proper context of Earth's Geology within the Book of Genesis.

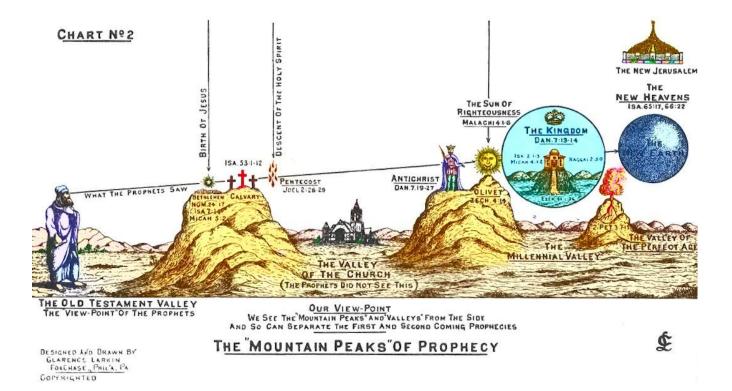
#### THE BIBLE TIME-GAPS:



The Holy Spirit reveals there is a time-gap between the first two verses of the Old Testament. This is not the only time-gap in the Old Testament; there are two (2) others. There is the "gap" in the Old Testament between the first and second comings of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is commonly called the "Church Age" or the "Age of Grace." The other is the 1,000-year Millennial reign of the King of

Kings, the Lord Jesus Christ, which will be here on the Earth after His second coming and before the final great Judgment Day, followed by the creation of the New Heaven and Earth in eternity. The late Clarence Larkin referred to these Old Testament "gaps" as Valleys between the peaks of prophecy. The illustration below is a schematic of this line of reasoning:

See Enlarged Chart in other file named "mountains of peaks" of Prophesy



All three of these Scriptural Old Testament "gaps" or valleys have one thing in common: These are things that are spiritually discerned through the Holy Spirit, spelled out plainly in the New Testament, which sheds light on what is written in the Old Testament. The Holy Spirit reveals these things through the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ - the source of all true wisdom. (See Revelation 19:10 & Colossians 2:2-3). The Spirit of Prophecy certainly looks forward into the future, but it also can look backward into the past and you will be able to see this in the KJV Holy Bible. Keep in mind that what transpired in the past directly sets the course for what will happen in the future. This is why it is essential to understand why there is a gap between the first two verses of the Bible.

Peter's New Testament statement (2 Peter 3:5-7) tells us something that is not directly revealed in the Old Testament at Genesis 1:2. But before we amplify the matter further, you need to see why Peter is NOT speaking about Noah's flood:

"For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the **heavens were** of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." 2 Peter 3:5-7

**Compare the phrases:** "the heavens and earth, which are now" to the phrase the "heavens were of old" in that verse. Ask yourself this question: When Noah's flood happened did it change anything in the upper heavens? That is, would a flood on

the Earth's surface have any effect on the sun, moon, or stars high above? The obvious answer is NO.

"And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth." Gen 6:13

The heavens of Noah's days were the same heavens as in Adam's day; same sun, same moon, same stars. Noah's flood had no effect on the upper heavens. All of Noah's flood's effects were confined to the Earth's surface and its atmosphere. If the effects of Noah's flood were confined to the Earth's surface and atmosphere, then Noah's flood did not affect or alter anything in the upper heavens, so logic and common sense demands that this verse must be speaking about an event other than Noah's flood. And Genesis 1:2 is our only other Biblical alternative.

Notice also in that passage that the earth is said to be "standing out" of the water and "in" the water. In our English language, these descriptive terms suggest that these particular waters were not confined to the surface of the planet. The passage describes a deluge that raged across the solar system, and beyond with Earth caught up in the destructive overflow. Try to draw this mental picture: Think of a dark and ruined universe with water strewn throughout it like one big messy galactic spill. That is what Genesis 1:2 is speaking about when it says that darkness was upon the face of the "deep" (*Genesis 1:2*). And imagine the planet Earth drifting awash in this roaring and rolling, formless mess while still orbiting around the dead star that once was Earth's early sun. Where would such waters have come from? Well, it is an established scientific observation that aging stars create and give off lots of water. (*See also*: Astronomers Find Largest, Most Distant Reservoir of Water)

Certainly, there must have been lots and lots of stars in the heavens that were "of old" (*just as there are today*) and, if something had caused the entire cosmos to have gone dark, and all those stars died (*including our sun*), then there would be excessive waters everywhere throughout outer space. If that was indeed the case, then all those extinguished stars would need to be reignited to be seen in our present heavens. Although many "Gap Theory" advocates believe that the sun, moon and stars were not affected and were only being obscured by deep cloud cover until the fourth of the seven days, that interpretation does not hold up under closer scrutiny of the Scriptures.

At Genesis 1:2 the heaven and the Earth are in darkness and great waters are upon the deep. If we interpret the deep to include everything in the physical universe, which included everything below God's heavenly realm far above (*See John 8:23*), then the situation becomes clear. Before any reconstruction of the heavens and Earth could begin, God had to do something with all that water scattered across space. That is why the Bible says:

"And God made the firmament and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so." Gen 1:7



The Bible is saying that God placed a "Sea" (waters above the firmament - See Psalms 148:4) between the footstool of His heavenly throne and the less than pure physical cosmos down below that Satan's rebellion ruined. This division was not good, but necessary. Note that, although God says, "it was good" concerning days 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, He does not say that about the work of day 2 (see for yourself).

Prior to that, God made another division at the beginning of the seven-days that was good:

"And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first

This light was NOT PHYSICAL LIGHT as in sunshine, because God did not make the sun, moon and stars of this present world until the fourth-day. This light was the light of God. You should take note that the translators of the King James Bible did something very important in this passage. They capitalized the words "Day" and "Night" in Genesis 1:5 to stress the importance of these word definitions. The correct interpretation of these terms is found in this New Testament passage:

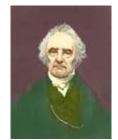
"Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." 1 Thessalonians 5:5

The Bible itself provides the correct interpretation of the meaning. There were two (2) types of darkness present at Genesis 1:2: Yes, there was literal darkness (an absence of light), but there was also spiritual darkness (the presence of evil within the ruins of the creation). The Scriptures tell us that both good and evil are present when God made Adam's world.

"And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of **knowledge of good and evil**." Gen 2:9

#### **HISTORY OF THE "GAP THEORY" INTERPRETATION:**

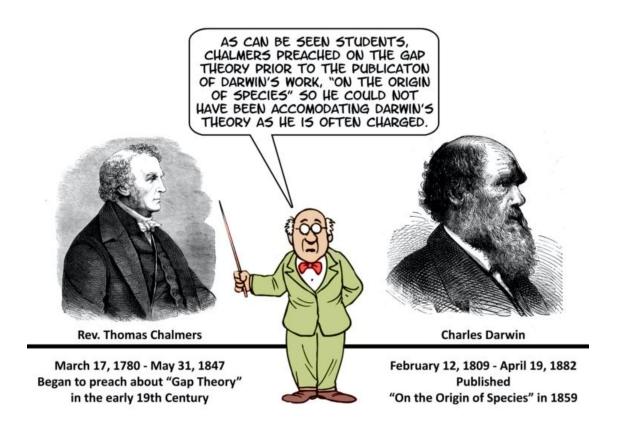
This Ruin-Reconstruction interpretation of Genesis was the breadand-butter Creation doctrine of the Protestant Fundamentalist Church in the early part of the 20th century. The interpretation has mainly been credited to the Scottish theologian, Thomas Chalmers, who began to preach it back in the early 19th century. Contrary to contemporary Young Earth Creationist allegations, Chalmers did NOT invent the Genesis Gap interpretation as a



compromise of the Word of God to accommodate the *Theory of Evolution*. The fact that Chalmers was preaching the Genesis Gap out of the Holy Bible for well over twelve years BEFORE Darwin even published his '*On the Origin of Species*' reveals the fallacy of such unfounded accusations.

Keep in mind that from the days of the Apostles up through the Dark Ages, and until just a few centuries ago, a 6,000-year age for the heavens and Earth was accepted dogma in the institutions of both the Church and Academia. Up until then, the real age of the Earth was not a burning issue. However, after the Bible

was published for the masses, and as the scientific evidence for an old Earth grew, so did the breech between the establishment Church and establishment science. What we have in the case of Thomas Chalmers and the post Reformation times is an example of Revelation and Illumination from the Holy Scriptures. That is, when the proper time came, the Word of God once again proved itself timely and relevant to the level of scientific and Spiritual understanding of the day, and the Holy Spirit began opening eyes to a truth that was already there in the Scriptures. The Bible can provide true and faithful answers to all scientific 'discoveries' that appear to challenge the fundamentals of the Christian Faith. The problem today is that people have, for the most part, abandoned faith in the infallibility of the Holy Scriptures.



#### RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF GOD:

God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the Divine Author of both the Scriptures and the Earth's Geologic record. Both are from His hand. Both witness to historical and spiritual Truth. He established the principles of science (*knowledge*) by which we can search out the answers to things preserved within the Earth's geology. His

Scriptures provide us with a definitive and infallible source of Authority and a faithful guide to verify the validity of the things man observes hidden within the Earth. Therefore, there cannot possibly be any real contradiction in facts between Geology and Genesis. Any such contradictions only arise within the flawed paradigms of our understanding, be they scientific or Biblical. Remember, the *Theory of Evolution* is a faith-based belief; a belief system founded on observations without the benefit of Biblical clarification.

Let's be honest, Biblical Creationism will never find fair and equal standing and acceptance with the non-believing world's accepted paradigm of origins. The world has placed its "faith" in the Theory of Evolution and carnal reasoning. The truth of the Bible must be accepted by faith as the Word of God, and you have to trust Him above what your Pastor or Science teacher thinks is truth.

The supernatural intervention or acts of an invisible Divine Sovereign can neither be proved nor disproved by the scientific method. Regrettably, a large segment of Fundamental Christianity has placed its faith in an interpretation of Genesis which denies not only the historical facts contained within the Earth itself but, in some cases, the very wording of the Holy Bible as well. TRUST YOUR BIBLE.

"For my thoughts [are] not your thoughts, neither [are] your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For [as] the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." (Isaiah 55:8-9 kjv)

On the page that immediately follows, we will discuss the initial creation of the heaven and Earth (*Genesis 1:1*) where it is amplified and described in greater detail in the Book of Job. And we will begin the discussion concerning the Earth's first designated inhabitants - the Angels, also known in the Old Testament as the "sons of God" who were with the Lord God since before the creation.

# The Ancient Earth and the Angels "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." (Genesis 1:1 KJV)

## Two Different



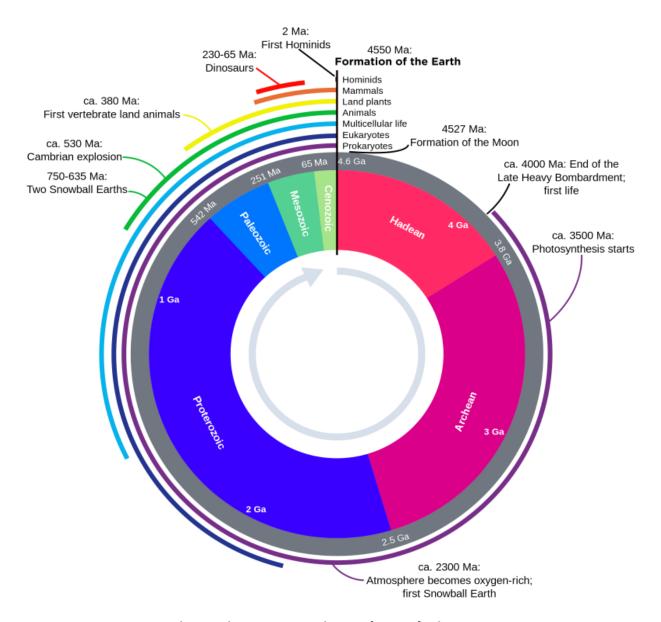
Viewpoints

There are two viewpoints on the conditions of the ancient Earth, scientific theory and Scriptural revelation.

#### **Viewpoint One - Science:**

Scientists estimate that the age of the planet dates back to about 4.5 billion years ago at the beginning of an obscure geologic time named the Hadean Eon. The name is from the Latin word Hades and is descriptive of what scientists theorized was the state of the Earth when it first formed. The above picture on the left side is an artist's conception of the Earth based on the prevailing theory that the Earth accreted from rocks and dust orbiting the young sun. At that time, the Earth's surface was believed to have been covered by an ocean of magma that eventually cooled. Then, when the planet's surface was cool enough, they theorize that comets crashing into the Earth brought water and formed the planet's oceans.

The chart below shows the history of the Earth as currently interpreted:



**Viewpoint Two - Scriptural Revelation:** 

In the Holy Bible, the actual description of the Earth's original creation (*Genesis* 1:1) is not found in the book of Genesis. It is found in the wisdom book of Job:

"<sup>4</sup>Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. <sup>5</sup>Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? <sup>6</sup>Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; <sup>7</sup>When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? <sup>8</sup>Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? <sup>9</sup>When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddling band for it, <sup>10</sup>And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, <sup>11</sup>And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?" (Job 38:4-11)

The Biblical viewpoint says that the Earth's waters emerged from within. Further, the Bible also says that God created the Earth to be inhabited.

"For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else." (Isaiah 45:18)

The Bible passage in Job reveals that early Earth was created to be inhabited, not by men, but by the Angels. Job 38:4-11 also reveals that the Lord God was not inhabiting eternity alone in those ancient days when He first formed the Earth. Also present are living entities who are figuratively called "the morning stars" that sang and "the sons of God" who shouted. The passage in Job suggests these beings were quite enthusiastic about the result of God's handiwork. That is because these spiritual beings were destined to be the first inhabitants of the ancient Earth. But who or what were they? The Bible identifies them as *Princes* (see Daniel 10:13, 21 & 12:1) and Angels (see Judges 13:6 & Revelation 21:17) respectively. See detailed information about the Angels, and their relevance to the ancient Earth's history, on our page: The Doctrine of Angels

These are the two conflicting viewpoints in a brief outline. The first, a scientific "theory," says the Earth began as a molten planet which could not support life. The second, a passage from the Holy Scriptures, says it had oceans of water and was habitable.

#### A Tiny Rock Crystal that Rocked the Scientific Establishment

The great thing about scientific "theories" is the fact that they must be abandoned or modified when a scientific "observation" falsifies a prevailing theory. This is called application of the "Scientific Method" and science is replete with instances where existing theories have been thrown onto the trash heap of discarded notions



That is exactly what happened when, in 2002, a startling discovery was made that is causing scientists to critically rethink their theories. It was a tiny <u>Zircon crystal inclusion</u>, found in a rock formation in the Jack Hills of Australia. The tiny crystal, hardly as wide as a human hair, presented a Uranium/Lead ratio that dates the formation of the Zircon crystal to about 4.38 billion years ago.

That, in itself, was a stunning enough discovery, but what happened next rendered a fatal blow to the prevailing theory of Earth's formation. Specifically, a subsequent chemical analysis of that same crystal revealed that it formed 4.38 billion years ago, in LIQUID WATER.

In the previous Bible passage from Job, we are told that liquid water was present from the very beginning of Earth's creation. Both the zircon crystal and the Bible are agreed on this truth. This means the early Earth was not the hellish molten planet that theorists had long presumed. It also destroys the scientific theory that water later came to the Earth from comets. The picture at the top of the page on the right-hand side is an artist's conception of what the Earth my have actually looked like way back when this crystal formed.

The Bible is not a science book, but it can be trusted to be scientifically accurate when it speaks of things concerning science. In this case, the Bible was ahead of the scientists concerning the truth of the matter. What we have is a passage of Scripture originally written less than about three-thousand years ago, and translated into an English-language Bible just over 400 years ago and before the infancy of the modern geologic sciences, revealing scientific truths of the matter at hand. This is called 'Progressive Revelation' and is found in many places in the Bible.

The Spirit also reveals through the Scriptures that a significant event took place on the Earth somewhere back in in Earth's deep time that profoundly affected the destiny of many of those ancient inhabitants and set in motion both physical and spiritual processes that would change the entire course of nature. We will discuss this matter in the next chapter.

#### Satan, Sin & Death in Deep-Time



The Pre-Adamite World and Ancient Origin of Satan

Every Bible-believing Christian knows that when the serpent tempted Adam and Eve to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (*Genesis 2:17, 3:5, 3:6, 3:22*), the man and the woman lost their innocence and died spiritually. Adam's transgression allowed death to enter into the world of man:

"Wherefore, as by one-man sin **entered** into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:" Rom 5:12

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Roma 6:23

The Serpent (*Satan*) was an enemy of God before he tempted the man and woman, which is obvious by the fact that the serpent tempted Adam and Eve to disobey God. That would mean that Satan MUST have become a sinner and an enemy of God prior to the Adam and Eve's temptation and fall. And if sin "entered" Adam's world, where did it come from? That brings up an important question:

#### IF Death results from Sin. WHEN AND WHERE did Satan Sin Against God?

It could NOT have happened during or shortly after the seven-days of Genesis, else the serpent (a.k.a. Satan, Lucifer) would have been responsible for Death entering man's world, not Adam. The Bible does not say that (Romans 5:12). That means Satan's sin MUST have happened before the world of the seven-days of Genesis,

in a previous world that was on the face of the Earth prior to the world of Adam. And this is revealed by the Holy Bible. The Bible says that God made "worlds" (plural):

"Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made **the worlds**;" Hebrews 1:2

In the above verse, the writer is speaking to us who live in this 'present evil world' (*Galatians 1:4*) on the face of the Earth. If ours is the first and only world ever created, then why does he refer at the end of the verse to "made the worlds" (*past-tense & plural*). And if there was a previous world before ours, what does the Bible say about it?

The Holy Bible says in the very first verse that:

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Gen 1:1

And I'm sure that every Christian would agree that, when God created the heaven and Earth "In the beginning", that God created everything perfect and holy (whenever He did it). But the Bible also tells us that Satan sinned against God sometime after God created the heaven and Earth:

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer **from the beginning**, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:44

"He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth **from the beginning**. For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:8

So, if the Spirit of Truth tells us that God created the heavens and Earth perfect and sinless "In the beginning" and that Satan was a "murder" and "sinner" since "from the beginning", and we know from both the Holy Bible and common sense that the Serpent was an evil entity before Adam sinned (*Genesis 3:1*), then WHEN did Satan sin?

"And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Gen 1:2

It happened between sometime <u>after Genesis 1:1</u> and sometime <u>before Genesis 1:2</u> and **SIN** is the reason why the "earth was without form, and void" and there was great darkness over the face of what remained of the original creation.

Why was SIN (and by implication, death) already in existence before the seven days creation and before Adam sinned? For that answer we must look to the writings of Isaiah and Ezekiel and Job. There, in the prophetic and wisdom books of these men, the Holy Ghost speaks concerning the ancient origin of Satan, which is a key doctrine to unlocking and understanding this great mystery of SIN.

In the passages below, the prophets are speaking against the "king of Babylon" (Isaiah 14:4) and the "prince of Tyrus" (Ezekiel 28:2) who were mortal men of history. But the Holy Ghost is speaking here against more than mere evil men. He is directly addressing an ancient, unholy, and malevolent spirit that motivated the evil deeds of these historical and mortal men. That ancient being is the spirit and person of Satan (Lucifer). Prophetically, the Holy Spirit is also addressing the spirit of an evil man yet to come, the antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2:1-10).

"<sup>12</sup>How art thou fallen from heaven, O **Lucifer**, son of the morning! [how] art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! <sup>13</sup>For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the **sides of the north**: <sup>14</sup>I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. <sup>15</sup>Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. <sup>16</sup>They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, [and] consider thee, [saying, Is] this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;" Isaiah 14:12-16

"<sup>13</sup>Thou hast been in Eden the **garden of God**; every precious stone [was] thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. <sup>14</sup>Thou [art] the **anointed cherub** that covereth; and I have set thee [so]: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. <sup>15</sup>Thou [wast] perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. <sup>16</sup>By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore, I will cast thee as profane out of the **mountain of God**: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. <sup>17</sup>Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee." Ezekiel 28:13-17

Even a casual glance at the passages tells you it speaks of things that could not possibly be attributed to the actual acts of any human king or prince. No man in history has ever "walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire" or "fallen from heaven." These verses are spiritually addressing a being named "Lucifer" who is also known as the "anointed Cherub" (a.k.a. Satan). The main setting of these verses is the Earth's ancient past, geologically VERY "Deep-Time" if you will. Some of the other words and phrases (in bold) are important to note.

The words "garden of God" reveals that there was vegetation on the Earth, even way back then. The word "Eden" represents a specific geographic place on the face of the Earth. It was the same location on the face of the Earth where God later planted another garden and formed Adam and Eve (*Genesis 2:8*), where (*as Satan*) the serpent tempted the man and his wife. That same place was, in Lucifer's day, said to be upon the holy "mountain of God" and the "sides of the north" which, Biblically, identifies the geographic location as where the city of Jerusalem is now located:

"And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to **my holy mountain Jerusalem**, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD." (Isaiah 66:20 KJV)

"Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the **sides of the north**, the city of the great King." Psalm 48:2

This Lucifer (Satan) was not an angel. Angels do not have wings. Lucifer was a cherub, a winged creature with great power. He was not one of the "sons of God" or "morning stars" (the Angels) spoken about at the time of creation:

"Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the **morning stars** sang together, and all the **sons of God** shouted for joy? Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake-forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddling band for it, And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?" Job 38: 4-11

He had a higher place of authority and glory within the creation. Lucifer, the cherub, was said to be "anointed", indicating he had a high position of holy service to the Lord when he was created. Note in Ezekiel 28:13-17 that the "anointed cherub" had a covering containing jewels similar to what was on the breastplate of Israel's high priest. The breastplate of the priest had 12 jewels (*See the breastplate of Aaron in Exodus 39:10-13 and Minerals of the Bible*). Lucifer had a covering of nine jewels set in gold. Similar, but different numbers. The "tabrets" and "pipes" indicate an association with music, the implication being that Lucifer (*the 'Light Bearer'*) was involved in the performance of worship.

The word "covereth" implies that he was the steward over the entire physical creation of the original Earth and heaven, in the beginning. This was also the beginning of the Kingdom of Heaven, (a subject discussed in greater detail elsewhere on this website). The "stones of fire" reference is obscure, but the Hebrew word indicates something akin to building stones. It could indicate there was a Temple of Fire upon the holy mountain at that time. Keep in mind that "fire" can be a physical and/or spiritual component:

"And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain [was] full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha." 2Kings 6:17

"And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the **bush burned with fire**, and the bush was not consumed." Exodus 3:2

"And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and [there were] seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God." Rev 4:5

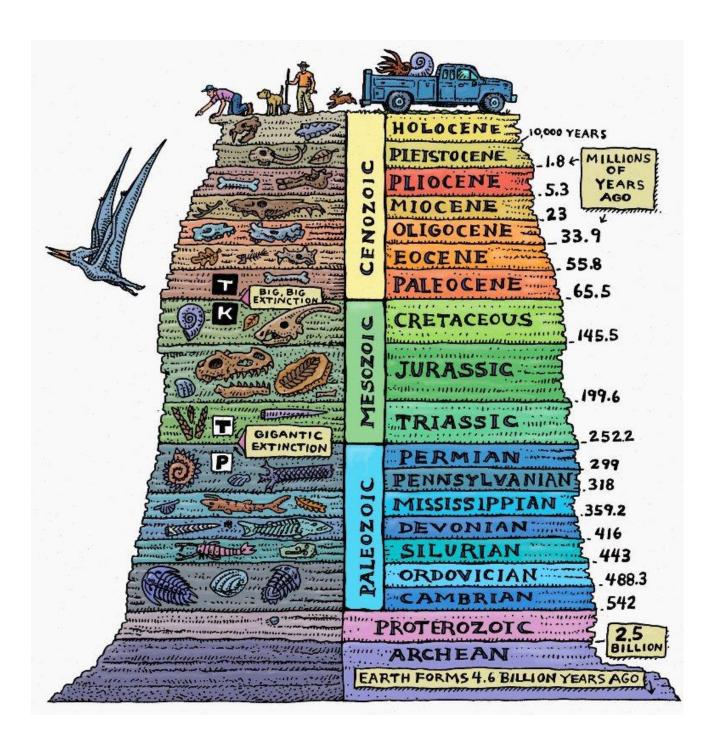
"For our God [is] a consuming fire." Hebrews 12:29

That, in a Biblical outline, defines who Satan was (*Lucifer*), and where his story begins. His original purpose and position was second only to the Lord God in power and glory, but he wanted more than his anointed lot, he wanted to be worshiped like God. And that act of rebellion was his trespass against the Lord God. That SIN brought DEATH into the ancient heavens and Earth. The **Doctrine of Satan** provides additional and specific Biblical detail about this malevolent spirit entity.

When Lucifer rebelled and transgressed against the Lord God, he became the first created being to SIN, and it was a long, long time ago before Adam or his world was even created. It was a sin documented in the Holy Bible that occurred countless eons ago. We know this by two things: The law of Sin and Death (*Romans 8:12*) that states DEATH COMES BY SIN (*Romans 5:13*). If there is evidence of death in Earth's Deep-Time geologic record, it is there for only one reason, SIN. There can be no other Biblical explanation.

Geologists have observed a record of life in the fossil record (*death*) back in Deep-Time as far as 3.8 billion years ago. From a Biblical standpoint, this tells you that death has been on the Earth for at least that long. Death results from Sin.

The **Doctrine of Sin** makes this clear and sheds light on the entire Deep-Time issue.



Did these fossils sin? NO – But someone who had stewardship over the creatures of God's creation did sin. **SIN** is key that unlocks the Mystery of Genesis 1:2 and Biblically resolves the Science vs. Scripture issues of origins, entropy, and the fossil record of death found in Earth's Deep-Time.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Roma 6:23

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." Roma 8:2

In the next chapter, we discuss the important differences of the words "Earth" and "World" in Rightly-Dividing Biblical Doctrine and Interpretation.

### Understanding the Biblical Difference between the Words World and Earth





The *King James Authorized Version* of the Holy Bible has its own internal set of words and definitions which are self-interpreting in their specific meaning and context. From Genesis to Revelation, translated from Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek manuscripts, the KJV Bible's English translation is an integrated whole throughout the sixty-six books.

The English words "world" and "earth" are different words and have distinct, separate conceptual meanings in the Holy Bible and the English language. These meanings are defined by the Scriptures when used in context. Understanding this distinction is CRUCIAL to rightly-dividing the word of truth.

In the book of Hebrews, the Lord Jesus Christ is said to be the maker of the "worlds" (plural):

"Hath in these last days spoken unto us by [his] Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;" Heb 1:2

"Through faith we understand that **the worlds** were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." Heb 11:3

The Greek word in these two verses for "worlds" is  $\alpha\iota\omega v$  (as in eon), which means an age or a perpetuity of specific prevailing conditions in time upon the face of the Earth. Therefore, the word "world," as <u>doctrinally</u> defined in our Bible, is NOT referring to other planets in outer space but to defined ages and prevailing conditions during those ages on the Earth, be they past, present, or future.

The "Earth" is a planet. It is a spherical-shaped mass of matter in time and space. The "world" is the specific set of conditions prevailing upon the face of the planet Earth at a specific point in Biblical time. The Earth is a part of our present world, past worlds, and the future world to come (see Matt 12:32, Mark 10:30, Hebrews 2:5), but the Earth itself is not the whole "world." Our present "world" also consists of the stars in the sky, the trees of the field, the people, the cities of the nations and the present evil world system on the face of the Earth:

"And it shall come to pass after the end of seventy years, that the LORD will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth." Isaiah 23:17

"Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this **present evil** world, according to the will of God and our Father:" Gal 1:4

We'll use the example of the last "world" that will be on the face of the present Earth as an example. It is the future one-thousand-year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ in Jerusalem. It begins after He returns to Earth following the events of the Great Tribulation. That world is spoken of in the book of Revelation chapter 20. At the end of that "world" following the Great White Throne Judgment and the destruction of Death and the Devil, God will create a completely new and eternal heaven and Earth.

"And I saw a new heaven {single tense} and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." (Revelation 21:1 KJV)

The future world of the one-thousand-year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ will be on the current Earth. But because the face of the Earth will be so decimated by the wrath of God during the Great Tribulation period, the Lord will regenerate the heavens and Earth to restore it for Himself, His Bride, the Jewish people, and those of the nations of the Gentiles found worthy to enter.

"And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the **regeneration** when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." (Matthew 19:28 KJV)

The prophet Isaiah speaks of this regeneration:

"For, behold, I create new heavens {plural tense} and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD." Isaiah 65:17-25

Take note of the phrase "the child shall die" which tells us there is still death on the Earth when the Lord Jesus Christ begins His reign for those one-thousandyears.

"The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." 1 Corinthians 15:26

And death is not finally destroyed until the end of that one-thousand years:

"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death."

(Revelation 20:13-14 KJV)

Also take note of the phrase "for as the days of a tree are the days of my people" in Isaiah's prophecy. Trees can live to be a few hundred years old. This passage tells us that people born during the one-thousand-year reign of Christ will have

extended lifetimes, because environmental conditions on the Earth at that time will be restored to similar as they were on the Earth before Noah's flood. The phrase "the lion shall eat straw like the bullock" indicates that the animal kingdom will once again revert to vegetarian diets, also just like before Noah's flood. And the serpent's diet will remain the same as it was proscribed in Genesis 3:14.

"And the LORD God said unto the serpent, because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:" Genesis 3:14

The formation of this new heavens and Earth is also spoken of by the prophet Jeremiah:

"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light." Jeremiah 4:23

Although the words "without form, and void" are the same words as that are spoken in Genesis 1:2 at the start of the seven-days of Genesis, the prophet is speaking of a future regerative event. We know this because of what else is said in the following verses:

"I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger. For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end. For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black: because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it. The whole city shall flee for the noise of the horsemen and bowmen; they shall go into thickets, and climb up upon the rocks: every city shall be forsaken, and not a man dwell therein." Jeremiah 4:24

In light of Jeremiah's words "without form and void" which denote a regeneration of the heavens and Earth, the Biblical interpretive 'Rule of First Mention' would suggest the same is true concerning the seven-days of Genesis and the formation of Adam's world.

Adam's world was pristine on the surface. But under Adam's feet, entombed and hidden in the rocks of the planet, was the buried fossil record - God's material testimony to the truth of the existence of a previous "world" on the face of the Earth and a long reign of death across ancient ages past, long before the new world of Adam. This material evidence, there all along but only scientifically

examined and understood by man over the past two to three centuries, now speaks to us today about the existence of that previously-created world (*Genesis* 1:1), which came under subjection to death, was eventually destroyed (*Genesis* 1:2), and then Divinely replaced by the present world (*Genesis* 1:3-2:1).

For review purposes: The ancient world was under the stewardship of an "anointed" being, a spiritual creature called the covering cherub and named Lucifer. (See Isaiah 14:12-16 KJV and Ezekiel 28:13-17 KJV) Through Lucifer's sin of rebellion against God, the old world under Lucifer's stewardship was first subjected to Death and, through time, eventually perished. At the end of its time, when the stars of the old universe, including Earth's sun, perished, their remaining hydrogen gases oxidized into waters as darkness (both physical and spiritual) took its final toll upon the ancient Creation. That time is specifically what these two verses point to:

"And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." (Genesis 1:2 KJV)

"For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." 2 Peter 3:5-7

The old world was the first "generation" of the heaven and the Earth (*Genesis 1:1*). The heavens and Earth "which are now" are the second generation of the heavens and the Earth. It is the same planet Earth but different worlds upon the face of the same planet. This is why the Bible says:

"These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens," (Genesis 2:4 KJV)

In the New Testament, this second generation of the heavens and the Earth is specifically referred to as "The Foundation of the World" and it is likened to a "conception" in the Scriptures. This will be discussed in the next chapter.

#### **GENESIS & GEOLOGY**

#### **Catabolism and Regeneration**



What is commonly known as the Creation days of Genesis occurred over seven literal 24-hour days about 6,000 years ago, according to the chronology of the Bible. Does this not mean that the Earth is only 6,000 years old? No. Many people think the seven creation days in Genesis are a description of the Earth's geologic history. They are not! The geologic record shows that the Earth existed long before the start of Adam's world. This begs the question: If those seven days in the Bible were not the original creation of the heavens and Earth, then what were they? The short answer is: The birth of a new generation of the heavens and Earth. It is an event the Greek Scriptures refer to as: "katabole"

In the *King James Version* of the Holy Bible there is a key phrase in the New Testament that refers back to the seven days of Genesis. That phrase is, "The foundation of the world" as used in this verse:

That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the **foundation of the world**." Matthew 13:35

This exact phrase is found in the following verses: (Matthew 13:35, Matthew 25:34, Luke 11:50, John 17:24, Ephesians 1:4, Hebrews 4:3, Hebrews 9:26, 1 Peter 1:20, Revelation 13:8 and Revelation 17:8), a total of ten (10) verse references. In each of these verses the English word "foundation" is translated from the Greek word katabole. Here is the Strong's definition of the Greek term:

#### **καταβολη** *katabole* kat-ab-ol-ay'

from 2598; a deposition, i.e. founding; figuratively, conception:—conceive, foundation.

The other New Testament verses where the English word "foundation" is found are: (Luke 6:48, Luke 6:49, Luke 14:29, Roman 15:20, 1 Corinthians 3:10, 1 Corinthians 3:11, 1 Corinthians 3:12, Ephesians 2:20, 1 Timothy 6:19, 2 Timothy 2:19, Hebrews 1:10, Hebrews 6:1, Revelation 21:19), a total of thirteen (13) verse references. In each of these verses the word "foundation" is translated from the Greek word themelios. Here is the Strong's definition:

#### θεμελιος themelios them-el'-ee-os

from a derivative of 5087; something put down, i.e. a substruction (of a building, etc.), (literally or figuratively):—foundation.

There is one other place in the Greek Scriptures word *katabole* is found. In the King James Bible, we find this translation of the word:

"Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised." Hebrews 11:11

So, why is that Greek word (*katabole*) translated into the English word "foundation" in all the KJV verses containing the exact phrase "foundation of the world" and the English word "conceive" in Hebrews 11:11? Why are the Holy Scriptures comparing the "foundation of the world" to a conception? That is the question we will answer on this page.

Before proceeding further, please notice that the phrase "foundation of the world" is NOT speaking about the original creation of the heavens and the Earth. The phrase, "the foundation of the earth" speaks of the original creation event, as it is used in this verse:

"And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:" Hebrews 1:10

In the above verse, the English word "foundation" is NOT from *katabole* (*which is akin to a conception*) but it is translated from the Greek word, *themelios* (*which is akin to a structure or base of beginning*). This tells us that this verse is describing the time when God originally created the Earth. And, since the verse says this was "in the beginning," it correlates correctly with the very first verse of the Bible:

#### "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Gen 1:1

Again, the seven days of Genesis are a description of the "foundation of the world" (the world of man) that was formed by a process called katabole, that is akin to a conception and a birth. Got that? Back in Genesis chapter one the Bible says God "created" the heaven and Earth (Genesis 1:1), but he "made" the heavens (plural) and Earth of the seven-days (Genesis 2:1). "Create" and "made" are two different English words with two different English meanings. They are from two different Hebrew words, (בֶּרָא) bârâ', baw-raw') and (תַּשָּׁה 'âsâh, aw-saw') respectively, that have two essentially different meanings:

בָּרָא bârâ', baw-raw' = To create something out of nothing. עָּשָׂה 'âsâh, aw-saw' = To make something out of something else. katabole = make or convert (the English scientific use=catabolic) as in the term catalytic, like the catalytic converter in your car and what it does.

In simple terms, it refers to a process of breaking something down and making something new as result. In order for a woman to conceive, her body must be able to breakdown the male's sperm in order to incorporate his DNA information (in the sperm's nucleolus) with her DNA (in the egg's cytoplasm) in order to conceive a child which has the DNA characteristics of both the father and mother. This is accomplished through a biochemical process called catabolism. If the female's body no longer produces the necessary hormonal chemistry to initiate this catabolic process, she cannot conceive. That is why Sarah, who was way past child bearing years, was able to conceive because God strengthened her body to do it. That is why the English Bible uses the word "conceive" as a translation of the Greek word katabole, because the English word perfectly describes the end result of a foundational biological process, even though the exact dynamics of that biological process was unknown to man at the time Hebrews 11:11 was penned. This is yet another Biblical example of "Progressive Revelation" of the Scriptures; it was an established scientific truth documented in the Scriptures by the Holy Spirit many hundreds of years before mankind would be able to comprehend the full meaning of what had been written.

Again, in biology, catabolism is generally used in the sense as the precursor to anabolism (the building up) as part of the overall process of metabolism. Once you understand that, then you realize that all those verses in the New Testament which speak of "the foundation (katabole) of the world" are talking about the breaking down (for the purpose of building up) of the new cosmos. That is to say, the Bible compares the "foundation of the world" to this biological process because of the scientific similarities. Specifically, God took the remains of the original heaven and Earth (Genesis 1:1), which had become broken down and were desolate (Genesis 1:2) and though a Divine catabolic process used the remains of the old heaven and Earth to form our present heavens and Earth. Just as the birth of a new human baby is called the start of another generation, the Bible says that the seven-days were another generation:

"These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens," Gen 2:4

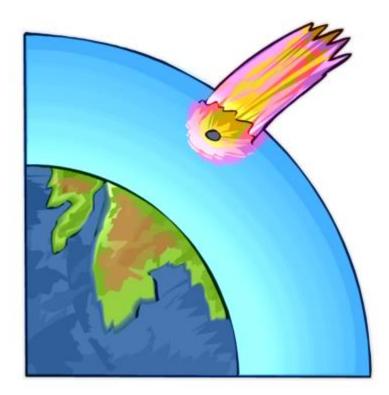
In the case of human conception, the offspring usually bears many characteristics of both the father and mother, yet is also unique with its own characteristics. In the case of the new generation of the heavens and the Earth, it too would bear many characteristics of its parent, but be uniquely different in certain ways. We discuss the specifics of these differences and similarities in greater detail on other pages on this website.

Before ending this page, I must give credit to whom it is due for this information:

I first learned about the concept presented on this page after reading a book by D.V.M. Steven E. Dill entitled, "In the Beginnings" a book which is another defence of the Gap Doctrine of Genesis. Dr. Dill contacted me shortly after reading my book and suggested I read his, which I did. In the section in his book entitled, The Gap Theory under the Electron Microscope he expounds at length about the word katabole and the metaphysical connection in typology to the seven days of Genesis. I was blown away after reading it, because it provided yet another Biblical and scientific verification to the Ruin-Reconstruction interpretation that is astounding. I encourage you to read his book because he covers the subject in much greater depth and clarity than I can possibly communicate.

In the next chapter we will discuss the physical and spiritual structure of all things of our current world, from the face of the Earth up to the Third Heaven. We will show how the Holy Temple contains this information in its very design, including the hidden "Sea" between the second and third heavens.

### The Firmament, Third Heaven, and Structure of All Things Biblical



On the second day in the Genesis narrative the Lord calls for there to be a "firmament" in the "midst of the waters" to divide the waters:

"And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day." Gen 1:6-8

The term "firmament" and its identity has been one of the greatest puzzles concerning the Creation account, mostly because of its Hebrew definition:

רַקיעַ raqiya` raw-kee'-ah

from 7554; properly, an expanse, i.e. the firmament or (apparently) visible arch of the sky:—firmament.

רַקע raqa` raw-kah'

a primitive root; to pound the earth (as a sign of passion); by analogy to expand (by hammering); by implication, to overlay (with thin sheets of metal):—beat, make broad, spread abroad (forth, over, out, into plates), stamp, stretch.

Most people interpret this to mean just the expanse of the sky (the atmosphere) or outer space, or both (which it is), but the full meaning goes well beyond that simplistic interpretation. The creation of the firmament is associated with the placement of a defined heavenly structure. Many modern scholars consign the term "firmament" as a relic of a pre-scientific culture and translate the Hebrew word raqia as a "dome" or "vault" in some modern Bibles, but it is rendered as "firmament" in the KJV for good reason. The problem that puzzles people is the implication in the Hebrew language of the firmament being a firm, fixed structure (FIRMament). That structure, and the KJV word choice, can be explained in the context of the Ruin-Reconstruction interpretation of Genesis.

The *Creation Scientists* of today's Fundamentalism (*Young Earth Creationists*) have interpreted the "waters above the firmament" as a theoretical "water canopy" which once surrounded the Earth, but no longer exists. They cite this as their source for the waters of Noah's flood. This is absolutely incorrect and a concept that does not exactly hold water (*pun intended*) when closely examined within the literal framework of the Bible's Genesis narrative. The reason is because of what is said in this passage:

"And God said, Let there be lights **in the firmament** of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also." Gen 1:14-16

This verse says that the Sun, Moon, and Stars are "in" the firmament. Therefore, applying the rules of grammar and logic, those waters that are "above the firmament" must therefore be above the Sun, Moon and Stars. In other words, those particular waters are ABOVE the visible cosmos. For some this is a hard pill to swallow, but that is exactly what the Bible is saying.

"Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that [be] above the heavens."

(Psalms 148:4 KJV)

The Bible says that all wisdom and knowledge is found in the Lord Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of God (See Colossians 2:3). The same holds true for the Holy Scriptures, the written Word of God. According to the Scriptures, there is a physical/spiritual structure to the universe. The Apostle Paul makes reference to the importance of this knowledge in the book of Ephesians where he wrote:

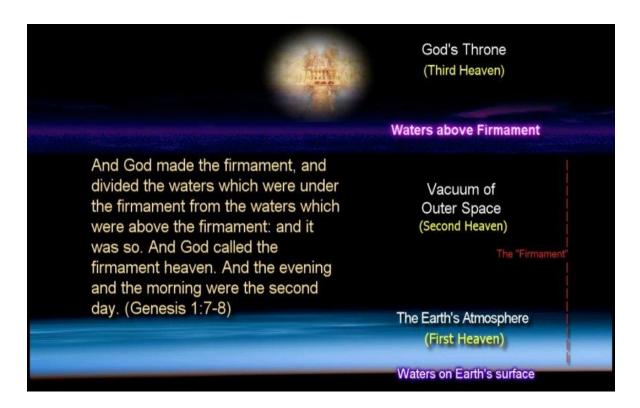
"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what [is] the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:17

Pay close attention to the structure of the grammar. Paul is speaking about two different things in this passage. The first is the structure of things, "the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;" then there is the conjunction word "And" which is followed by the second thing, "to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge." In other words, Paul is saying there are two things the believer can and should know. 1) The dimensions and structure of all things physical things and how they are structured, 2) The love of Christ, a spiritual thing which is beyond full comprehension by man. A corollary to the truth of this passage is found in this Old Testament proverb:

"The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings [is] unsearchable." Proverbs 25:3

The firmament deals with the structure of the present heavens and Earth (*Genesis 2:1*), as opposed to the structure of the original heaven and Earth (*Genesis 1:1*). In the present heavens and Earth there exists a three (3) heavens structure. In the old world of the original creation, there was a different configuration. Let's look at Genesis 1:6 again and more closely:

"And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament and divided the waters which [were] under the firmament from the waters which [were] above the firmament: and it was so." Genesis 1:6-7



On the second day of the regeneration, the Lord God "divided" the waters (*plural*) of the great "deep" into two (2) parts, with a "firmament" in the midst. According to Genesis 1:10, both the waters that were upon the face of the Earth and the waters which He placed above the firmament He called "Seas":

"And God called the dry [land] Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that [it was] good." Gen 1:10

We know that the waters on the Earth are called "Seas" in the Bible, but there is also another "Sea" that is spoken of in the Scriptures and that one is above the firmament. (Special note: Notice that the word "Sea" is capitalized at Genesis 1:10 in the KJV Bible). But, exactly where is "ABOVE" the firmament? During the sevendays of the Genesis regeneration the Lord God defined Three (3) heavens. The first heaven is the Earth's atmosphere:

"And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl [that] may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven." Gen 1:20

The second heaven is the vast expanse of the physical universe - outer space as we call it:

"And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:" Gen 1:14

These two heavens constitute a continuum called the "firmament," and this firmament is collectively called "Heaven":

"And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day." Gen 1:8

The Third Heaven is above this upper "Sea," and this higher sea is below the Throne of God:

"And before the throne there was a **sea** of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind." (*Revelation 4:6 KJV*)

This particular "Sea" is above the firmament (the known physical universe). It represents a firm and impassable barrier between the world of man (below) and the world of God (above).

"Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come. And he said unto them, **Ye are from beneath**; **I am from above**: ye are of this world; I am not of this world." (John 8:22-23 KJV)

Here are some additional proof verses in the Bible which refer to this particular Sea:

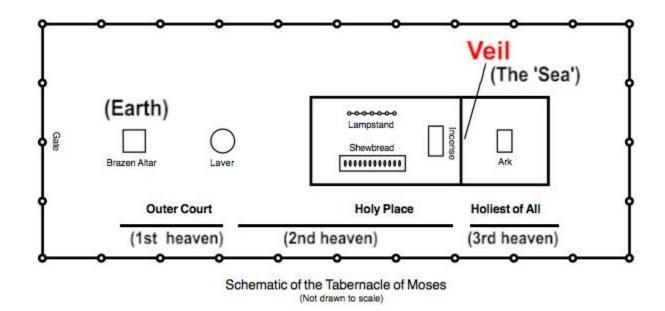
"Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that [be] above the heavens." (Psalms 148:4 KJV)

This is the "sea" that John saw in his visions:

"And before the throne [there was] a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, [were] four beasts full of eyes before and behind." (Rev 4:6 KJV)

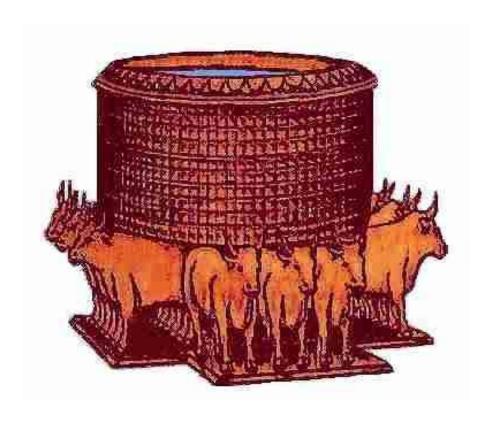
As we said, this is a present "sea" of separation is a FIRM and impassable barrier between the world of man (below) and the world of God (above) and they only way through there is in the Lord Jesus Christ. That barrier structure can be seen in the design of the Tabernacle and the Temple. It is represented by the Veil.

The diagram below shows a comparison of these things to the structure and layout of Moses' Tabernacle, which is the same basic arrangement used in the layouts of the First and Second Jewish Temples in Jerusalem.



The "Sea" under discussion is a barrier between the second and third heavens, represented by the veil between the 'Holy Place' and 'Holiest of All.' The 'Brazen Alter' represents the Earth where the sacrifice was to be made. The 'Laver' in Moses' Tabernacle, and the 'Molten Sea' in Solomon's Temple (see below), were places for the priests to wash themselves before entering the 'Holy Place'. You MUST be washed in the Blood of the Lamb of God to pass into that most Holy

Place.



The Third Heaven

This now gives us a better understanding of what the Apostle Paul was talking about in the book of 2 Corinthians 12:2, where he speaks of a place called the "third heaven":

"I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven." (2 Cor. 12:2 KJV)

Although the "third heaven" is not directly mentioned in the Genesis narrative, the established structure of all things is defined in Genesis 1 and, when understood, allows us to comprehend exactly where and what Paul was talking about when he mentions the "third heaven" in his letter. It also gives the reader a better understanding of John's vision in Revelation 4. Again, when the Lord God divided the waters He created a boundary which presently exists between the two lower heavens (which constitute the firmament) and the third heaven (where the throne of God is). That boundary is that "Sea," and again that "sea" is above the two lower heavens of the firmament. It is also likened in places to crystal or smooth glass:

"And the likeness of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the colour of the terrible crystal, stretched forth over their heads above." (Ezekiel 1:22 KJV)

The reason it appears like a smooth, crystal surface is because it is frozen:

"The waters are hid as [with] a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen." (Job 38:30 KJV)

"And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness." (Exodus 24:10 KJV)

It is also likened to glass:

"And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God." (Revelation 15:2 KJV)

With this understanding of what exactly the Firmament is and the structure of all things that God made during the seven days, many things that were previously obscure suddenly take on real meaning and enrich the reader's understanding.

In summary, here is the structure of the physical world as it now exists from the face of the Earth upwards:

- The lower sea of physical waters (our seas and oceans)
- The first heaven (the atmosphere)
- The second heaven (outer space)
- The sea above outer space and below the third heaven (a sea of separation)
- And above it all, there is the Third Heaven.

"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what [is] the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:17-19

The structure of the heavens is a recurring theme throughout the Bible. It is reinforced (*in typology*) throughout the Bible. For example, it is likened to the floors of a building, which we call "stories" and, sure enough, the same word is even used in the KJV Bible. It is used to describe the design of the heavens:

"[It is] he that buildeth his **stories** in the heaven, and hath founded his troop in the earth; he that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD [is] his name." Amos 9:6

This pattern of three (3) "stories" is also found in some other important things in the Bible, an example being the description of the design of Noah's Ark:

"A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; [with] lower, second, and third [stories] shalt thou make it." Genesis 6:16

It is also used to describe the construction of the Temple:

"The door posts, and the narrow windows, and the galleries round about on their three **stories**, over against the door, cieled with wood round about, and from the ground up to the windows, and the windows [were] covered;" Ezekiel 41:16

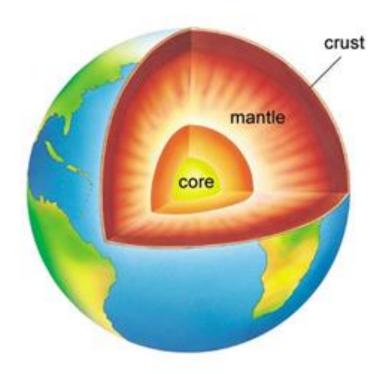
In the construction of Moses' Tabernacle in the wilderness there were three (3) main parts: 1) The outer court, where the brazen altar of sacrifice was. 2) The Holy Place, where the candlestick, table of shewbread, and golden altar of incense were. 3) The Holy of Holies where the Ark of the Covenant was. Again, note that between parts two and three was a curtain for a partition, which matches the "sea" above the firmament (*in type*) in the structure of the Three Heavens. It is no coincidence that all these Biblical things have a similar three-tiered structure. There is much spiritual insight to be gained in further study of those things:

- Three Heavens
- Three levels inside Noah's Ark
- Three floors in a section of the Temple
- Three sections to Moses' Tabernacle

Concerning the design of the Temple, keep in mind that Moses' tent Tabernacle and Solomon's Temple both had three (3) main parts:

- The outer court
- The holy place (where the table, lamp and incense alter was, outside the veil)
- The Most Holy Place (where the Ark was, behind the veil)

As you can see, this theme of structure based on threes is consistent throughout the Bible. Even the basic structure of the Earth has three (3) main divisions: the core, the mantle, and the crust.



Does the Universe really have a structure? When you go into outer space is there really any such thing as up and down, is there a top and bottom? Does the cosmos have a definite shape? We cannot observe such in our three-dimensional view of the universe, but is that all that is really out there? Not according to the Bible! In the words of Lord Himself there is a world above the one we live in and can observe:

"And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world." (John 8:23 KJV)

Just because we cannot observe or understand something does not disprove its existence.

In the next section, we are going to discuss disconnect between the apparent age of the stars and the universe and the concept of a regenerated heavens and Earth at the time of the seven-days of Genesis.

The 4th Day - Paradox of the Sun and Stars



Throughout this website we have sought to provide both Biblical and Scientific answers to the many issues which have evaded the reconciliation of Geology and Genesis and the doctrinal conflict between "Old Earth" and "Young Earth" Creationism. Having demonstrated that the Ruin-Reconstruction (*Gap Theory*) interpretation provides the superior, Biblically credible solution between what the Bible says and what the Earth's geology reveals, we must now tackle an elusive issue in the reconciliation process: Specifically, the sun, moon and stars of the 4th Day of the Genesis narrative:

And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day. (Genesis 1:14-19 KJV)

Young Earth Creationists claim that the Sun and Stars were first "created" about 6,000 years ago on the 4th Day of Genesis, a claim that runs counter to empirical observations and the Biblical text. In fact, the word "create" is nowhere in the above passage. The word used is "made" and comes from a different Hebrew word with a different meaning. Arguments that "create" and "made" mean the same thing are foolish, they are different words in both English and Hebrew. They

are not interchangeable. The word "made" is correct and its meaning is precisely true. The seven-days of Genesis describe a Divine restructuring of a previously existing heaven and Earth by a process the Greek Scriptures define as *katabole* (*Catabolism*). See our page, <u>Catabolism and Regeneration</u> for a detailed analysis.

The constant of the speed of light and observations of our universe suggest that the stars we see up in the sky are old, very old - much older than just 6,000 years. Therefore, in order to defend their Young Earth Creationist doctrine against this widely accepted observation, Young Earth Creationists have proposed every counter-argument imaginable. These arguments range from changes in the speed of light, to time-dilation, to God deliberately making everything appear old just to trick all the "evil evolutionists" into believing the "lies of science" and receiving damnation for their unbelief. Of course, that latter explanation would also make God a liar and a deceiver (*Titus 1:2*).

In the Genesis Gap Doctrine of Old Earth Creationism, there was a previous world on the ancient Earth long, long before the world of Adam. Of course, such an ancient world had to have a Sun, a Moon and Stars shining up in the sky from ancient times. The Bible says there was a heaven "of old" (2 Peter 3:5-7), so the stars of that heaven had to exist before the seven days of Genesis, otherwise why the requirement for the sun and stars to be regenerated ("made") on the 4th Day? Of course, if we accept that the Lord God "made" the present sun, moon and stars from the remnants of the heavenly bodies that were previously here, then there is an element of truth to the argument that what we now see in the sky is not really as old as scientific theory would have us believe. The scientific observations are based on the assumption of an uninterrupted continuity of all things since the beginning of time. The Bible, however, tells the reader there was indeed an interruption in that continuity. Does that make God a liar? No, not when He clearly tells you in his Word that such an interruption of continuity occurred.

Scientific theory tells us that that when we look up into the sky at any distant star, we are in effect looking backwards into historical time. In theory, when you look at a star that one-million light years away, you are seeing what that star looked like one-million years ago in time. In reality, that star may no longer be there. It could have exploded 500,000 years ago and you would not see that from Earth for another 500,000 years from today. Light travels at a velocity of 299,792,458 m/s and the distances between the Earth and the stars is measured in light-years.

In several places within this website we present our evidence that indicates the old Earth and heavens perished when they passed into a state of coldness and ruin about 13,000 - 10,000 radio carbon years ago. This is at a geological marker termed the <u>Younger-Dryas</u> cooling event that occurred at the end of the Pleistocene. The Earth went cold when the stars in the heavens went dark and cold. In the process, the hydrogen gas of the stars would have been converted to vast quantities of water. (See "<u>Recipe for water: Just add starlight</u>" for details of the process) That was the source of the waters of the "deep" (*the abyss of the cosmos*) that overflowed the Earth (*Genesis 1:2*). Such an event would have produced a spectacular light show across the heavens (*stars expanding into Red Giants and imploding into White Dwarfs, etc.*) before the darkness and cold settled in and eventually killed everything on the Earth.

This brings us to the Paradox: But when we look up into the heavens today everything appears normal, as if nothing of the sort even happened. Why is that? It is because of a Divine intervention into the workings of the cosmos about 6,000 years ago. The reader should keep firmly in mind that the Lord God who established the observed physical laws of nature is not Himself in subjection to those laws. Our Bible is replete with instances where the Lord God supernaturally intervenes against the laws of physics and nature. Examples are the parting of the Red Sea (Exodus 14:21), the turning back of the shadow of the sundial (2 Kings 20:9), the stopping of the earth's rotation for about 24 hours (Joshua 10:12-14), the virgin birth of the God-Man, the Lord Jesus Christ. And then, of course, there is the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. Do you believe that God did all these things? Then why should you find it incredible that the Lord God could not resurrect an entire dead universe and give it renewed life? The Lord Jesus Christ raised Lazarus from the dead and restored him whole, even after his body had been decomposing in the grave for four days (John 11:39). Could not the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the maker of all things (John 1:3), restore a dead universe and make it whole again? Most certainly!

In fact, the seven-days REGENERATION of Genesis is not the only such event in the Holy Bible. There will be another such "creation" of the heavens and earth after the Great Tribulation and before the one-thousand-year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ (see: Isaiah 65:17-25 & Jeremiah 4:23-26). And the Lord Jesus even defines this occurrence as a "REGENERATION":

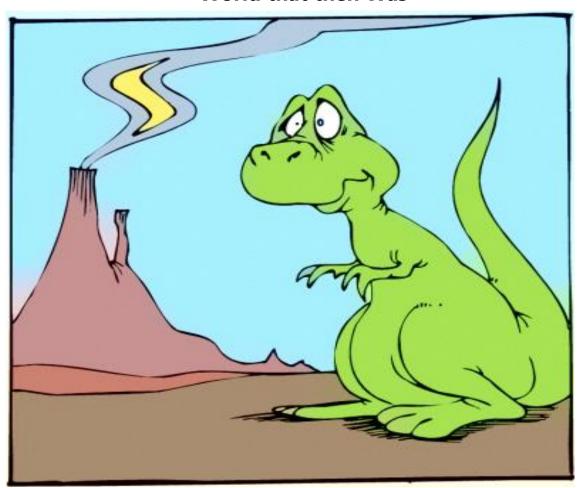
"And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the **regeneration** when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." (*Matthew 19:28 KJV*)

Can such things be explained or defended scientifically? No. Do such things contradict the known observations of physics and chemistry? To the extent we presently know them, yes they do. Consequently, there are some things that just cannot be explained by appeals to science; there are many things that must be accepted on faith because they are beyond the comprehension of man's canal mind.

"But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

The evidence of the global destruction and death of things, in the old world that was here before the regeneration of seven-days of Genesis, can be found today in the Earth's geologic record. On the next page we present detailed accounts of observations concerning this evidence.

# Observations of Geological Evidence for the Death of "the World that then Was"



The geologic and fossil records are the surviving evidence, written in stone, that testify to the truth that the Earth is very old and was populated long before the seven days of Genesis chapter one. But does that record provide evidence of the sudden end of the old world by a universal destructive event before the seven days and before Noah's flood?

"And **the earth was** without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." (Genesis 1:2 KJV)

This certainly would appear to be the case. Throughout the geologic record there is evidence of mass extinction and geologic catastrophes. The theory that a giant asteroid struck the earth about 65 million years ago and thus precipitated the demise of the dinosaurs is now widely accepted as a fact. As recently as just a few years ago, that theory was scoffed at until the remains of an ancient crater were found in the Yucatan. That same school scoffed at Alfred Wegner's theory about plate tectonics "The Origin of the Continents and Oceans" back in the early days of the 20th century, but today that theory is considered the grand unifying theory of the geological sciences.

One of the greatest remaining mysteries to modern geology is found within the most recent episode of mass destruction which occurred in the geological age called the Pleistocene; the age just before the Holocene, which is the age of Man. This extinction event appears to be linked with the Ice Age. The evidence consists of vast "animal cemeteries" found in many places around the world, which seem to show a catastrophic and sudden destruction of life all across the planet only a few thousand years ago.

This evidence was documented by many back in the 19th century, but this evidence was mostly ignored by the leading scientists of the day because it did not fit into the prevailing scientific paradigm. This evidence is still mostly ignored today, although the Young Earth Creationists have seized upon it as proof of Noah's flood. It is actually proof of the flood which happened just before the time of Genesis 1:2, the time when all life on the surface of the Earth had been wiped out.

The best collection of the documentation on this event can be found within the paper "Catastrophe and Reconstitution" by the late Arthur Custance. I recommend you take time to read this paper. For those of you in a hurry, here is a sampling of references by several scientists cited within that paper:

On the general topic of animal cemeteries, one source wrote:

"The great problem for geological theories to explain is that amazing phenomenon, the mingling of the remains of animals of different species and climates, discovered in exhaustless quantities in the interior parts of the earth so that the exuviae of those genera which no longer exist at all, are found confusedly mixed together in the soils of the most northerly latitudes. . . The bones of those animals which can live only in the torrid zone are buried in the frozen soil of the polar regions." Penn, Granville, A Comparative Estimate of the Mineral and Mosaical Geologies, Vol. II, 2nd ed., London, 1825, p. 81.

In a reference to a site in Italy another wrote:

"In this sandy matrix bones were found at every depth from that of a few feet to a hundred feet or more. From the large and more apparent bones of the elephant, the rhinoceros, the megatherium, the elk, the buffalo, the stag, and so forth, naturalists were led by the elaborate studies of Cuvier and other comparative anatomists to the remains of the now living bear, tiger, wolf, hyena, rabbit, and finally the more minute remains even of the water rat and the mouse. In some places so complete was the confusion . . . that the bones of many different elephants were brought into contact, and on some of them even oyster shells were matted."Fairholme, George, New and Conclusive Physical Demonstrations of the Fact and Period of the Mosaic Deluge, n.p., 1837.

In one of his early writings, even Charles Darwin commented on what he saw in the fossils of South America:

"The mind is at first irresistibly hurried into the belief that some great catastrophe has occurred. Thus, to destroy animals both large and small in South Patagonia, in Brazil, in the Cordillera, in North America up to the Behring Straits, we must shake the entire framework of the globe. Certainly no fact in the long history of the world is so startling as the wide extermination of its Inhabitants." Darwin, Charles, Journal of Researches, Ward Lock, New York. 1845, p. 178.

#### A contemporary of Darwin commented:

"We live in a zoologically impoverished world, from which all the hugest and fiercest, and strangest forms have recently disappeared.... Yet it is surely a marvellous fact, and one that has hardly been sufficiently dwelt upon this sudden dying out of so many large Mammalia not in one place only but over half the land surface of the globe."

"There must have been some physical cause for this great change, and it must have been a cause capable of acting almost simultaneously over large portions of the earth's surface." Wallace, Alfred Russell, Geographical Distribution of Animals, Vol. 1, Hafner, New York, 1876, pp. 150, 151.

From a book titled "The Mammoth and the Flood" by Sir Henry Howarth, the following are excerpts about data he gathered first hand in Siberia:

"In the first place, it is almost certain in my opinion that a very great cataclysm or catastrophe occurred . . . by which the mammoth with his companions was overwhelmed over a very large part of the earth's surface. This catastrophe, secondly, involved a widespread flood of waters which not only killed the animals but also buried them under continuous beds of loam or gravel. Thirdly, that the same catastrophe was accompanied by a very sudden change of climate in Siberia, by which the animals that had previously lived in fairly temperate conditions were frozen in their flesh under the ground and have remained there ever since."

"When the facts are stated, they are of such a nature as to be almost incredible and they are drawn from the works of such men as Wrangell, Strahlenberg, Witzen, Muller, Klaproth, Avril, Erman, Hedenstrom, Betuschef, Bregne, Gemlin, Brandt, Antermony, Liachof, Kusholof, Chamisso, Maljuschkin, Ides, Baer, Schmidt, Bell, Tatishof, Middendorf, von Schrenck, Olders, Laptef, Sarytschef, Motschulsky, Schtscukin, Maydell, besides the official documents of the Russian Government." Howorth, Sir Henry, Thc Mammoth and thc Flood: Uniformity and Geology, London, 1887. p. 47.

Henry Howorth had this to say on animal cemeteries:

"The most obvious cause we can appeal to as occasionally producing mortality on a wide scale among animals is a murrain or pestilence, but what murrain or pestilence is so completely unbiased in its actions as to sweep away all forms of terrestrial life, even the very carriers of it--the rodents-- including the fowls of the air, the beasts of the field, elephants, tigers, rhinoceroses, frogs, mice, bison and snakes, landsnails, and every conceivable form of life, and this not in one corner only but, as far as we know, over the whole of the two great continents irrespective of latitude or longitude."

"The fact of the bones occurring in great caches or deposits in which various species are mixed pell-mell is very important, and it is a fact undenied by geologists that whenever we find such a locality in which animals have suffered

together in a violent and instantaneous destruction, the bones are invariably mixed and, as it were, 'deposited' in a manner which could hardly be explained otherwise than by postulating the action of great tidal waves carrying fishes and all before them, depositing them far inland with no respect to order." Howorth, Sir Henry, Thc Mammoth and thc Flood: Uniformity and Geology, London, 1887, p.180.

In concluding remarks Howorth had this to say:

"If animals die occasionally (in large numbers) from natural causes, different species do not come together to die, nor does the lion come to take his last sleep with the lamb! The fact of finding masses of animal remains of mixed species all showing the same state of preservation, not only points to a more or less contemporary death, but is quite fatal to the theory that they ended their days peacefully and by purely natural means."

"If they had been exposed to the air, and to the severe transition between midwinter and mid-summer, which characterizes Arctic latitudes, the mammoths would have decayed rapidly. But their state of preservation proves that they were covered over and protected ever since."

"It is almost certain in my opinion that a very great cataclysm or catastrophe occurred by which the mammoth and his companions were overwhelmed over a very large part of the earth's surface. And that the same catastrophe was accompanied by a very great and sudden change of climate in Siberia, by which the animals which had previously lived in fairly temperate conditions were frozen . . . and were never once thawed until the day of their discovery. No other theory will explain the perfect preservation of these great elephants."

In summarizing his comments on Howorth and the other sources cited, Arthur Custance made these observations:

"Howorth even recorded a whale which was found entombed with the elephants, a discovery which Pallas confirmed--mentioning also buffalo in situ with the heads of large fishes."

"In spite of the fact that many of these authorities would now be considered quite out of date, so that their interpretations would almost certainly be rejected, the evidence itself remains undeniable; and it is difficult to explain it satisfactorily in any other way."

"Such, then, is the kind of evidence which is to be found all over the world of the sudden death of an enormous number of animals of very recent and modern times. Some of these creatures died in latitudes that were almost at once plunged into an Ice Age which preserved them by freezing. Some of them died in more temperate zones and were accumulated by the action of torrents of water sweeping hither and yon as the earth reeled, before the waters had been sufficiently gathered together in one place to expose the dry land. And, finally, some were accumulated and rammed together forcibly and indiscriminately into clefts in the rocks which served to sieve them out of the draining waters."

"The suddenness of the event is everywhere attested, in the Arctic by the extraordinary state of preservation of mammoths and other creatures, and in the more temperate zones by the very fact that predators and preyed upon came to a sudden end together. Even within the waters, the movements of silt and waterwashed materials were sometimes so sudden and overwhelming that fishes were trapped before they had the few seconds necessary to react in a characteristic defensive way. Some bivalved forms, in fact, were overwhelmed so rapidly that they did not have time to close."

"Furthermore, we may conclude, I think, that the catastrophe which was worldwide profoundly affected world climate." Custance, Arthur, "Catastrophe and Reconstitution" <a href="Custance Library Doorway Papers">Custance Library Doorway Papers</a> & Books on Interface between Faith and Science

Although I do not personally subscribe to all the doctrines which the late Arthur Custance put forth in his vast collection of papers, I do feel that he presented a good argument for the evidence of a great universal catastrophe in the days before true man was placed upon the earth. Although the exact mechanics of the total event are not yet understood, there is ample supporting evidence for a vast and violent flood as the destructive agent; a flood BEFORE the flood of Noah's days. This would be consistent with the gap of Genesis 1:2 and the condition of the earth at that point in time.

Lastly, there is a more contemporary observation that I extracted from a published interview and story by Linda Moulton Howe of "<u>EARTHFILES</u>" and is reprinted here, in part, by written permission of the copyright holder. The full article, including graphics, is available by subscription.

12,000-Year-Old Human Hair DNA Has No Match With Modern Humans Copyright 2001 by Linda Moulton Howe - All Rights Reserved.

October 28, 2001 Woodburn, Oregon - Human hair dating back to the last Ice Age ten to twelve thousand years ago was discovered in 1999 at an archaeological dig in Woodburn, Oregon between Salem and Portland. The Ice Age site is filled with the bones of elephants, sloths, condors and a bird with a 14-foot wingspan. The unidentified human hairs were found perfectly preserved a few feet underground and had enough follicles for DNA analysis. This week I talked with geology professor emeritus, William Orr, at the University of Oregon, about DNA efforts to match the Ice Age hair to any living hominoid species on earth today.

Evacuation units at Woodburn, Oregon Ice Age archaeological site were prepared and excavated. Some units were skim shovelled and then trawled so that animal limbs and fauna could be extracted without harm.

William Orr, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus in Geology, University of Oregon, and Director of the State Museum of Palaeontology, Eugene, Oregon: "You can identify human hair, forensic criminologist types, can identify human hair from a single strand because of the granules and colour and all that kind of stuff. You can distinguish human hair from all other hair just from a little piece of follicle."

DNA analyses of hair follicles found at the site have so far failed to find a match with any known human racial type living on earth today.

"We found several strands of human hair, long pieces a foot and a half long, black, long pieces of hair. And then if you can find the root of the hair that still has a follicle, you can do DNA on it. So, researchers immediately sent the (Ice Age) hair off to a lab and they began to extract the DNA. Some of it was not so good, but a lot of it was well preserved in the oxygen-poor bogs of Woodburn. The geneticists found the hair didn't match any Asian hair DNA. It didn't match African, European. It didn't match anything. Dogma would be that Ice Age humans along the west coast of the United States would be from a Japanese population that is alleged to have come over the Bering Sea back twelve to thirteen thousand years ago."

"So right now, we have DNA we can't track. We can't figure out what it's from. Apparently from a population we don't have today. They are gone. And it's only 11,000 or 12,000 years old. About that time period, there was a huge crisis in animals. The larger animals all disappeared, and they disappeared in a wave. They disappeared first in British Columbia and then in Washington, Oregon, California and right on down. Some were still around until 10,000 years ago in

Tierra del Fuego. So, it was like a wave of extinction at the rate of about 10 miles Per year."

Howe: "SO THERE IS A MYSTERY ABOUT WHAT KILLED OFF ALL OF THESE MAMMALS IN WAVES TEN OR TWELVE THOUSAND YEARS AGO?"

Orr: "Oh, yes. In fact for my money, it's far more profound than the crisis that killed off the dinosaurs and a few other animals at 66 million years ago. This (western North American) was more sudden, more pervasive. It kind of selectively took the large animals in a short period of time."

Howe: "HOW DEEP DOWN WERE THE HAIRS FOUND?"

Orr: "The deepest ones were from ten to twelve feet, but a lot of them were from much shallower depths. It's an old stream bed and we just took a little auguring device to core down and began getting well-preserved hair out of the clays. The Woodburn stuff it's like putting it in a deep freeze, or a glad bag and freezing it. It's an anoxic environment (no oxygen). You wouldn't believe the insects come out with colours still. And as you watch them, the colour changes from the iridescent blue-green back to a kind of dull black, just in the exposure as they oxidize before your eyes. Even the butterflies come out with pigment and then they just change colour."

Howe: "IT'S ALMOST AS IF THEY WERE QUICK FROZEN?"



In reference to the remarks about the remains being preserved almost as if "Quick Frozen" this is extremely interesting, as such is consistent with the finding of Wooly Mammoths from the same period in time whose remains indicate they too appear to have been quick frozen (many links can be found on the Internet which document that particular find). By interpretation, in the context of the Gap Theory doctrine, this is compelling evidence of a sudden and catastrophic end to

life on this planet in the old world. If the sun (indeed the entire cosmos) of the old world suddenly went dark, by whatever agency, these findings would be consistent with such an event and the conditions on the Earth before the regeneration of the heavens and earth (*Genesis 1:2*).

A nuclear scientist, Richard Firestone, reported finding "impact regions" on mammoth tusks found in Gainey, Michigan, which were caused by high velocity magnetic particles rich in elements like titanium and uranium. Firestone says that based on his discovery of similar material at a North American Clovis site, he estimates that comets (possibly produced by a relatively close supernova) struck the solar system during the Clovis period, roughly 13,000 years ago.

## Life Forms Just Before End of Ice Age and After the Seven Days of Genesis



Ever wonder why the Bible uses the particular and succinct phrases "after their kind" and "after his kind" throughout the narrative of Genesis chapter one? It's simple, once you grasp the "Gap" context. When the Lord God made the new world on the face of the old Earth during those seven days, the Scriptures tell us that He filled the new world with many of the same *KINDS* of plants and animals

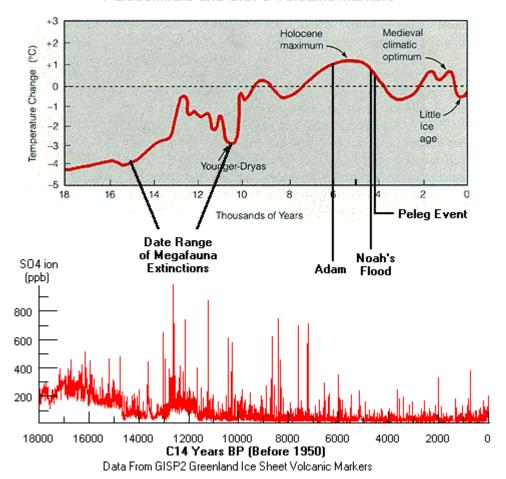
that had been on the face of the Earth prior to Genesis 1:2. Not all kinds were replaced, however, and some new ones were introduced in their place.

The geologic time frame preceding the seven-days of Genesis correlates roughly with the end of the great "Ice Age" at the Pleistocene/Holocene epoch boundary, which dates to about 13,000 - 10,000 radio carbon (*C14*) years before present (*BP = "1950"*). As mentioned previously, the geologic record reveals a mass extinction episode at this time in which hundreds of large and unusual forms of mega fauna mysteriously perished from the face of the Earth. Gone were the Mammoths, Mastodons, giant ground sloths, woolly rhinos, rats the size of dogs, armadillos the size of Volkswagens and about 200 other known species, including some very weird-looking creatures that raise thoughts of radioactive mutations. They all disappeared by the end of the Ice Age. Their replacement "kinds" of today (*Adam's world*) are quite different in both size and morphology.

Scientists have postulated many "possible" explanations for the reason. A leading theory was that humans hunted these large animals to extinction. Some hold to the belief that they were killed off by disease or their inability to adapt to a changing post-glacial climate. Others speculate that they were killed by "Climate Change" (a very popular mantra in scientific circles today). Nothing has been proven conclusively for lack of direct evidence.

Below is a chart showing temperature changes on the Earth over the period in question, starting at the left when the Earth was just emerging from the last "Ice Age" episode, and running towards the right until (roughly) just before the industrial ages. The chart's "0" level is based on today's "normal" global temperature baseline. What we see are global temperatures slowly rising, then rapidly increasing, then beginning a decline, then suddenly sharply declining again. This is followed, very shortly thereafter, by an almost instantaneous surge back upwards to "normal" levels and then a slow climb to the days of Adam's time (which was warmer than today), and a fall-off again after Noah's flood followed by an unsteady oscillation across most of the rest of human history.

#### Paleoclimate and GISP2 Volcanic Markers



There are two important things you should note from the composite graphic above. The top chart shows global temperatures across time while the bottom chart shows Sulfate levels in the atmosphere across the same period of time. The latter, the SO4 ion level, is a paleo-proxy volcanic activity indicator. Points to observe:

- 1): There is an increase in volcanic activity between when the mega fauna extinctions begin (about 14,000 BP), that ends a little over 7,000 years ago. That would be roughly one-thousand years before the Earth is pronounced "without form, and void" in the Bible's time line, or about 6,000 years ago (Genesis 1:2).
- 2): The mega fauna extinction phase terminates in a relatively sudden and dramatic drop in global temperatures, marked by the <u>Younger-Dryas</u> cooling event.

Clearly, the data indicate there were rapid temperature changes, an onset of intensive geologic activity, and probably changes in the levels of solar activity at

this point in Earth's history. The latter probability is supported by reported fluctuations in radiocarbon concentrations in the Younger-Dryas cold period between 12,700 and 11,500 years BP. In addition, abundant tiny particles of diamond dust have been found in sediments dating to 12,900 years ago at six North American sites. This latter observation adds strong evidence for Earth possibly being impacted by carbon-and-water-rich comets or carbonaceous chondrites (asteroids or meteors) at the time of the Younger-Dryas. For your information only, here are a few links to several reports concerning this possibility: Younger-Dryas event: Diamonds suggest comets caused killer cold spell - Comprehensive analysis of impact spherules supports theory of cosmic impact 12,800 years ago - New evidence that cosmic impact caused Younger Dryas extinctions.

Unfortunately, the Biblical notion of a universal catastrophic destruction of all living things in the recent geologic past, followed by a Supernatural regeneration of the face of the Earth and the restoration of its surface flora and fauna by the Lord God, is not something many men and women of science would even consider within the context of the *Scientific Method*. So, expect even more new theories to emerge as scientists continue to wrestle with this problem. And it does present problems, in reasoning and common-sense:

Would it not seem logical that a catastrophic event of this magnitude and severity, which wiped out the giant mammals, would also wipe out the humanoids that hunted them? That would call into question the validity of the scientific theories that those so-called nomadic hunters, who killed off the mega fauna, subsequently emerged from the Ice Ages, gave up hunting and took up agriculture. If they died off too, then Adam and Eve were NOT descended from those humanoids. There could be NO EVOLUTIONARY link. In fact, God commanded Adam and Eve to replace that perished race of beings:

"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and **replenish** the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." (Genesis 1:28 KJV)

And this is where the wisdom of the Holy Scriptures begins to fill in the missing pieces of this mystery.

If the Paleoclimate data are valid, and the Biblical time line of Adam and modern mankind is valid, then we must conclude that those perished beings were on the face of the Earth before Adam and Eve. But who and what were they? From the Bible, we do know that the Angels were the Earth's first inhabitants (*review our pages*, The Ancient Earth and the Angels and Who and What are the Angels? for additional background). Whether or not these beings were the fleshly descendants of the fallen angels, or a biological hybrid or product of cross-breeding, we can't know for sure. But what we can know is those beings were NOT any descendants of Adam and Eve, as Young-Earth *Creation Science* proponents claim. So what were they?

DNA testing of Neanderthal remains clearly shows that <u>modern man is NOT</u> <u>descended from the Neanderthal</u>. The DNA from three (3) different sets of Neanderthal remains showed that there is no genetic link between modern man and the Neanderthal. More recent studies of Neanderthal DNA and <u>Neanderthal Skull Characteristics</u> further confirm this finding.

The remains of an "anatomically modern human" (Cro-Magnon), found in Australia, have revealed that it was at least 60,000 years old and had a mitochondria DNA generic marker which is now extinct. That is, nobody today is descended from that particular line of beings, at least on the female side. This find has raised serious debate between the "Out of Africa" and "Regional Continuity" evolutionary camps.

Although there have been relatively recent reports of finding Neanderthal DNA segments in the DNA of some of the Earth's modern human population, this does not conclusively prove that Neanderthals and modern man mated sometime in the past. There is another plausible Biblical explanation concerning the exploits of the fallen angels (see: Genesis 6:2-6:4 & Daniel 2:43). Angels always appear as men throughout the Bible. And in order to create any offspring with human women, they too must have unique DNA. If Genesis 6:2-4 is indicative of such behaviour in Noah's days, and Daniel 2:43 hints of the same such behaviour in more recent times (or the near future), then it is a stretch to assume those same "sons of God" could have been up to those same tricks with the bipedal biologics that inhabited the Pre-Adamite world? Perhaps.

Evolutionary mainline science still cannot provide a fully satisfactory answer to origins of modern man. As the tools of science improve, like refined DNA techniques, the mysteries will only become more mysterious as is demonstrated by the above cases. Reasoning from a uniformitarian paradigm, and in reference to the above-cited pro and con cases of DNA connections to present humans, secular scientists will say that this only means those particular lines of humans must have been a branch of mankind that perished. They would have to make the claim that, as Evolutionary "theory" demands, that there was continuity of

the human race. However, the link between the evidence from the past and present is still yet to be "scientifically" established. In fact, evolutionary research is finding just the opposite. Today scientists are claiming that <a href="https://human.evolution.ng/">human.evolution.ng/</a> between "modern ago. The truth is, there are big morphological differences between "modern man" and "primitive man," and pronouncing a sudden acceleration of evolution is their only way of explaining the findings within the accepted evolutionary paradigm.

The Bible has a better answer: Modern man is a new creation; a new creation made in God's image and placed on the face of the regenerated Earth to"replenish" it. The concisely parsed words of the Holy Bible say that there is a gap, or discontinuity, between the ancient world of the past (which included the Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon) and the present world of modern man. The very existence of such a gap in the Genesis narrative is the unifying factor between the Bible narrative and the observations of geology and paleontology. Without knowledge that a "gap" existed, mainline science assumes that there was a continuum of life and attempts to fill in the blanks with the available evidence and theories to explain that evidence.

For review purposes, here is the Biblical sequence of events:

- 1) In Genesis 1:1, we have a general proclamation by the Spirit that God created the heaven and the earth. Life did not evolve and achieve self-conscience awareness. God created it and He made the planet to be inhabited (*Isaiah 45:18*). Exactly when in time it was first created and inhabited is not revealed in the Scriptures.
- 2) In Genesis 1:2, we find the Earth in ruin, in darkness, and in the waters, which indicate a state of ruin and destruction but, nonetheless, still the same planet Earth. Waters and darkness are already there before God says, "Let there be light." Exactly how long it was in that state is also not revealed by the Scriptures.
- 3) In Genesis 1:3 we have the Lord God making a new world out of the ruins and restoring the face of the Earth and the functioning of the heavens (*In Seven-Days*).

Leaving behind the obscure and mysterious events of the Pleistocene epoch and the geologic ages that came before it, let us now examine God's handiwork of the seven days of Genesis regeneration of life on the face of the Earth. Since we extensively cover the topic of the restored structure of the cosmos on our page, The Firmament, Third Heaven, and Structure of All Things Biblical, we will

concentrate here on the restoration of life forms on the Earth's surface during the seven-days of Genesis.

On the third day God replenished the Earth with vegetation:

"And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, [and] the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed [is] in itself, upon the earth: and it was so." (Gen 1:11 KJV)

"And the earth brought forth grass, [and] herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed [was] in itself, after his kind: and God saw that [it was] good." (Gen 1:12 KJV)

Notice the phrases, "after his kind" - What it is saying is that what God put on the Earth during the seven-days was modelled after the same kind of plants that were on the Earth before. They were made AFTER the KIND of a thing that was here before.

On the fourth day God made the sun, moon and stars from the ruins of the old cosmic order. The fact that the Bible says God made the vegetation on the third day, and the sun on the fourth day, causes Bible critics to point out that plants need sunshine to grow (*photosynthesis*), so the sequence can't possibly be true. Is this a mistake or is this unscientific? NO. If the seven days of Genesis were literal 24-hour days, which they were, then there is no problem here. Since there were less than 24 hours between the placement of the vegetation (*day 3*) and the making of the regerated sun (*day 4*), any farmer will tell you that all plants can survive 24 hours without any sunlight. This order (*the plants before sunshine*) disallows the notions that the seven "days" are long periods of time or that the Genesis account roughly parallels the geologic record. It does neither. Think about that one.

On the fifth day He filled the oceans with fish and aquatic mammals and filled the skies with birds:

"And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that [it was] good." (Gen 1:20-21 KJV)

Again, there is that "after their kind" thing again, this time concerning the creatures in the sea and the birds. Note of Interest: The wording of the above

passage says that all the birds in our present world came forth from the waters, NOT the land. The Bible shows that modern birds are not the direct descendants of the dinosaurs. From a relatively recent study: Scientists say no evidence exists that therapod dinosaurs evolved into birds.

According to the fossil record, there have been life forms in the Earth's oceans for millions of years. Many are long since extinct and new kinds took their place over the geologic ages. There are also fish that scientists thought were long extinct, but which have been found alive in today's oceans. The "Coelacanth" is the best known example. A few years ago there was great excitement over the claim that scientists had discovered a living prehistoric Coelacanth. However, later, when scientists compared the fins of a fossilized Coelacanth with those of ones caught off the coasts of Africa and Indonesia, it turned out that it was not really the same primitive fish! Yep, that old fellow too appears to have been made "after his kind", as well and was not a direct descendant of the fossilized examples. In His creative restocking of the new world's oceans on that day, God saw fit to include a fish akin to the old Coelacanth kind along with other kinds of fish which had populated the Earth's seas in the times immediately prior to the old world's destruction. On the other hand, many other ancient marine species were not reintroduced in the regeneration.

Then there is the sea creature that God created that was NOT made "after his kind" but was introduced unique and a new creation in the new world - the "great" Whale.

And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:21 KJV)

Notice in the sentence structure of Genesis 1:21 that the creation of the "great whales" is set apart from the making of the rest of the sea creatures by a comma. Are the great whales a specific species of the whale like the gigantic *Blue Whale*, or is this a general reference to the suborder of *Baleena* or a particular size range? I'm not sure. There are small whales that look like dolphins like the *Beluga Whale*. And there is a larger animal we call a killer whale, or Orca, which is actually the largest dolphin. And then there is the "*Whale Shark*" which is not a mammal like the whale or dolphin (*it is a really big fish*). So the Biblical term "great whales" is somewhat ambiguous. Regardless, we can say with a high degree of confidence that according to the Bible, there are "great whales" swimming in today's oceans that where not on the Earth in the previous world.

At this juncture we should mention that there is a whale of a controversy these days about the evolution of the whale. Mainline science argues that the whale evolved from a wolf-like (some argue a hippopotamus-like) land creature and did so in a very accelerated period of time (about six million years) and very recently, geologically speaking. This is inconsistent (and just the opposite) of the evolutionary paradigm that all land creatures evolved from ancestors that originally came from the seas. Could it be that God's creation of the "great whales" threw such a monkey wrench into the fossil record of whale species that evolutionary scientists had to create a special rapid macro-evolutionary scenario to explain the disconnect?

On the sixth day the Lord filled the new world with the land animals:

"And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and everything that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that [it was] good." (Gen 1:24-25 KJV)

Again, all these living creatures (*like the vegetation*) are said to be made "after their kind" or "after his kind," and there seems to be a great emphasis placed on that point in the narrative. Now, and this is VERY IMPORTANT, see what else the Lord God did NOT make "after his kind" - Man:

"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." (Gen 1:26 KJV)

It should be pointed out that Man was the ONLY living thing in Genesis (other than the whale) that was NOT said to be made "after his kind"; therefore he was new and unique. That uniqueness was in respect to being made in the image of God. And unlike all the other creatures God made during the seven days, only Man was told to "replenish" the Earth (Genesis 1:28), which indicates that Man, made in God's image, was to replace the humanoids that inhabited the old world. These humanoids obviously had a physical form biologically very similar to true Man in physical sense, but not in mind and soul as defined being created after God's likeness.

"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea,

and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." (Genesis 1:28 KJV)

**Summation:** The truth of these passages and the emerging evidence affirms that true Modern Man is a newcomer to the face of this old planet. True Man, made in the image of God, has only been on the Earth about 6,000 years. He is a created creature; he did not evolve. Although he was preceded on the face of the Earth by lineages of humanoids of varying morphology closely approaching modern anatomical similarity, Adam and his descendants (us) are unique. That uniqueness is defined as creation in the image of God, and that definition eludes scientific quantification.

escription: "The Great Evolution vs. Creationism Debate - the Satanic Distraction" - an AnimatedLecture.

Keywords: spiritual darkness light divided waters above firmament hermeneutics Genesis 1:2 without form void regeneration

#### The Sevens (7) of the Bible in Time and Nature



**Sevens in Time** 

Why did the Lord God take seven days to make the present world, when surely an omnipotent God could have done so instantly, with a single word (*the answer is so simple that it may astound you*)? The Scriptures say that there are seven Spirits of God (*Rev. 3:1, 4:5, and 5:6*). There are numerous places throughout the Scriptures where God denotes things in "sevens" or multiples of seven. The Bible

also shows us that God uses "sevens" throughout the Scriptures to denote prophetic time. Examples:

"Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt:" Gen 41:29

"And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land;" v.30

"And thou shalt number Seven Sabbaths of years unto thee, seven times seven years; and the space of the seven Sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and nine years." Leviticus 25:8

"And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the hand staves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years:" Ezekiel 39:9

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and

The very first use of "sevens" to denote time is found in Genesis chapters one and two. That very first group of seven days has delineated the days of the week since the beginning of human history. Man certainly has messed with the years and the calendars (so no man today can know EXACTLY what year it really is), but that seven-day week system has survived from Adam until today. No wonder - it was ordained by God from the beginning of this world. The 7th Day was proclaimed as something VERY special from the very first two chapters of the Biblical account. Let us look closer at the importance of the Seventh Day in relation to time:

"And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made." Gen 2:2-3

"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

It [is] a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed." Exodus 31:17

"Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a Sabbath of rest to the LORD: whosoever doeth work therein shall be put to death." Exodus 35:2

"And he said unto them, The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath:" Mark 2:27

"For the Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath day." Matthew 12:8

The seventh day is the Sabbath day. On our calendar it is Saturday. On the Biblical calendar it is sunset on Friday until sunset on Saturday, local time. With the context of the above verses in mind, look at the following verses:

"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 Peter 3:8

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and [I saw] the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received [his] mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." Rev 20:4

The latter verse speaks of a time yet future when the Lord Jesus Christ will reign on a regenerated Earth (*Isaiah 65:17*, *Matthew 19:28*), with man, for a period of 1,000 years (*Revelation 20*) before the final judgment, the final destruction of Satan and Death, and the beginning of eternity future (*Revelation 21*). What these verses tell us is that the seven 24-hour days of Genesis are a prophetic "type" which, when multiplied by one-thousand, gives us the length of time of the Biblical history of man from Adam until the end of time as we know it. In other words, 7,000 years is the length of all human history (*but not all natural history*). The past part of that human history (*since Adam*) to the present is roughly 6,000 years according to the Biblical chronology. That means there are yet another 1,000 years ahead, which equates to a 1,000-year "Sabbath" of rest (*day 7, see Hebrews 4:9*) when the Lord Jesus Christ will return, reign, and rest from His redemptive work on the Earth as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords:

"Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ and shall reign with him a thousand years." Revelations 20:6

"And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison," Rev 20:7

"And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season." Rev 20:3

"Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." John 18:36

Following that glorious "7th Day" 1,000 years of time, the day which follows will be a new first day, a new eternal beginning without end; like the next octave up the musical scale (*more on that in a moment*), so to speak:

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." Rev 21:1

"And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful." Rev 21:5

It has been about 2,000 years (prophetic days 5 and 6) since the Lord first came to save us from the power of sin and death. That means that his return is VERY close. Keep in mind that although our modern calendar is already past the year 2,000, it has not really been a full 2,000 years since the first coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and His death and resurrection about 32 AD. There are also events in the book of Daniel that must yet take place concerning the Jewish people before the "Day of The Lord" occurs (see: 1 Thessalonians 5:2). But although we can't set an exact date, we can be sure that the seventh prophetic day will dawn upon this sin-cursed world. Is this a faithful prediction? Certainly, because observance of the seventh day Sabbath was a part of the "Ten Commandments", a part of the LAW of God:

"And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail."

Luke 16:17

"An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of "For the law was given by Moses, [but] grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." John 1:17

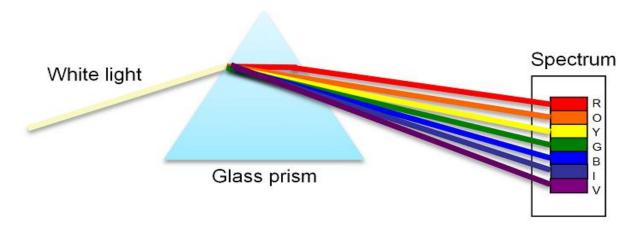
#### **Sevens in Nature**

The Sevens of God can also be observed in the things of Nature. It appears that the physics and chemistry of nature are structured on such a seven-base system. An example that almost everyone can relate to is Music. All the songs you hear on the radio are based on a musical system of just seven major notes:



Notice that the seven notes repeat, with the eighth key a higher octave of the first as you go up or down the keyboard. All other minor notes, sharps and flats, fit within the structure and harmony only seven musical notes.

If you pass sunlight through a prism, it produces seven colours - the three primary colours and four secondary ones:



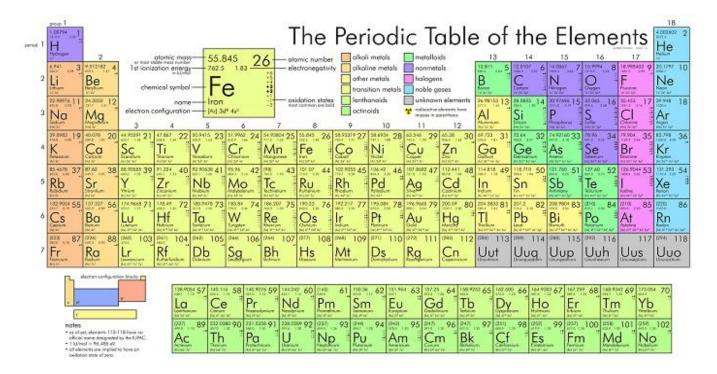
In the realm of Minerals and Geochemistry, there are seven crystal systems:



Even the Periodic Table of the known Elements appears to have seven levels of periodicity:

So from just these examples we can see that God has ordained a pattern of sevens in Nature. All things of nature, be they matter, energy, time or space, were designed and ordained by the Lord God. Therefore, rest assured that our Holy Bible is the infallible Master Textbook of true science: Scientists can only elaborate on the observations in excruciating and meticulous specialized details.

"For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether [they be] thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." Col 1:16-17



#### The Lost Rivers of the Garden of Eden - Found



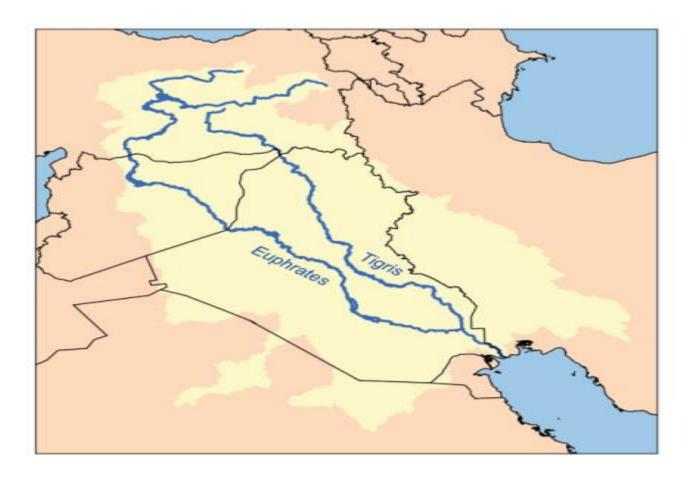
The quest for pinpointing the exact location of the Biblical Garden of Eden and the four rivers almost rivals the quest for the location of fabled Atlantis. And the theories that abound are almost as numerous as the interpretations of the seven days of Genesis. Before tackling this question let's review what is written in Genesis about the four rivers:

<sup>10</sup>And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads. <sup>11</sup>The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; <sup>12</sup>And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone. <sup>13</sup>And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia. <sup>14</sup>And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates. Gen 2:10-14

The Bible says that a single river flowed "out" of Eden and then does something that most rivers DO NOT do; specifically, split into four separate "heads" or rivers that flowed downstream, all fed from a common single river source. Almost all rivers start from a single source or are fed by multiple sources (*tributaries*). For example, the Ohio River actually begins where two rivers (*the Monongahela and Allegheny*) flow together at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Ohio River terminates when it flows into the Mississippi river as one of that river's many tributaries. So the names of rivers are an arbitrary thing, usually denoting only a portion of a greater complex stream system, with one stream flowing into another, which in-

turn, may flow into yet another. This pattern of rivers, as observed in nature, is just the opposite of what the Bible describes about the rivers of Eden.

For that reason, nobody has been able to look at modern maps of the regions mentioned in Genesis and figure out exactly where the Garden of Eden was, at least by the present topography of the lands of the Middle East. Only one river of the four, the Euphrates, is known by the same name in modern times. It presently originates in the mountains of Turkey and terminates when it merges with the Tigris River near the Iraq/Kuwait border region. Many have speculated that the Tigris is the river Hiddekel.



This has led to speculation that the Garden of Eden was located somewhere in Turkey. This is assumed because the present headwaters of the Euphrates River originate in Turkey, as do the headwaters of the Tigris.

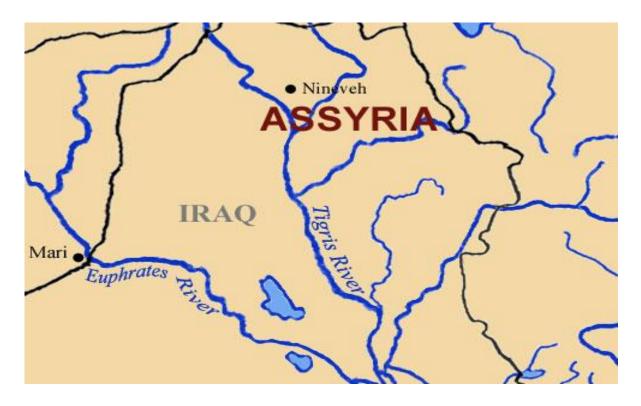
Others have proposed that the other end of the Euphrates River, where it meets the Tigris, may be the true location. This requires interpreting the Tigris river as one of the other three (the Hiddekel), then interpreting a tributary confluence of rivers as a river "head" (which it is not), and then locating at least two more rivers (or old river beds) as the other missing two. Having done so, they then claim that

the Garden of Eden was near present day Kuwait. This is a convenient solution, but not one supported by the literal wording of the Bible or the geological and geographical realities of what a river "head" means, i.e. headwaters or source of origin.

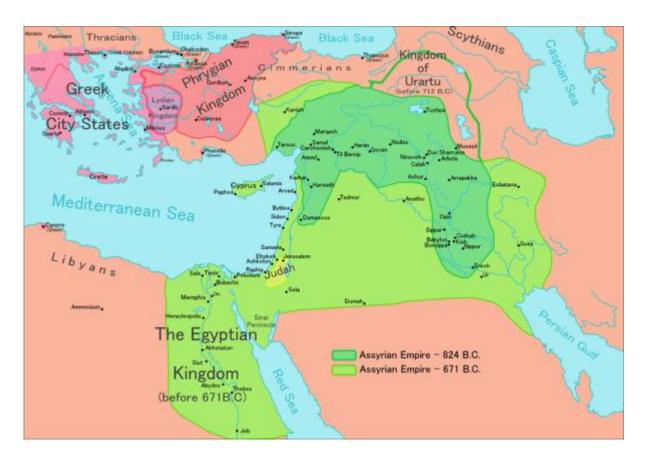
You will notice that the present day headwaters of both the Tigris and Euphrates rivers originate in Turkey very close to each other in mountainous terrain. Logically, one would assume that if two of the rivers started there, the other two must have done so, as well, if Turkey was the location of Eden. Neither the Pison nor Gihon rivers are ever mentioned again in the Bible. However, the Hiddekel River is:

"And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel;" Daniel 10:4

This reference by the prophet Daniel comes from a vision he had while with the children of Israel during the <u>Babylonian Captivity</u>. This would put Daniel somewhere in the area of present-day Iraq and would make the present-day Tigris river a fairly good candidate for the "Hiddekel" river spoken of by the prophet, as it is the only other great river known in that region today. But the Bible says that this river "that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria" and a historical map of the location of Assyria, shows that the Tigris actually goes south-eastward.



Keep in mind that the geographical area known as "Assyria" is not so easy to pin down. Although the Assyrian Empire was cantered near Nineveh, the actual empire also extended into what is also present-day Syria and Palestine. However, lacking a better candidate, and knowing that the prophet Daniel was in that geographical area at the time of his visions, the Tigris appears to be the best possible modern-day candidate for the Hiddekel River



We now must search out the probable locations of the other two rivers. It is here that the theories that the Garden of Eden was either in Turkey or Kuwait starts to lose credibility.

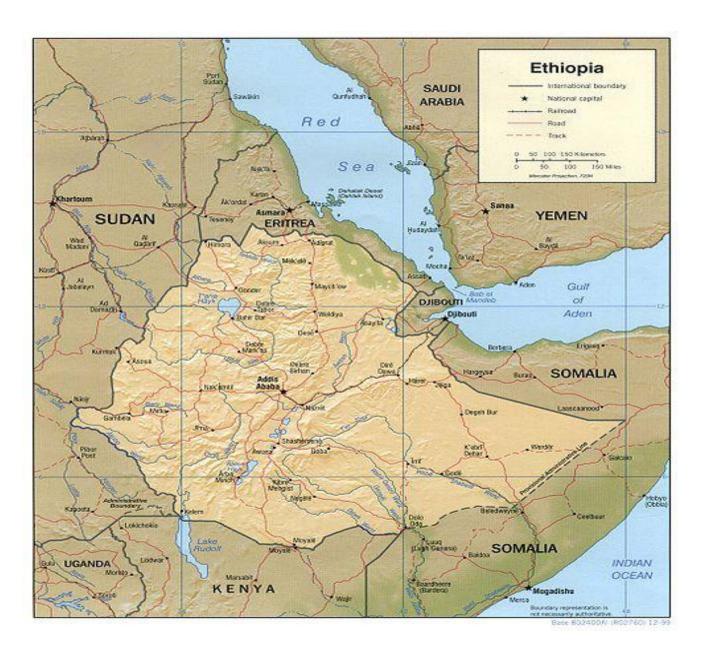
First, let's identify the geographical region of the Pison river. The Bible says: "Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold" and gives us two good clues. There is a recently discovered "Fossil River" that runs from the western mountains of Saudi Arabia towards Kuwait. This old river course is now nothing more than a dry riverbed. It's old path was detected by satellite imaging. Many have speculated that this may be the ancient Pison, as it has been dry since about 3,500 to 2,000 BC. Although Saudi Arabia could

marginally qualify for the land of Havilah, the fossil riverbed that flows across it had its origins in the mountains bordering the eastern side of the present day Red Sea, south of Israel.



It should be pointed out that those mountains are mirrored by another range of mountains on the western side of the Red Sea. The Red Sea is a tectonic spreading zone and part of the Great Rift system that runs from northward in Turkey, down to the Dead Sea, along the length of the Red Sea and then southward deep into the African continent. Obviously, when that mountain range was split by the Rift the source waters of the proposed Pison river would have dried up.

But this proposed river path may be somewhat of a "red-herring" because it does not seem to naturally "fit" the overall pattern. An even better fit may be for the river to have flowed down into what today is the Gulf of Aden south of present day Yemen (southern tip of Arabia). Yemen has both gold and onyx, which matches: "...the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone... " and the eastward trending fault branch from the Afar triangle, which is south of Yemen would have been a natural riverbed in the days prior to Noah's flood (when sea levels were lower than today).



If this fossil-river (*referred to as the 'Kuwait river'*) was indeed the Pison River, it does not correspond with the present-day headwater source of the Euphrates or Tigris up in Turkey. What's more, the geography of the last remaining river, the Gihon, further complicates the problem.

The Gihon is spoken of as: "Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia" which is the African land area west of the Red Sea and southward. Of course, the political boundaries of what we call Ethiopia today were certainly different in Biblical times, but the general area is correct. And if a river formerly flowed down what is now the Red Sea basin and southward into Africa at the Afar Triangle, it would certainly fit the description of a river that "compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia." (Genesis 2:13)

All four of these rivers have one thing in common: All are connected to the Great Rift system. And that is the key to the mystery. Two of the rivers of Eden were to the north of Israel, the active remnants of which presently originate out of Turkey to the north. The two other rivers of Eden were to the south of Israel. The geographical "centre" of these four points of flow is neither Turkey nor Kuwait; the centre is somewhere near the general region of present day Israel and Jordan.

The Bible itself lends further credence to Israel (or someplace nearby) as the location of the Garden of Eden. If you run the name "Eden" through a search of the Bible, among several references the following ones provide some insightful clues:

"<sup>3</sup>Behold, the Assyrian was a cedar in Lebanon with fair branches, and with a shadowing shroud, and of an high stature; and his top was among the thick boughs. <sup>4</sup>The waters made him great, the deep set him up on high with her rivers running round about his plants, and sent out her little rivers unto all the trees of the field. <sup>5</sup>Therefore his height was exalted above all the trees of the field, and his boughs were multiplied, and his branches became long because of the multitude of waters, when he shot forth. <sup>6</sup>All the fowls of heaven made their nests in his boughs, and under his branches did all the beasts of the field bring forth their young, and under his shadow dwelt all great nations. <sup>7</sup>Thus was he fair in his greatness, in the length of his branches: for his root was by great waters. <sup>8</sup>The cedars in the garden of God could not hide him: the fir trees were not like his boughs, and the chesnut trees were not like his branches; nor any tree in the garden of God was like unto him in his beauty. <sup>9</sup>I have made him fair by the multitude of his branches: so that all the trees of Eden, that were in the garden of God, envied him." Ezekiel 31:3-9

In this passage the Bible says that the Assyrian was in Lebanon. Spiritually speaking, the "trees" in this passage refer to men and leaders. Cedar trees are mentioned elsewhere in the Bible as references to Lebanon (*Judges 9:15, Psalms 29:5 & 104:16, Song of Solomon 5:15, Isaiah 2:13, Jeremiah 22:23 and more*).

Notice also in the last of the passage that the Spirit associates the trees with "Eden" that "were in the Garden of God." Lebanon, although not a part of modern political Israel, was a part of the Biblical lands ruled by the Kings of Israel in times past. From this we can infer that the Garden and the source of the rivers of the Garden was somewhere close to the land of Lebanon.

Assuming this postulation is correct, that the source of the four rivers was somewhere near Lebanon, and that the rivers all had a connection to the Great Rift system, the interconnection of the river systems would need to be somewhat like the map below:



What roughly emerges, when all four rivers are connected to trace of the Great Rift fault system, is a complex river network emerging from a common point of origin that flows **both** north and south, with each north and south extension splitting into two separate streams, for a total of four rivers. That adds up to four separate **heads**.

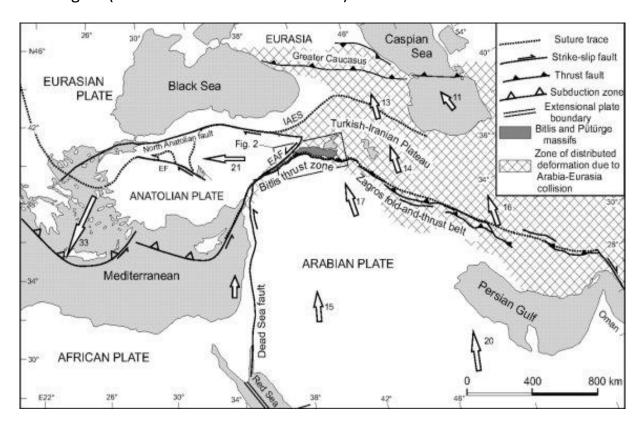
But the so-called Kuwait River, which has been proposed as the lost river Pison, still does not seem to match well with the common denominator of the others the Great Rift and branching fault systems. Based on the description of its path in the Bible which says, "compasseth the whole land of Havilah" and knowing from the geology of present day Yemen that onyx can be found there, then this part of the verse, "where there is gold; And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone" suggests an alternate path for the River Pison, to the south of Yemen, as we mentioned previously. So, when all factors are

considered (*Bible text and geology*), I believe the paths indicated by the dotted lines on the large map below are the probable paths where the four-rivers of the Garden of Eden actually flowed. And a southern path around Yemen puts the fourth river squarely into the basin of the Great Rift system, flowing east from the upwelling Afar Triangle.



These paths meet the requirements of the Biblical text because the single river water source ("head"), originating from high ground somewhere in or near present day Israel, would have originated or flowed down into the Rift Valley basin. Those waters would then need to have been diverted to flow both north and south along the path of the Rift zone, with both the north and south forks each splitting a second time when intercepting other fault zones, to produce a total of four rivers, with four heads.

The chart below is an overview of the known fault systems across the Middle East region (south of the Red Sea excluded):



Keep in mind that the course of rivers around and through the vicinity of the Great Rift fault system may have changed or dried up because of block faulting all along the Rift zone since the times of Adam and Eve. Certainly Horst and Graben faulting along the Rift could, and would, change the surface topography. Horst and Graben faulting is defined as "elongate fault blocks of the Earth's crust that have been raised and lowered, respectively, relative to their surrounding areas as a direct effect of faulting. Horsts and Grabens may range in size from blocks a few centimetres wide to tens of kilometres wide; the vertical movement may be up to several thousand feet."

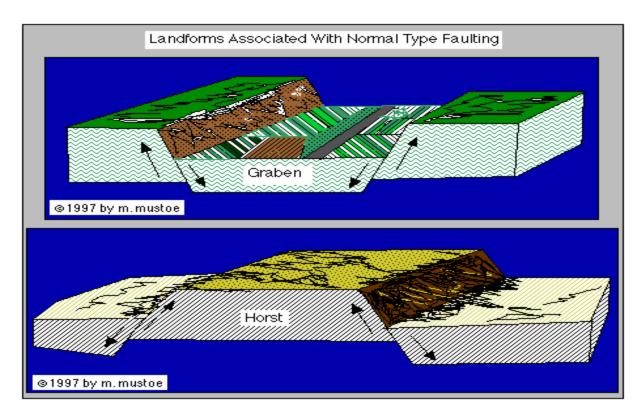


Image courtesy of Dr.M. Mustoe

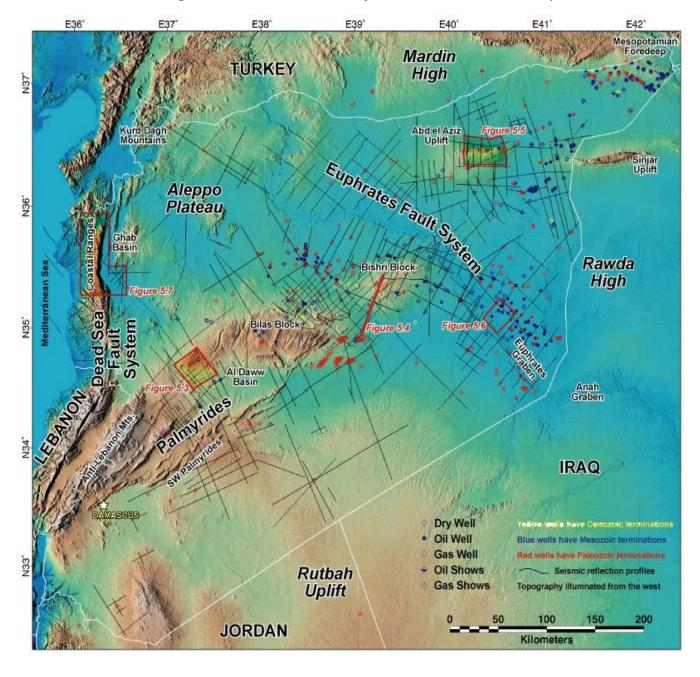
But when did this happen? The most likely time frame would be in the years immediately following Noah's Flood. Keep in mind that the Bible says there was a significant geologic event that happened 101 years after Noah's Flood - The "Earth was divided" (see: Genesis 10:25 & 1 Chronicles 1:19). The Bible also describes what was probably tectonic/volcanic activity in the Rift valley in Abraham's days (the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah - See Genesis 19:28).

Imaging of the Dead Sea indicates that, at one time, the river bed of what is now the Jordan River once flowed across the land surface that is now at the bottom of the Dead Sea. This further suggests that there was Horst and Graben faulting at the southern end of the present Dead Sea, which abruptly terminated the former flow of that river southward and formed the current Dead Sea. And that stream was probably the feeder channel to the ancient Gihon and Pison Rivers, which ran down the floor of what is now the Red Sea into Ethiopia and through the Rift basin south from the Afar Triangle. Supporting coincidental evidence for this is the fact that fish species down in the African Rift valley river and lake systems are very similar to those found in the Jordan River system:

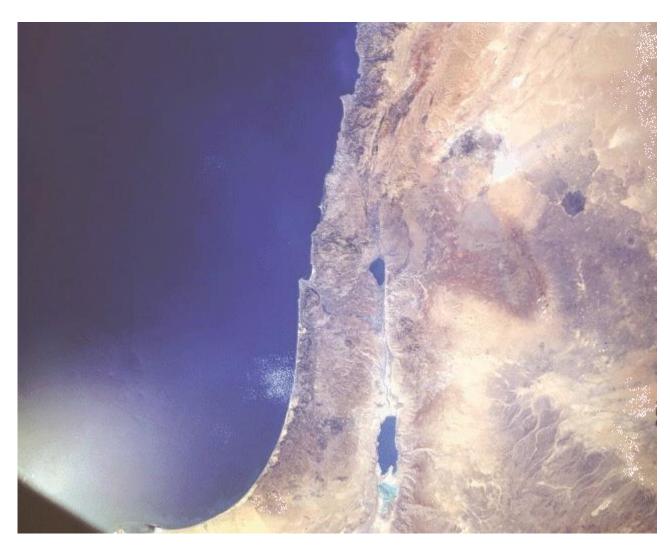
Note: The aquatic life of the African lakes and rivers belongs to the so-called Ethiopian zoogeographical region. According to Annandale, the explanation of the Ethiopian affinity of the fish fauna of the Jordan is that the Jordan formed at

one time merely part of a river system that ran down the Great Rift Valley. The Jordan was one branch of this huge river system, the chain of lakes in East Africa represents the other; and together they opened into the Indian Ocean. See R. Washbourn, The Percy Sladen Expedition to Lake Huleh, 1935, Palestine Exploration Fund, Quarterly Statements, (1936), p. 209. (Source website: The Great Rift and the Jordan)

Now, returning to the general area of Lebanon as the Biblical location of the Garden of Eden and the water source for the four rivers, let us take a look at the present-day geology and topography of that area. This map shows a great deal of block faulting in the area of Lebanon just north of modern-day Israel.



You will note from the topographical relief and surface features that, had waters once flowed north out of Lebanon, they would naturally flow into the Euphrates Fault system river basin. So, at the time of the Garden of Eden, the main headwaters of the Euphrates could have come from that direction. If the water flow at that time continued northward along the path of the Great Rift, it would intersect the present-day Tigris river basin system, as well. That would mean that the present-day head-waters of both rivers, that currently originate in Turkey, may have in older times been only tributaries to both rivers, not the main water source. Below is a satellite image of the entire area.



41G-120-0056 Dead Sea Rift Valley, Israel and Jordan October 1984 Seen from an altitude of 190 nautical miles (350 kilometres)

The prominent bodies of water along the Rift zone in this photo are the Dead Sea (bottom) and Sea of Galilee (top). They are connected by the Jordan River which flows south. Before the Earth was divided by the Rift, the elevations along Great Rift floor were certainly different. What you are looking at in the satellite photo is "ground zero" of what was once the Garden of Eden.

Here is another important point to remember. The Bible says that the river flowed out of Eden, but nowhere does the Bible give a geographical size for what constituted the actual area of Eden. Therefore, the actual source of the waters could have been south of Lebanon. More specifically, those waters could have originated in or near Jerusalem in present-day Israel, or even up welled from a massive spring under the sea of Tiberius, but the river originated here and, from here, branched out north and south along the Rift, then branched out again further north and further south.

Evidence for the Israel/Lebanon region as the location of Eden and the lost river finds considerable support in the Bible, in the fact that God considers the land of Israel as His Holy land. It was upon one of the mountains in the "land of Moriah" (Genesis 22:2) where Abraham was told to sacrifice his son (a type of the Lord's sacrifice of Jesus). Solomon was told to build the Temple "at Jerusalem in mount Moriah" (2 Chronicles 3:1) and Jerusalem was where the Lord Jesus was actually crucified. By extension, we can assume that when God sacrificed an animal to cover Adam and Eve with its skin (Genesis 3:21), that animal was a Lamb (Revelation 13:8). Therefore, we can be certain from the typology that Adam and Eve, and the centre of the Garden of God, were somewhere at or very near geographical Jerusalem. And so was the source of the River.

Now, what exactly do those spiritual realities have to do with the location of the river of Eden? In the future, when the Lord Jesus Christ establishes His Kingdom and Righteous Temple in Jerusalem, the Bible speaks of a river flowing from below the Temple. The prophet Ezekiel spoke of seeing this in a vision:

<sup>1</sup>Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar. <sup>2</sup>Then brought he me out of the way of the gate northward, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looketh eastward; and, behold, there ran out waters on the right side. <sup>3</sup>And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles. Again he measured a thousand, and

brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees. <sup>4</sup>Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins. Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over. <sup>6</sup>And he said unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen this? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river. <sup>7</sup>Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other. 8Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed. <sup>9</sup>And it shall come to pass, that everything that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and everything shall live whither the river cometh. <sup>10</sup>And it shall come to pass, that the fishers shall stand upon it from Engedi even unto Eneglaim; they shall be a place to spread forth nets; their fish shall be according to their kinds, as the fish of the great sea, exceeding many. <sup>11</sup>But the miry places thereof and the marishes thereof shall not be healed; they shall be given to salt. <sup>12</sup>And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine. (Ezekiel 47:1-12)

The above passage is speaking of the future days on the one-thousand-year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ in Jerusalem (*Revelation 20*), and a reconfiguration of the land after the regeneration of the heavens and Earth following the Great Tribulation (*see: Jeremiah 4:23-28 & Isaiah 65:17-25*). At that time, once again, the land will be like the Garden of Eden (*but not quite exactly, from a geological viewpoint*).

What Ezekiel wrote about (above) should not be confused with the eternal future time of the new heaven and Earth that comes after the Great White Throne Judgment (*Revelation 20:11*).

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Rev 21:1-2

And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. Rev 22: 1-2

The difference between the earthly Jerusalem of Ezekiel's description, with a river flowing out from below the house of the Lord (*the Temple*) during the one-thousand-year reign of the Lord (*Revelation 20*), and the river flowing out from the "throne of God" in the New Jerusalem that John wrote about, is that there is NO TEMPLE in the New Jerusalem.

"And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it." Rev 21:22

The Jerusalem and river described in Ezekiel 47:1-12, and the New Jerusalem and river described in Revelation 22:1-2, are two different places in two different times, though very similar in their descriptions, yet different in important ways.

In summary: The Bible tends to indicate that the river from the Garden of Eden originated in the Holy Land, and from there became four heads. A forensic study of the region's geology tends to support the theory over the alternatively proposed locations of Turkey or Kuwait. What we have not shown is a geologic model for the source of these waters originating from the area of Jerusalem. Keep in mind, however, that Jerusalem sits just west of the Great Rift Valley. It is quite possible that the legendary river of Eden originated from a massive artesian aquifer, the source of which has long since been disrupted by block faulting along the Rift. We know for a scientific fact that there is a considerable amount of "fossil" water under the Middle East in the deep-rock sandstone aquifers of the region such as the Nubian sandstone aquifers and equivalent formations.

Also keep in mind that in the days of Adam and Eve a "mist" went up and watered the face of the Earth within the Garden (*Genesis 2:6*). Fountains of waters (*underground waters under pressure gushing upwards*) would certainly be a logical source for the generation of such a mist and would be a logical feed-source for such a river. Certainly, we cannot exclude this possibility. Although the modern-day geology and topography of the Middle-East does not readily reveal the exact location of the Garden of Eden and the four rivers source, guidance by faith from the Holy Bible and a forensic study of the region's geology and topography reveals the matter. The available data appears to suggest that present-day Israel was the central location of the Garden of Eden.

In the next chapter we begin our study about the dynamics of Noah's flood.

### The Fountains of Noah's Flood and the Windows of Heaven



The Bible says that the waters of Noah's flood covered all of the Earth to above the peaks of the tallest mountains:

"And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered. Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered." Gen 7:19-20

If this flood was literal and global, then we are confronted with the "Mount Everest" problem. Located in Nepal, Mount Everest is the Earth's highest peak. It is also the highest peak in a range of mountains stretching across 1,500 miles and containing more than 1000 peaks higher than 20,000 feet.

Mount Everest is presently at a height of 29,028 feet above sea level and getting taller at the rate of about 3-5 millimetres per year. Assuming the tectonic uplift rate of the Himalayan range has been uniform since the days of Noah's flood, Mount Everest would have been only about forty-three (43) feet shorter (28,985 ft.) back in Noah's day. That is still a considerable height, equal to about 5.5 miles above present sea level. It would take a lot of water for the flood to reach that depth - more water than is presently above the crust of the earth. Where did so much water come from and where did it go after the flood?

Before answering that question, let's put this puzzle into perspective. Our Earth is about 25,000 miles in circumference. If it was compared to the size of a basketball, the Earth's crust would be about as thick as a sheet of tissue paper wrapped around it. In a global perspective, 5.5 miles of water above today's sea level is a relatively minute quantity, increasing overall circumference by only 0.044%. Of course, to people on the order of five to six feet in stature, 5.5 miles is a lot. The thing to keep in mind is perspective.

Many Young Earth Creationists (*Creation Scientists*) espouse the theory that most of the Earth's mountains and sedimentary rock strata were formed underwater during Noah's flood by massive global volcanic and tectonic activity. They then conclude that because the mountains formed during the flood, not as much water was needed to cover the Earth to "fifteen cubits" above the highest mountain as Genesis 7:20 requires. Nice try, but no prize.

That answer does not meet the Scriptural or geophysical requirements, as the Bible clearly says that the mountains were already there, and by implication, the continents and tectonic plates were in their present-day locations, give or take a hundred yards to account for 4,000+ years of continental drift. Additionally, the alleged underwater volcanic and tectonic activity, on such a massive scale as proposed by *Creation Science* models, would have produced a great deal of acid which would be detectable as SO4 ions in the Greenland Ice Sheet core record. That evidence is simply not there. This is covered in more detail in another chapter. (See, Global Dust Spikes, Greenland Ice Sheet, Paleoclimate Indicators and Collapse of Civilizations All Correlate to Date of Noah's Flood)

Instead of taking the usual approach - that Noah's Flood could not have happened because of this fact or that fact - let's approach the problem from this angle: Noah's Flood did happen because the Bible is true, so let's try and find answers that can fit the facts, both scientific and Biblical. After all, Jesus Himself confirmed that the flood was a real event (see: Mt 24:37-38; Lu 3:36; Lu 17:26-27), so there must be an explanation. First, let us closely examine the exact wording of the Bible to begin determining the correct answers to this mystery.

"And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth." Gen 6:13

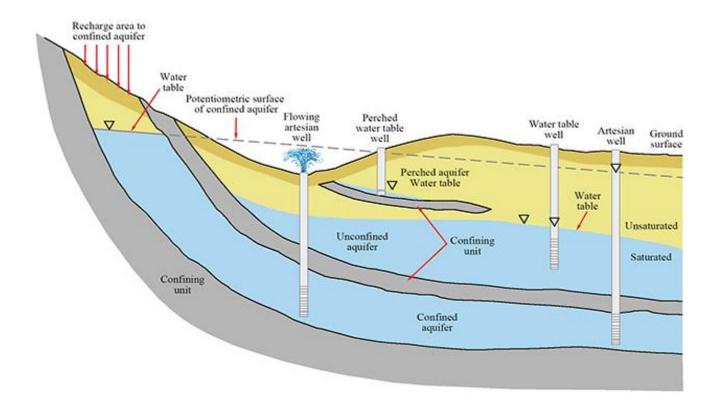
Notice that the Lord says the agency of destruction would be the Earth itself. The planet Earth has three spheres: the core, mantle, crust (*lithosphere*), the seas (*hydrosphere*), and the air in the heaven above (*atmosphere*). All three of these played a part in the destruction of the antediluvian world, so the complete answer is not necessarily confined to just geology but it is confined to the Earth.

"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights." Gen 7:11-12

"The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained;" Gen 8:2

According to the above Scriptures, there were two related sources for the waters of Noah's flood. There were "fountains" of water coming up out of the Earth and there was water coming down from the "windows" of heaven. The fountains began first and triggered a complex chain reaction that brought the rain. These fountains came from below the Earth's crust then affected things far into the upper atmosphere.

There are two types of water fountains that occur in nature. One is called an Artesian well/spring. Artesian wells occur when a hole penetrates into the earth to a region where internal pressure causes the water to flow upward like a fountain.



The internal pressure that drives such fountains is produced when the head of the particular water table penetrated is at a higher elevation than the spring opening. The principle is similar to the gravity pressure that drives water out of your sink tap because the city water supply is stored in an elevated tower above the town.

The second type of fountain is called a geyser. Geysers occur when waters in underground chambers are heated by the surrounding host rock until the pressure and temperature cause them to flash to steam and erupt upwards. When the chamber is emptied, replacement water flows back into the chamber, the replacement water is heated, and the cycle repeats. An excellent example of this is seen in Yellowstone National Park's "Old Faithful" geyser.

According to what is written in the Scriptures, the fountains of Noah's flood may have been a similar form of geyser activity on a massive, world-wide scale, concentrated along the mid-oceanic ridge system and driven by water-saturated magma accumulated below the oceanic crust. A careful reading of Genesis 7:6-10 indicates that the flood waters were already rising for about seven days before the fountains "were broken up" and broke forth in full output.

"And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth. And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood. Of clean beasts, and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of everything that creepeth upon the earth, There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah. And it came to pass **after seven days**, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth. In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the **fountains of the great deep broken up**, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights."

## (Genesis 7:6-12 KJV)

Careful parsing of the above passage indicates that great amounts of water were already being added to the Earth's seas at least seven days before the rains even began. This means that sea level was already rapidly rising, flooding low lying coastal areas and sending panicked low-land inhabitants inland from the rising seas. Meanwhile, presumably up on much higher ground, Noah and his family took shelter in the massive gopher wood vessel which remained firmly nested in its construction frame, unmovable and secure until the rising waters lifted it from its resting place.

The great volume of water this early in the flood event could only come from massive undersea "fountains" beginning to breech the crust all along the midoceanic ridge system. But this preliminary out-flow was still insufficient to breech the ocean's surface. The volume of underwater displacement would, however, be sufficient enough to generate global tsunami (tidal waves) activity, quickly drowning inhabitants who lived near the seas.

Seven days into the flood the undersea fountains broke through the crust in full fury, and the pressure of the flow sent scalding columns of superheated water upwards, breeching the ocean's surface and erupting skyward as a globe-encircling curtain of steam rocketing into the upper atmosphere. As the steam came into contact with the colder air it would condense and produce cloud cover and relentless rainfall on a planetary scale. This is precisely the sequence of events described in this part of the passage:

"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken

up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights." Gen 7:11-12

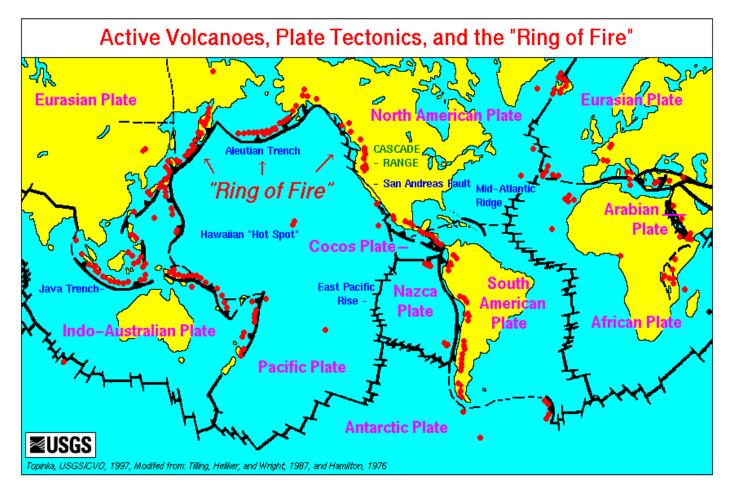
NOTE: Hydrothermal fluid temperatures coming out of present-day vents on the ocean floor can reach 400°C (750°F) or more, but they do not boil under the extreme pressure of the deep ocean. See: <u>Hydrothermal Vents</u>

This first passage, at the beginning of the flood, says that the rains did not begin until AFTER the fountains of the great deep are broken up.

"The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained;" Gen 8:2

The second passage says the rains ceased only AFTER the fountains stopped. This is fully consistent with a geyser-type model.

As briefly mentioned earlier, the most likely geological location for the "fountains" (*geysers*) was along a narrow, globe encircling series of underwater Tectonic Plate boundaries called the mid-oceanic ridge, where the Earth's oceanic crust is currently spreading apart at the rate of a few centimetres per year. This continuous system of faults is seen on a map of the Earth's sea floors as running south down the middle of the Greenland Sea and the North and South Atlantic Oceans. It then extends eastward into the Indian Ocean basin, onward between Australia and Antarctica and into the great Pacific Ocean basin. It then continues northward along the eastern side of the Pacific basin.



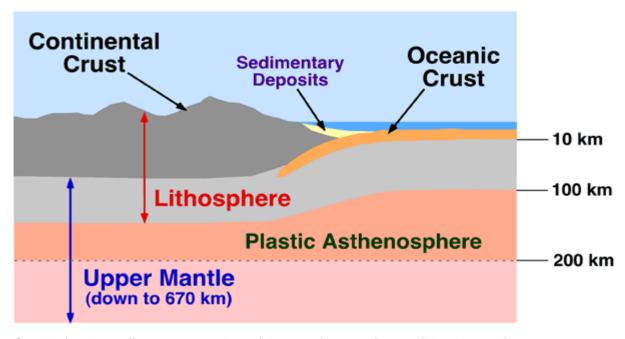
Scientists are studying what they term as a large "open wound" where the Earth's oceanic crust is missing deep under the Atlantic Ocean near that ridge system. What scientists are keen to know is whether the crust was ripped away by huge geological faults, or whether it never even developed in the first place. Could this be an actual location where the fountains of the great deep were "broken up" as the Bible indicates? Read the story: Serpentinite not crust, scientists to find out how part of Earth's crust went missing.

The geysers' source would have been extensive underground reservoirs of magma supersaturated with water that had collected in the regions below the boundary of the oceanic crust and above the underlying mantle region. The next graphic is a simplified schematic cross-section of the Atlantic Ocean basin, with the mid-oceanic ridge at the centre.



Here is an important question to note: Why would magma, supersaturated with water, only accumulate under the crust of the oceans and not under the continents? There are two reasons. First, water, being much lighter than rock, would have gravitated upwards until it was blocked by the crust. It would then tend to pool between the Crust-Mantle boundaries. Secondly, because the Earth's crust is much thinner under the ocean floors (5 - 12 km) than under the continents (35 km average), it would naturally pool where the Earth's crust was thinnest - under the basaltic oceanic basins which ride higher on the mantle.

The underground region where this water-saturated magma would have collected is above a zone called the <u>Asthenosphere</u>, commonly known as the Mohorovic discontinuity. The behaviour of seismic waves passing through that region appears to show relative liquidity as compared to the rock in the regions above and below it. See also: "<u>Keeping Earth's Plates Oiled</u>" and "<u>Lab study suggests small layer of water, CO2 and silicate lies beneath tectonic plates.</u>"

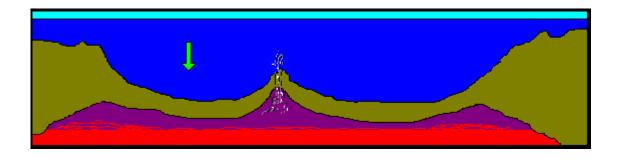


Graphic from https://www.geog.ouc.bc.ca/physgeog/contents/images/lithosphere.gif

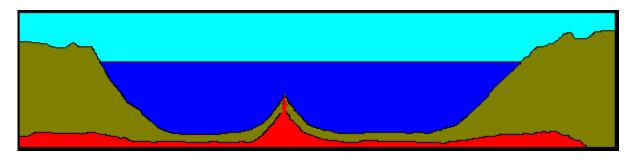
Scientists have found evidence to confirm the presence of large volumes of water deep inside the Earth, enough to fill Earth's ocean basins 10 times over (see also <u>Earth Mantle 'Ocean': 3-D Seismic Model Of Vast Water Reservoir Revealed</u>). Only a fraction of such an amount would be required to raise sea levels to meet the requirements of Noah's flood. By the way, long before scientists learned there were vast amounts of water under the Earth, the Bible already hinted at this fact (*see Exodus 20:4*).

If a large volume of water-saturated magma had pooled under the Earth's ocean basins, it is probable that the oceans were much shallower back then as compared to the Post-Flood times of today. Earth's sedimentary geology is replete with evidence of shallow-water sea depositions. And that same geology reveals fluctuations in global sea levels across geologic time that greatly exceed what could possibly be caused by accumulations and melting at the polar caps. One of the possible explanations put forth to explain this mystery is "sea floor warping" and periodic accumulations and releases of waters from supersaturated magma, as proposed in this model, and that could account for this observation. In addition, it would be more likely that a rupture in the crust would occur, and these waters released, if the accumulation of magma below the oceanic crust was placing great upward pressure against the crust.

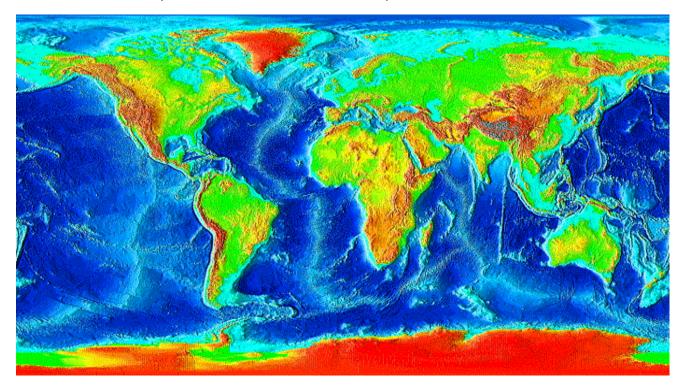
Therefore, we will assume that at the time just before Noah's flood the seas were more shallow than today. If this was indeed the case, then explaining how much of the flood waters rapidly receded becomes simple to explain. Basic law of Physics: For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. After the great volume of waters which were formerly trapped below the Earth's oceanic crust jetted upwards, condensed, and fell into the regions above the oceanic crust, they quickly began to produce an accumulative great reverse-pressure on the thin crust of the ocean floor.



In the meantime, because of the sudden release of the great pressure in the supersaturated magma below the crust, there would have been a relative cooling effect on the remaining magma body. This cooling, along with the loss of the volatiles (the waters), would reduce the volume of the underlying magma chamber, causing it to shrink. This would facilitate the crust being pushed downward by the weight of the surface waters above and thus forming the vast Abyssal plains we see today on both sides of the mid-ocean spreading ridge.



This downward warping of the ocean floors and the mid-oceanic ridge system can be clearly seen in the Global Relief Map below:



Based on sea mount and Continental Shelf evidence (*discussed in detail in the chapter concerning the* Days of Peleg), sea level after Noah's flood abated to a level about 1,000 meters higher today than it was before the flood. And that is the basic proposed geologic component of the Flood Model. Below is a short video we made to help you better visualize the "Fountains" model of the great flood.

#### Video of Fountains of Noah's flood

In the next chapter you will learn about the complex chain reaction this triggered in the Earth's atmosphere and the resultant changes that sharply decreased the life-span of man on this side of the flood.

Before proceeding to other aspects of the flood event, we need to address an objection to this geologic model posed by accepted plate tectonic theory: If sea floor spreading and volcanic activity along the mid-oceanic ridge has been ongoing for millions of years, what explains this anomalous eruption of waters at this particular point in the Earth's history? This is a fair question, for which I only have a Biblical answer.

The reader will note that in the days of Adam the vegetation of the Earth was watered by a mist that came up out of the ground:

"And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. **But there went up a mist from the earth**, and watered the whole face of the ground." Gen 2:2-6

This "mist" seems to indicate that there was a great deal of heated water present under the Earth and relatively close to the surface, or at least making its way to the surface at various places in order to produce this mist. A Divine reconfiguration of the Earth's geology, during the process of the seven days of Genesis when God made the "foundation of the world" (*See the chapter entitled* "Creation or Catabolism?"), is the only possible explanation. Surely the Lord knew that He had created an unstable situation that would eventually cause the flood centuries later in the days of Noah. Granted, this is not a scientific answer, but one that is theologically sound given our understanding of God's omnipotence and foreknowledge.

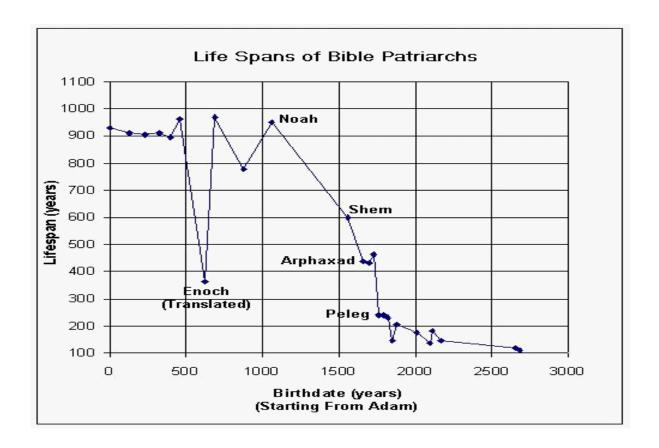
The bottom line is that the geologic conditions that produced the massive geysers of Noah's days, however they came about, no longer exist. Therefore, there can be no repeat of this activity on such a great scale (*See Genesis 9:15 for confirmation*). In other words, the very mechanics and conditions that produced the great flood event self-destructed upon completion of the flood event cycle, thus the geologic changes became permanent. So, unlike the "Old Faithful" geyser, this was a one-time event.

In the next chapter we will discuss why the age-span of mankind greatly decreased after the flood. We will also explain how Noah and his family, to say nothing of all sea creatures, survived being par-boiled by the heat released when the massive geysers erupted in the middle of the Earth's great oceans.

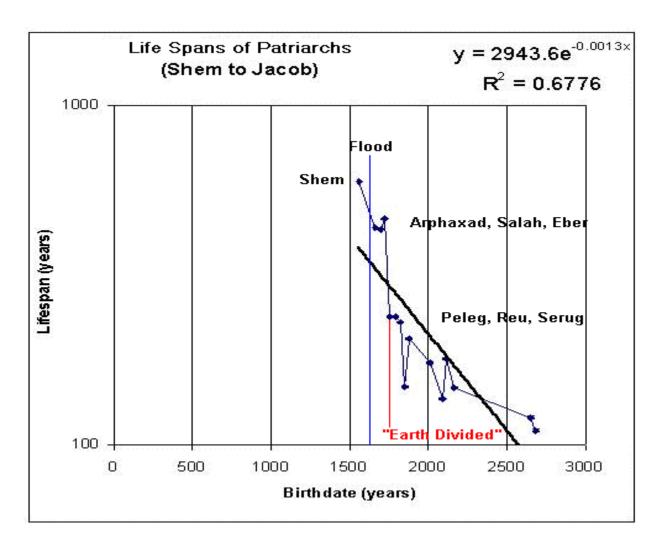
## More on the 'Windows of Heaven' of Noah's Flood



Before we discuss the atmospheric chain reaction that was triggered by the "Fountains of the Deep", and the complexity of the "Windows of Heaven" component of the flood model (Genesis 7:11-12), we need to consider one of the most notable post-flood effects. Specifically, that according to the Bible, the lifespans of mankind dropped almost exponentially following the flood. Obviously, something in the Earth's post-flood environment was very different than before Noah's flood, because before the flood some men lived to be just short of 1,000 years old. Below is a Life Span graph showing the ages of 23 men of the Bible from Adam to Joseph.



The life spans drop sharply immediately following and during the 101year interval between the flood event and the significant post-flood event in the days of Peleg. It then slowly levels out to a less steep decline in the days of the Patriarchs of Israel.



"And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name was Joktan." Gen 10:25

"And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg; because in his days the earth was divided: and his brother's name was Joktan." 1 Chronicles 1:19

We will discuss the specifics of the days of Peleg in the next chapter.

Many theories have been proposed to scientifically explain the long-life phenomenon of pre-flood man. Possible explanations for the decrease in human life spans after the flood range from an increase in the amount of radiation reaching the Earth's surface to changes in the atmosphere's pressure or composition, or a combination of factors.

An analysis of the graphs reveals that Noah, who was born 600 years before the flood, lived only 350 years after the flood but had a total life span of 950 years, which was only 19 years less than Methuselah. His son Shem, who was born only

98 years before the flood, lived 500 years after the flood but had a total life span of only 598 years, or about 2/3 the life span of his father. This data suggests that the level of physical body maturity at the time of the flood may hold the key to understanding the long life spans of antediluvian mankind. In other words, children remained children for much longer, reached puberty much later, and their bodies stayed much healthier through a greatly extended adulthood before the flood.

Support for this assumption comes from the Bible chronology and the notations of when pre-flood men fathered their first offspring. Observe in the record of the Generations of Adam (Genesis chapter 5) and note the ages of listed men and how old they were when they begat their first children: Seth 105 years, Enos 90 years, Cainan 70 years, Mahalaleel 65 years, Jared 162 years, Enoch 65 years, etc. See that pattern? It tends to indicate that men did not become sexually mature until at least 60 or 70 years of age. And those who had their first children many years past that maturity point (i.e. Jared 162, Methuselah 187, Lamech 182, and Noah 500) probably restrained from procreation for social or religious reasons. The bottom line is that pre-flood men of the age of 50 to 60 years were physiologically equivalent to today's teenagers.

In researching the cause of these greatly expanded pre-flood age-spans, my first inclination was that this must be somehow connected with the functioning of the human pituitary gland. But what was different after the flood that could cause the aging process to accelerate? I considered increased amounts of solar and cosmic radiation in the post-flood world as a possibility, but the existence of C14 in organics dating from the times of Adam and even before him ruled out cosmic radiation. I considered the possibility that perhaps the atmosphere of the Earth back in those days may have filtered out some other form of solar radiation. This could have been part of the answer but did not seem to be enough by itself.

Then, while reading an article about <u>Hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) therapy</u> for treating injuries, a possible answer came in a bolt of inspiration: Could it be that the reason men lived longer in pre-flood days was because the Earth's atmospheric pressure was considerably higher back then and that man was originally made to thrive in a higher-pressure, higher oxygen concentrated atmospheric environment?

In Hyperbaric therapy, a person is placed in a pressurized chamber and the air pressure is increased 1 to 2 times that of normal sea level atmospheric pressure (14.7 psi). Under the increased air pressure more oxygen gets into the bloodstream. This process seems to accelerate healing of wounds, promotes

tissue repair, and even favourably affects metabolic rates and the performance of the hormonal systems. In fact, in researching the subject, there appears to be a wide range of medical benefits from living in a pressurized environment. It almost seems to be something that should be natural. So why isn't the world like that today if such conditions are so naturally beneficial? Perhaps before the flood, it was the natural order of things.

# Did Atmospheric Pressure Keep People Younger, Longer?



Pre-flood men of the age of 50 to 60 years were physiologically equivalent to today's teenagers.

If that was indeed the case, then men and women age quicker and start dying sooner these days because we are living in conditions that are not optimal for our original biological design. If the antediluvian world had a much higher atmospheric pressure, then a large volume of Earth's atmospheric gas has since vanished. How and why? We can assume that the ratio of the various gases in the atmosphere back then was similar to today (i.e. nitrogen 78.1%, oxygen 20.9%, argon 0.9%, carbon dioxide 0.035%, water vapour, and other gases), otherwise the difference in chemical composition would show up in the polar Ice Core measurements. And the temperature dependent ratio of oxygen18 to oxygen16 isotopes would not have been affected by differences in air pressure, to the best of my knowledge. I am unaware of any paleo proxy measurement that could verify the possibility of increased atmospheric pressure on the earth at that time, as compared to today.

Some of our Young Earth Creationist brethren have also reached the conclusion that the antediluvian world had a much higher atmospheric pressure. They also

cite the benefits of hyperbaric oxygen as a possible contribution to the longevity of pre-flood mankind. Good for them (every once in a while they get one right), but then they attribute the increased pressure to presence of their mythical "water canopy" that they say God placed above the Earth's atmosphere when He divided the waters (Genesis 1:6) and was the liquid water source for the "windows of heaven" component of the flood. They are wrong on both of those latter assumptions.

What is needed is an antediluvian atmospheric model that, unlike the YEC; s "water canopy" assumption, does not violate the laws of physics and can explain how the Earth's atmosphere became reduced in volume.

Since we have no idea what the actual atmospheric pressure could have been back then, let us assume a figure of about 1.5 to 2 atmospheres (14.7 psi X 2 = 29.4 psi). That would be a range in which the hyperbaric benefits would be close to optimum without the effects of nitrogen narcosis or oxygen toxicity (about equal to scuba diving in 25-30 feet of water).

We next need to determine the total weight of the additional atmospheric gas, and in doing the math we find that the present weight of the atmosphere is 4.99 X 1014 tons. Double that and you have the total weight of an additional atmosphere. Of course about 75% of the additional gas would accumulate close to the ground within the lowest 12 -15 kilometres, so the total height of the upper atmosphere's edge would still be close to what it is at present. Although that total tonnage is quite mind-boggling, it only represents about two millionths of the Earth's total mass; the Earth's gravitational pull would be slightly increased, but not by very much.

One possible additional benefit of a thicker atmosphere would be a reduction in the amount of harmful radiation reaching the Earth's surface. Solar radiation is not a simple, single entity. It actually comprises many forms such as electromagnetic radiation, X-rays, gamma rays, and high-speed particles like electrons, protons, neutrons, and atomic nuclei. This factor, combined with the HBO effect, could have been the difference that allowed antediluvian mankind to reach the great ages declared in the Bible. The full verdict is still out on this matter.

We need to address two other issues: 1) How did Noah's family in the Ark and the marine life in the seas escape being fried by the tremendous volume of heat released by the global geyser activity, and 2) How was the atmosphere reduced to present pressure levels? Let us answer the second question first.

When the "fountains" (a belt of geysers along the global oceanic ridge system) began on the Earth, creating the world-wide cloud cover and heavy rains, beginning seven days into the flood sequence, the heat energy from those geysers would have naturally travelled upward as a column. Upon encountering the colder air in the upper atmosphere, the steam would condense and rain would be precipitated. We're talking about rapidly soaring thermal air currents on a massive scale that would also drag heated atmospheric heavy gasses (oxygen - nitrogen, etc.) upwards into the higher elevations, as well. As all this heat accumulated in the upper regions, the sphere of the Earth's atmosphere would expand, pushing outwards and further away from Earth's gravity-well. If through this heating the atmosphere distended enough, portions of it would be ripped from the Earth's gravitational field by the sun's solar winds. Those gases would be lost into space. Consequently, after the flood and after the heat source abated, the upper atmosphere would begin to cool and shrink back to more normal size. But with great volumes of atmospheric gasses lost through this process, remaining air pressure at sea level would be reduced to present-day levels.

As for how Noah's family and Earth's marine life survived, they were protected by the dense cloud cover and the heavy rains. For a couple of reasons, the critics are incorrect in arguing that the heat from the geysers would fry everything on the surface of the Earth. First, heated air rises and most of the heat from the geysers would be dissipated high above the Earth's surface. Second, radiant heat (infra-red) from the ascending mix would not travel far horizontally, because of the heavy precipitation falling below the cloud cover. That cloud cover would act as a shield from the heat accumulating in the regions above the cloud cover. The rainfall would have been warm, but not overly so.

And at this juncture another important point should be made. All the waters falling from the heavens would have been FRESH WATER. Because salt water is denser than fresh water, a large fresh water "lens" would have formed on top of the saline ocean basins and especially over submerged continental areas. This fact can go a long way in accounting for the survival of fresh-water fish and some forms of vegetation. The Bible says that at least one olive tree survived in the earth and sprouted fresh leaves after the flood waters subsided (see Genesis 8:11). If olive trees could survive those conditions, certainly the <u>old Bristlecone pine trees</u> could as well.

That completes this proposed flood model. Is this a farfetched model? You be the judge. It is only an hypothesis, but meets the requirements of the literal wording of the Bible and does so through the agency of observable scientific principles.

In the next chapter we will discuss the days of Peleg" and the post-flood world.





Question: Noah's Ark came to rest on a peak of the "mountains of Ararat." This is a mountain range situated between the Black and Caspian Seas in southern Armenia. The Bible does not say that the Ark came to rest atop Mount Ararat in Turkey. More likely, as indicated by the travel direction of the people who migrated into the place called Babel (see: Genesis 11:2), the Ark came to rest on a mountain top farther to the east near the present-day northern Iraq/Iran region. That fact could also explain the flood legend in the fabled *Epic of Gilgamesh* that predates the writing of the books of Moses. But how did humans and animals quickly migrate to the other continents like Australia and North America, which are presently separated by the seas?

To begin to answer this important question we must examine another lesser-known, but important event that occurred on the Earth about one hundred years after Noah's flood:

"And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one [was] Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name [was] Joktan." Gen 10:25

"And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of the one [was] Peleg; because in his days the earth was divided: and his brother's name [was] Joktan." 1Chro 1:19

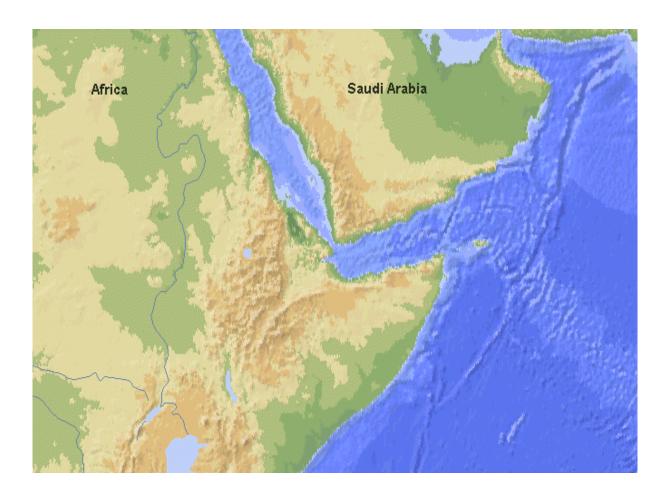
In the Hebrew language the name "Peleg" means a dividing by a "small channel of water" and is also root associated with the meaning of an earthquake. The Hebrew word translated as "divided" in the passage means to "split" something. According to the Bible genealogy, this man named Peleg was born 101 years after the flood. No doubt this Peleg was so named because of an event of great significance to the people living at the time he was born. The fact that this dividing event is mentioned by the Holy Spirit in TWO places in the Scriptures, and that the EXACT number of years between this event and the flood is also recorded, alludes to the importance of these passages in the interpretation of post-flood history.

Some Creationists have interpreted this event to be the division of the North and South American continents from the European and African continents by the Atlantic Ocean after the flood. But a division of such magnitude at that point in geologic time would invalidate our previously proposed flood model. It would also invalidate accepted paleo magnetic data which supports gradual sea floor spreading at the mid-Atlantic ridge. Besides, the Atlantic Ocean is no "small channel of water" between land masses. Obviously, that is not the answer we are looking for.

After examining the Hebrew meanings, a more plausible alternative interpretation would be that it describes an earth-splitting event such as a valley opening in the ground and filling with water. That could have happened anywhere along the Dead Sea Rift zone (discussed in detail later) and may have been associated with a delayed adjustment of the Earth's plates in response to the rapid subsidence of the sea floors by the flood.

In theory, when the weight of the waters of the flood forced the sea floors downward to fill the void left in the magma chambers beneath, strain would have developed between the oceanic and continental portions of the crustal plates. Consequently, tectonic pressures were redistributed. About 100 years later the strain and pressure redistribution may have caused the Earth's crust to rapidly rent in weaker places, much like a piece of ridged plastic which can be stretched and deformed. It will eventually snap if the strain remains constant. An abrupt further change in sea levels could possibly accompany such an event.

Looking at world relief and tectonic maps, one possible location of the effects of this Peleg event is found in Middle East. It is called the Afar Triangle.

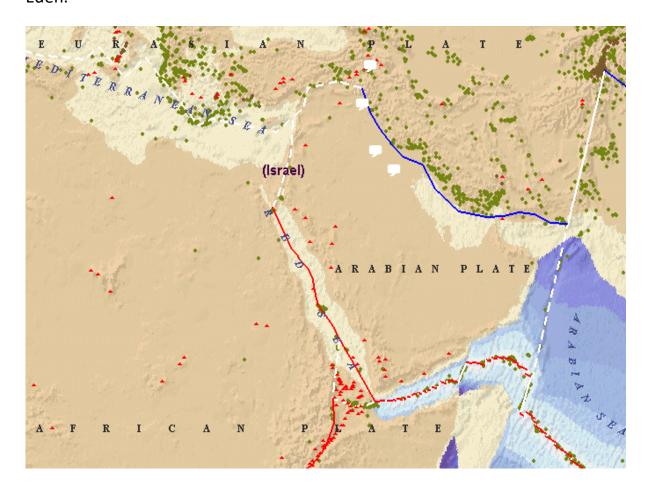


If you will examine the relief map (above), you can see where there was a geologically recent rent of Saudi Arabia from Africa. This is a fracture in the continental crust and is different from deep ocean divergence zones. If you will look closely, you can see where a mountain range was sheared and dragged apart.

The Afar fracture is a three-way split, which some geologists believe is caused by an upwelling magma plume, for lack of a better engine. The area on the African continent running south-west from that fracture locus is the Great African Rift Valley which runs down into the middle of the African continent. The area going north runs along the bottom of the Red Sea, up into the Dead Sea Rift area of Israel, up the Jordon river valley, and continues northward. This Peleg event is most likely a local reference to a widening of that Rift somewhere near or north of Israel.

The next image is a view of the Afar Triangle's tectonic features. In all likelihood, this Rift system was already active before Noah's flood, but Noah's flood triggered renewed activity. I state that because the path of the Rift from Israel continues to run south for the entire length of Ethiopia. It seems to match the

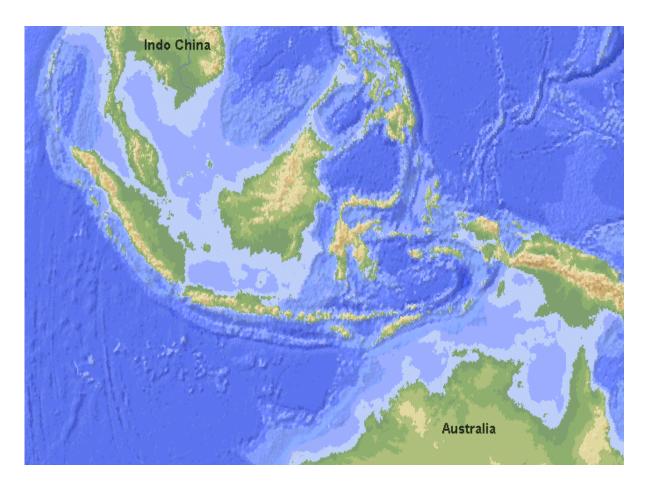
described path of the river Gihon, one of four that flowed from the Garden of Eden.



"And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia." Gen 2:13

If that is true, then there has been considerable tectonic activity since the Garden of Eden, and Noah's flood may have been just a contributing driver of latter changes.

Now, as for how man and animals got to places like Australia and the Americas, it is possible that they migrated there on dry land during the 101-year interval between the flood and the subsequent plate settling. Possibly, sea levels may have risen quite a bit since the post-flood migrations began, and even more after the Days of Peleg. An examination of the geology of the region between Indochina and Australia shows that the sea between the two continental masses is relatively shallow.



The same is true of the Bearing Straits separating Alaska from Russia, where the waters are only about 50 feet deep between the tip of Asia and North America. It is theoretically possible that in the 101 years following the flood, and before the events of Peleg's days, narrow land bridges (which today are submerged) may have still existed between many places across the globe. The fact that the ruins of many ancient cities in the Mediterranean Sea area, which postdate the time of Noah's flood and are found underwater today, tells us that global sea levels have increased by several meters since those cities were built, or there has been wide-spread subsidence since then. Regardless, an appeal to present-day sea levels is not a valid argument against post-flood migrations to regions now inaccessible across dry land.

Assuming that some land bridges existed briefly after the flood by whatever mechanism, the question is: Did man and beast have sufficient time to migrate from the resting place of the Ark to other continents before the dividing? Well, let's do the math:

If you calculate the distance from eastern Mesopotamia to the tip of Australia and divide it by 100 years, you will find that both man and beast would only have to migrate less than 80 miles a year (0.21 miles a day) in order to reach Australia; less than 55 miles a year (0.15 miles a day) to reach North America via the Bearing

Straits; and less than 48 miles a year (0.13 miles a day) if a land bridge (or possibly an ice bridge) existed across the northern polar regions. Those average daily distance requirements are much less than most people walk each day in their normal routines. The data support the Scriptures.

"These [are] the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread." Gen 9:19

Shortly after the Ark landed on the mountains of Ararat, the families of mankind spread across the world. At that point in time mankind all spoke a common language and the bulk of them appear to have migrated westward, although it is safe to assume that some settled near the place where the Ark came to rest, and the oral tradition of Gilgamesh and the flood probably originated with the latter. Those people who did migrate westward are spoken of in Genesis 11:1-2:

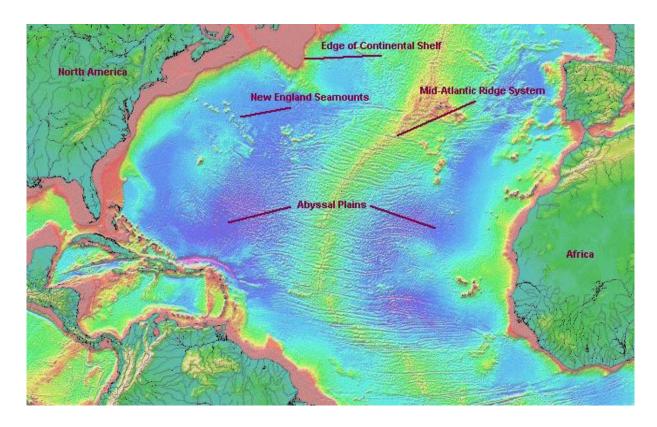
"And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed <u>from the east</u>, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there." Gen 11:1-2

That land of Shinar is Babel (Babylon), and there the Bible says the Lord confounded their language and from there they scattered out across the face of the Earth.

Linguistic researchers have put forth the results of studies which tend to indicate that all the <u>Indo-European languages originated in ancient Turkey</u>. Although the given time frame of this occurrence is off by a few thousand years (and is probably conjecture), it is very interesting to see that otherwise it is in close agreement to where the Bible tells us what happened at Babel in the post-flood world.

## **Other Evidence of Geologically Recent Sea Level Changes**

The geology of the Earth's oceans shows evidence of major, and in some cases, rapid fluctuation in sea level across recent geologic history. Such evidence can be found in areas near the continental margins. In the Atlantic Ocean, just off the New England coast, there is an underwater mountain chain that is evidence of this.



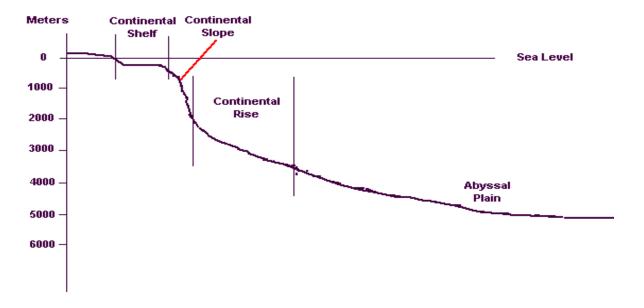
The New England Seamount chain stretches about 1,600 miles southeast of New England. This chain has more than 30 major peaks, all a kilometre (3,281 feet) or more below the surface. There is evidence to confirm that the tops of these seamounts were once at or above the surface of the ocean in the relatively recent past. Deep-sea dredging of some of these seamounts brought up Eocene (37-58 mya) limestone, which is of shallow water origin. In a subsequent visit to the seamount in the research submarine Alvin, there was the first eyewitness observation reported of dead coral. (Coral only grows near the surface.) Rock samples were also collected which contained bits of dead algae (which only grows within 100 meters of the surface). The conclusion is that these seamounts have either subsided on the order of one kilometre since the Eocene, or that sea level has changed drastically since the Eocene.

Research references: J.R. Heirtzler, et al, "A Visit to the New England Seamounts" American Scientist 65 (1977). Wolfgang Schlager "The Paradox of Drowned Reefs and Carbonate Platforms" Bulletin of the Geological Society of America 92 (1981). Harold L. Levin "Contemporary Physical Geology", Crustal Deformation and Global Tectonics, page 290, figures 9-38 & 9-39, (1981)

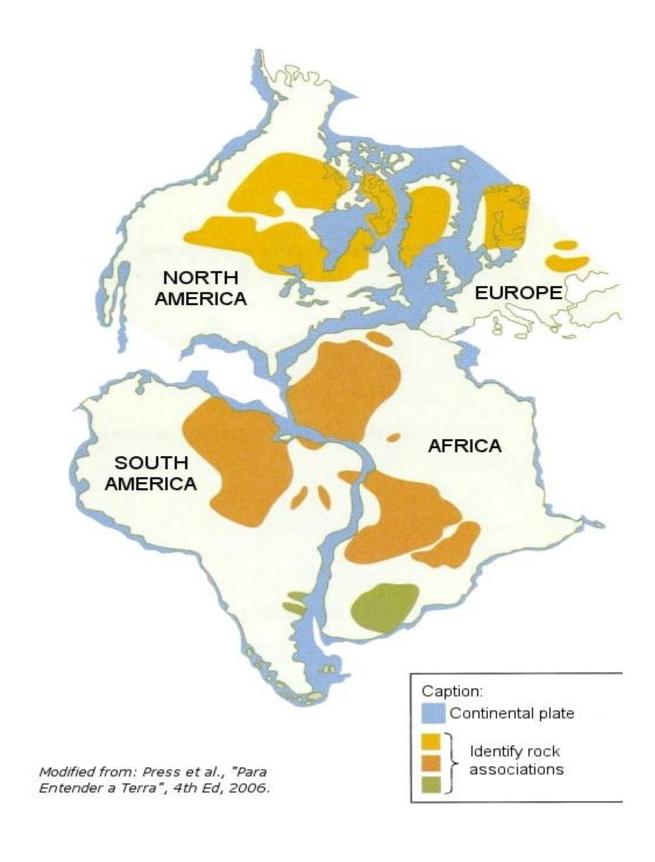
This conclusion, however, presents a logical problem to mainline science, as coral reefs grow at known rates that would easily stay ahead of geological subsidence of the seamount. They would stay ahead of sea floor spreading by continental drift, and they would stay ahead of gradual elevations in sea level, as assumed

under Uniformitarism Earth Science paradigms. The New England Seamounts are not unique. Similar recorded occurrences of finding shallow water sediments, reefs, and carbonate platforms in deep water regions have been recorded in many other places in the Earth's oceans, so the New England Seamounts are not an isolated anomaly. Since gradual processes are inadequate to explain the New England Seamount observations, or observations elsewhere, the alternative conclusion is that either the sea floor sank catastrophically, or that extraordinary volumes of water were added catastrophically, or both.

A combination of sea floor downward warping AND increased sea level resulting in deeper ocean basins following Noah's flood would appear a plausible explanation for finding shallow water sediments in deep water regions today. Is there other undersea evidence to support this theory? Yes! It should be noted that the tops of the submerged New England Seamounts are at the same approximate depth as the edge of the Continental shelf, which is also at a depth of about 1000 meters worldwide.



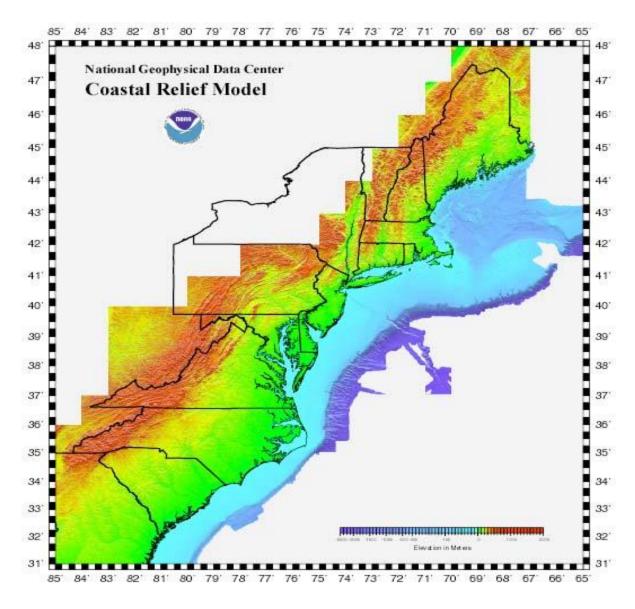
This edge is called the Continental Slope, a zone where the sea floor plunges sharply downward to the Continental Rise and the even deeper abyssal plains. This slope's contour, worldwide, delineates the actual edges of the continents.



All of the world's continents have their closest "fit" at the present 1000-meter sea level depth if you put then back together like a giant jigsaw puzzle. Although the thicker and relatively lighter granitic continents have drifted apart over time,

they essentially have retained the same general shape in respect to their contact with the thinner and heavier basaltic oceanic basins.

Along the outer edges of the relatively flat Continental Shelf, near the Continental Slope zone, are numerous underwater "canyons" which cut downward sharply into the floor of the shelf. These canyons are similar to ones cut by fast-flowing waters eroding away rock as observed on land when the flow gradient is very steep. For example, in a portion of a river that drops 800 feet in five miles, the water speed and erosion power is much greater than a portion of river that only drops eight feet in five miles.

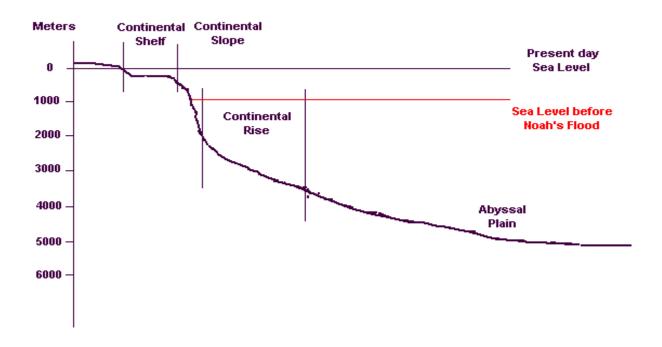


Over 80% of the canyons on the edge of the Continental Shelf can be directly traced back across the relatively flat plain of the Continental Shelf, following now

submerged river beds to the mouths of rivers that exist today. This reveals that most of the underwater canyons are clearly extensions of those same present-day rivers, and those canyons were likely cut when the continents stood higher above sea level. In the NOAA graphic above you can see these canyons on the edge of dark blue area.

If the Earth's ocean level was 1000 meters lower before Noah's flood, the canyons are easily explained by the force of the river waters running off the flat land of the present Continental Shelf (which would have been above sea level at that time) and down the relatively steep edges of the continental slope. The rivers would have eroded deep channels in the rock, at the edge of the shelf, as they plunged sharply downward to the antediluvian sea level. High-velocity turbidity currents carrying silt and rock particles could further erode the canyons in post-flood times after they were submerged below today's prevailing sea level.

The existence of the submerged river beds across the shelf indicate that at some time in the past, the Continental Shelf was above sea level, and rivers flowed gently across those coastal plains until they reached the edge area. Near the edge zone the gently flowing rivers turned into cascading rapids and falls, the accelerated flow and sediment load further eroding the deep canyons.



Combining the drowned reefs of the New England Seamounts and the submerged river beds of the Continental Shelf, we have observable physical evidence that supports the flood model. The data suggest both that the floors of the great ocean basins sank to greater depths and that sea level is about 1000 meters higher today than it was before the flood.

In the next chapter we will discuss why the Earth's sedimentary deposits were made well before Noah's flood and are not, as Young Earth Creationists claim, proof of Noah's flood.

Sediments, Fossils, and Noah's Flood. NOT!



Proponents of "Creation Science", who hold to the belief that the planet Earth is only about 6,000 years old, preach that the vast sedimentary deposits of the Earth's crust were deposited during Noah's flood and that all the fossils found within that strata are the result of creatures that died during that flood. The Scriptures, the Earth's geology, and a little reasoning and common sense expose the fallacy of that false belief system.

The Bible says that the Earth's mountains are very, very old:

"And for the chief things of the ancient mountains, and for the precious things of the lasting hills," Deut 33:15

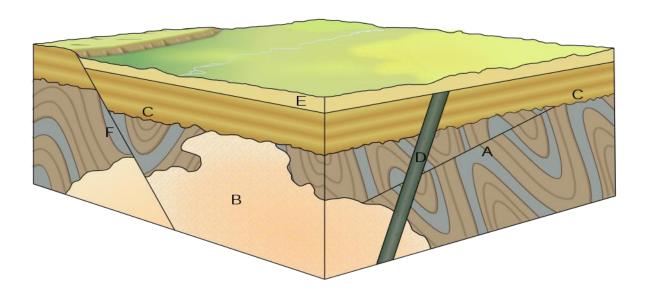
When Noah's flood occurred, the Scriptures say the waters of the flood covered the tops of the mountains, so the present-day mountains already existed:

"And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters. And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that [were] under the whole heaven, were covered. Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered." Gen 7:18-20

Geologic Fact: Portions of most of the Earth's mountain ranges are composed of sedimentary strata or metamorphosed sediments which contain fossils (the evidence of living creatures long since dead and buried). Three examples are the Appalachian mountain range of the eastern United States (one of the older ones), the Alps of Europe, and the Himalayas of Asia (one of the younger ones). The sedimentary layers that were uplifted to form these great mountain ranges are many thousands of feet thick in places and well above sea level today. In many places, especially in the older Appalachian range, angular unconformities abound, showing where ancient sediments have been tilted and partially eroded, with newer more horizontal sediments being deposited atop the tilted erosion contact surface.

Diagram illustrating cross-cutting relations in geology. These relations can be used to give structures a relative age.

Explanations: A - folded rock strata cut by a thrust fault; B - large intrusion (cutting through A);
C - erosional angular unconformity (cutting off A & B) on which rock strata were deposited;
D - volcanic dyke (cutting through A, B & C); E - even younger rock strata (overlying C & D); F - normal fault (cutting through A, B, C & E).



If these mountains existed before Noah's flood (which the Bible says they did), and these mountains were formed from uplifted sediments containing fossils (go climb a mountain and see them with your own eyes), then the creatures that these fossils came from all died sometime long BEFORE the great flood.

In the Appalachian mountain range, you can drive down Interstate highway I-64 from the West Virginia/Kentucky border eastward into Virginia and see deep road cuts exposing repeating sequences of coal, sandstone, siltstone, shale, coal again, shale, etc. The presence of neat, multiple seams of coal in the sequence indicates periods of time when the surface of the land was above sea level, allowing vegetation to flourish, die, and accumulate



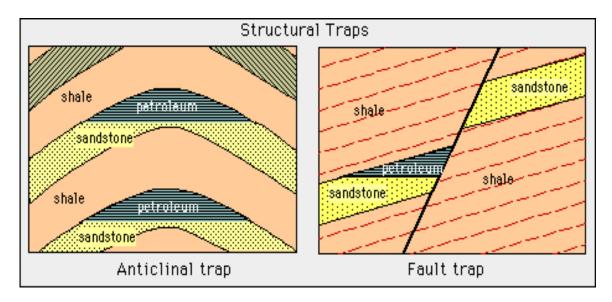
The sequences of sandstone, shale, siltstone and the like indicate submerged or delta associated deposits. Because it takes vegetation time to grow, die and accumulate, you can be sure that these kinds of alternating coal/rock sequences, which contain coal seams ranging from inches to several feet thick, required many, many years to form. (Coal is formed from the remains of trees and ferns.)

According to the Bible, Noah's flood only lasted one year; therefore, it is impossible for these strata to have been formed by a single global flood event. These formations are orderly and well differentiated, which is uncharacteristic of deposits left by rapid flooding and deposition. In many locations these sequences, which originally formed in a horizontal position, are now tilted at various angles; some are now vertical and others have been found to be turned upside down. The tectonic processes to accomplish this require millions of years. You can be sure it occurred long before Noah's days, not during a one-year flood.

Further, if you take the time and effort to calculate the amount of carbon in the coal that has already been mined on the Earth, and couple it with known deposits that have yet to be mined, there is no possible way that the amount of vegetation required to make that much coal could have been growing on the face of the Earth during any single year.

It takes great pressures and long periods of time for sediments to compact and cement into very hard rock. There was insufficient time in a one-year flood period to produce the massive sedimentary deposits of the Appalachians, to say nothing about the differentiation of all the sedimentary layers. And here is

another show-stopper: Whatever materials and debris may have been left on the land after the waters of Noah's flood receded would have been quickly eroded away by rains in a few brief years following the flood. THAT is why there is no remaining widespread physical surface evidence of a world-wide flood today. And if the "fountains" of Noah's flood were mid-oceanic geysers on a massive scale, there would have been very little sediment load in the flood waters outside of what was washed down from the mountains of the land areas during the 40 days and nights of torrential rains.



Petroleum (oil) is a complex mixture of hydrocarbons which occurs in many places in the upper strata (sedimentary rock layers) of the Earth's crust. In some instances, petroleum seeps to the surface. The <u>La Brea Tar Pits</u> of southern California are an excellent example of such an occurrence. If the sedimentary rocks which contain the petroleum were formed by Noah's flood, where did Noah get the bitumen he used to seal the joints of the Ark to make it waterproof, BEFORE the flood?

"Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch." Gen 6:14

The English word "pitch" is from the Hebrew word "kopher" which is bitumen, an asphalt-like form of petroleum.

Speaking of the formation of hydrocarbons like petroleum and coal, here is another fact that the proponents of "*Creation Science*" overlook: That is the sheer volume of hydrocarbon supply and use on the Earth. If you just add up the

amount of 'fossil-fuels' consumed since the year 1751 A.D. (which was roughly the start of the Industrial Revolution). The amount of biological mass required to produce that which has already been consumed would require 13,300 years of accumulated growth on the surface of the Earth. (Source: Discover Magazine April 2004, page 11, "What's in a Gallon of Gas?" ) And the Earth is only about 6,000 years old, Einstein?

Conclusion: When you honestly think through all these considerations, it becomes quite clear that the fossils of the Earth's sedimentary rock layers have been there a long, long time. Those creatures were dead and buried, and the strata was already present on the planet when we find the Earth void and without form at Genesis 1:2. No other interpretation meets all the criteria of truth. Are we saying that Noah's global flood did not happen? No! Noah's flood happened exactly as the Bible says it did. What we are saying is that the Earth's sedimentary rocks were not made by Noah's flood and are NOT the evidence of Noah's flood. The real indirect evidence for Noah's flood is discussed in the next chapter.

Global Dust Spikes, Greenland Ice Sheet, Paleoclimate Indicators and collapse of Civilizations All Correlate to Date of Noah's Flood



In July 1993, the Greenland Ice Sheet Project Two (GISP2) completed drilling down 3,053.44 meters through the ice and 1.55 meters beyond into the underlying bedrock. From this was recovered the deepest ice core record to date. One year earlier the European Greenland Ice Core Project (GRIP) recovered a core to a depth of 3,028.8 meters at a site 30 kilometres east of GISP2. Comparative data between these two deep cores have allowed scientists to develop an ice core-derived paleo environmental record dating back greater than 110,000 years BP (BP means "before present" and "BP" is defined as 1950).

The establishment of this 100,000+ year BP record of Earth's atmospheric history in the ice has been fairly well calibrated with proxy dating methods. The annual layer counting of visible ice stratification, when compared to radiocarbon extracted from the CO2 gas trapped within the ice and other measurement techniques, has yielded an age error factor of about 2% from present to 11.64 years BP; about 5% to 17.38 years BP; and 10% to about 40,000 years BP. In other words, the ice has been confirmed to be as old as the collective measurements indicate. These data alone destroy the core doctrine of the theory of Young Earth Creationism that the Earth is only about 6,000 years old.

In addition to the actual age of the ice at any given depth in the core, scientists can also determine the mean temperature of the Earth's past climate for different times and ages by measuring the ratio of the isotopes of oxygen (O16 and O18) gas present in the CO2. Full details of this and other techniques and further references to GISP2 and GRIP projects can be found here: GISP2 Ice Coring Effort.

Secular critics of Young Earth Creationism cite the very existence of the Greenland Ice Sheet and the paleo environmental record it contains (as well as the data found in ice cores from the glaciers on Kilimanjaro in Africa and Huascaran in Peru) as absolute proof that the Earth is older than 6,000 years and that Noah's flood did not occur, since there are no indications of a flood in the ice core layers. On the first point they are absolutely correct. On the second point, we disagree that the lack of direct evidence in the ice proves that a global flood did not take place at all. There is certainly much "indirect" evidence to consider and we will detail that on this page.

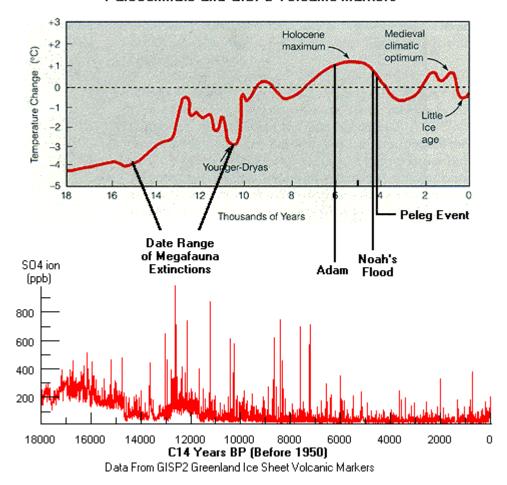
The ice core records, whether in Greenland or mountain top glaciers around the globe, are replete with "melt" indicators. These are layers where an indeterminate amount of the surface ice has been melted between accumulations. The resolution of the layer dating at GISP2 is about 3.8 years. Therefore, pinning down a one-year flood sequence to definitively prove or

disprove Noah's flood in the ice core record is problematic. Whether the ice was floated off its anchor rock by Noah's flood, or remained stuck fast to the rock and was submerged by the flood waters, would make no difference. In either scenario the top layers would have been washed over by fresh (not salt) water, resulting in a "melt" layer or hiatus in accumulation, in the former case by rains; in the latter case through inundation by a rapidly rising fresh water lens. What is important is the fact that the Greenland Ice Sheet and mountain glaciers exist and have calibrated dated layer points between them. We can learn from these if we know what to look for, and where.

If our Bible is true when it tells us Noah's flood was a real and global event that, according to the Biblical chronology, happened about 2,345 B.C. (roughly 4,300 years BP), and if the GISP2 and GRIP data are also true, the only possible explanation is that the bulk of the material which constitutes the basement of the present Greenland Ice Sheet somehow survived that flood. Actually, it would have needed to survive two floods, as the Earth was also flooded before the six-day regeneration. (see Genesis 1:2.) If that is true, the Paleoclimate data from the ice cores can give us insight into environmental conditions, not only after the seven days of Genesis but also before the seven days. What has accumulated on the ice since Noah's flood can tell us about the environment from then until the present.

The top portion of the next graphic shows the global temperature trends across 18,000 years BP, determined by Paleoclimate proxy data. The black lines on the lower left side show where in the timeline the last great mass extinction episode took place according to Palaeontology. The black lines on the lower right indicate where Biblical history and events fit into the Earth's Paleoclimate record.

## Paleoclimate and GISP2 Volcanic Markers



(Top-half of composite Graphic base image from "Meteorology Today" by C. Donald Ahrens 1994 West Publishing Co.)

The bottom half of the graphic shows the GISP2 record for levels of SO4 ions (acid) in the Earth's atmosphere across the same 18,000 years BP. The ion concentrations reflect relative levels of global volcanic activity at given intervals across the timeline.

The information on the composite graphic reveals several very important things. From the days of Adam until Noah's flood (Holocene Maximum), the Earth's average temperature was about 1º C higher than in the years after the flood. An average temperature elevation of only 1º will translate into temperatures several degrees warmer in the higher latitudes of the Earth. For what it is worth, even with all the millions of tons of so called "greenhouse gases" that have been added to the atmosphere over the last two centuries, the measured greenhouse effect has so far only increased average global temperatures by less than about half a degree C of what it was before Noah's flood. So it is safe to conclude that the

world between Adam and Noah was relatively much warmer compared to our world today.

It should also be pointed out that at the time of Noah's flood (roughly 4,300 years BP), there is no large spike of volcanic markers. This suggests that the Young Earth flood models, all of which are based on suppositions of massive global underwater tectonic and volcanic upheavals, have no basis in fact in the Paleoclimate record. If you will examine the bottom part of the above chart closely you will see that the SO4 ion concentration at 4,300 years BP shows the very lowest levels measured across the entire 18,000 years BP timeline. This is in sharp contrast to the heightened volcanic activity on the Earth at the time of the Pleistocene extinctions and through the period immediately before the creation of Adam and the seven days of the Earth's regeneration. This level of volcanic markers is unequalled in the period 6,000 years to present. This volcanic activity was obviously a contributing factor (or a component, at least) to the death of the old-world order.

Returning to the graph at the top of the chart, we see the Earth's climate temperature rapidly dropping roughly 1.8º C beginning about 4,300 BP. That is well within the exact time frame for directly after Noah's flood. This would be consistent with a relatively sudden and dramatic climate change, or the introduction of very pronounced yearly weather seasons, or both. The Bible alludes to such a change occurring directly after the flood:

"While the earth remained, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." Gen 8:22

What is extremely interesting is that the Greenland Ice Sheet, the Mount Kilimanjaro glacier in Africa, the Huascaran glacier in Peru and even the undersea sediments of the Gulf of Oman, all have anomalous indicators that correlate to around 4,300 to 4,000 years BP. These have been interpreted as markers suggesting extreme climate changes that are theorized to have precipitated the collapse of many ancient civilizations like the Old Kingdom of Egypt and the Akkadian Empire of Mesopotamia.

In these papers on historical environmental extremes, there appears to be a recurring pattern of great drought, abandonment of settlements and delayed reoccupation of the abandoned settlements. For example, review the evidence presented in the paper, "Climate change and the collapse of the Akkadian

<u>Empire</u>: <u>Evidence from the deep-sea</u>." Here is another article on the subject entitled "<u>Sea Floor Dust</u>" From these papers you should note the following facts:

- 1. The time frame, determined by radiocarbon dating, is 4,170 BP +/- 150 cal yrs. That fits the time of Noah's flood (within the dating margin of error).
- 2. Note the sharp spike in CACO3 and dolomite in the sediments of the Gulf of Oman and their abrupt "spike" date of 4,194 BP. Again, taking the margin of error into account, it fits the post-flood times.
- 3. Note that the author attributes the sediments in the Gulf of Oman to "dust" blown in from neighbouring land areas, thus the conclusion that it indicates a great drought.
- 4. Note the observation that the settlements remained abandoned for nearly 300 years.

The author of the paper has correctly deduced from the data that a sudden and dramatic climate change occurred, severe drought conditions started, and the settlements were abandoned and all about the time indicated by the radiocarbon measurement of the organic artifacts cited. The author has not identified the cause of climate shift or proven that the drought caused the abandonment of the settlements, but has made an assumption on the latter based on the evidence and the thesis of the work and the prevailing preoccupation with 'Climate Change' in academia and the media.

Needless to say, the author never even considered the possibility that the cause of the sudden and extreme climate shift may have had something to do with the Biblical Noah's flood.

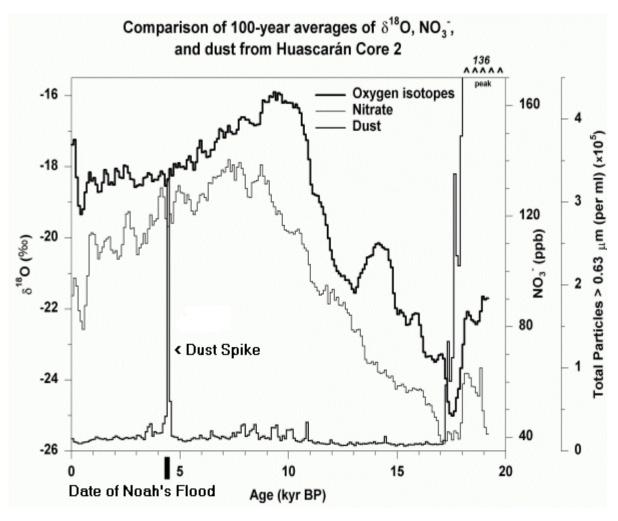
You ask, "What can a drought and dust possibly have to do with a global flood?" The short answer is: **Everything!** 

Applying the same data to a different thesis, I submit that following a global flood the Earth would have experienced catastrophic drought conditions shortly after the waters abated, and the dust anomaly is evidence of this. It can be argued that it was not the drought that caused the sudden abandonment of the Akkadian Empire settlements - it was Noah's flood that caused it by drowning out the inhabitants. The drought conditions, which would have followed the flood because much of the Earth's vegetation had perished, leaving little or nothing with living root systems to hold the soil down, would be predictable. The

settlements would have remained abandoned for many years until the descendants of Noah's family multiplied and began to spread out across the Earth. Eventually they would have migrated back into the area and occupied it when conditions were again favourable for sustaining an agricultural based city-state.

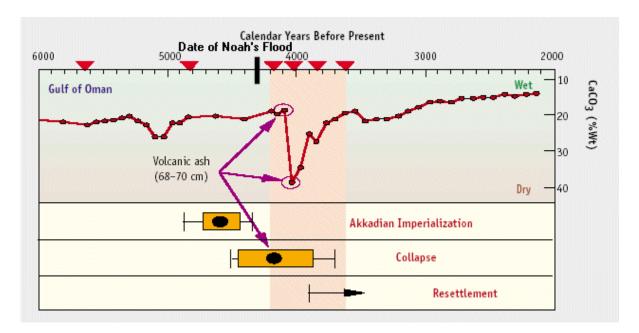
If this were the true scenario, then those climate effects would be almost global and there would be similar climate and dust anomalies elsewhere on Earth corresponding to the same historical time frame. There is just such evidence found in the ice cores extracted from Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa and across the Atlantic in the Huascaran glacier, which is high in the Peruvian Andes of the southern hemisphere.

Below is a graph showing three data sets from the Huascaran glacier. Notice the extremely pronounced dust spike and the time frame, roughly 4.300 years BP (The time of Noah's Flood).



Adapted from chart at: https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/paleo/pubs/thompson1995/huascaran.html website

As you can see, the dust signature found in Huascaran several thousand miles and an ocean away (above chart) from the Gulf of Oman (lower chart), and the common nature of the indicator (dust) and time frame (>4ka), match closely enough within the margin of error to be more than a coincidental correlation.



The data discussed on the following off-site link about the <u>Mount Kilimanjaro Ice</u> <u>Core</u> also show evidence of a dust indicator in the same time frame and suggests that the climate event was connected to the collapse of several ancient civilizations, including the Old Kingdom of Egypt. Additional supporting evidence is found in sediment samples from beneath the waters of Lake Tana, high in the Ethiopian Highlands. This lake feeds the Nile, and the samples reveal the lake may have dried up around 4,200 years ago.

Coincidentally, archeological/astronomical evidence found in the remains of the Old Kingdom of Egypt suggests that the Earth may have also tilted on its axis because of Noah's flood. Physicists say that a flood on the Earth of the magnitude of the Biblical proportions claimed would indeed have caused an axis shift, which would most certainly contribute to global changes in weather patterns. Here is a link to some additional evidence indicating that something happened in 2,345 B.C.

In reference to the temple of Karnak in Egypt in that off-site link, it should also be noted that the time of Noah's flood was about 2,345 B.C. (4,295 years B.P.) Because the temple of Karnak obviously survived the flood, this tells us that the flood was relatively tranquil, drowning out the antediluvian population without wholesale destruction of the relics of those antediluvian civilizations. Certainly

that fact alone contradicts all those cataclysmic, hydro-plate sliding, underwater volcano mountain building, Grand Canyon gouging models proposed in most "Creation Science" flood models floating around today. It just did not happen that way.

There is a valid argument, however, concerning the Greenland Ice Sheet and the mountain glaciers which deserves a response: How could the ice have survived Noah's flood? Some claim that if there were such a flood the ice sheet and the mountain glaciers would have floated off from the bedrock and broken up, but the continuity of the ice core record shows no such breakup. Others contend the ice would have remained stuck in place, become submerged, and would contain flood evidence in the ice strata marking the event.

Keep in mind that in either case, a portion of the top layers of ice and snow would have been melted or washed over, leaving no evidence but a indicator of a melt episode or hiatus in accumulation. The renewed new accumulation that followed Noah's flood would only be indicative of post-flood days. The accumulation of the dust spikes previously discussed would be such a post-flood deposition. But could the ice sheet or glaciers remain fast to the Earth and be washed over?

Ice floats, but not under all conditions:

Try this experiment: Take a cupful of ice cubes from your freezer, pour them into a dry metal or stoneware bowl and place the bowl in the freezer for a couple of hours. Then, remove the bowl, set it on the counter, and quickly pour a glass of tap water over the ice inside the bowl. You will find that the ice will remain stuck to the bottom of the bowl, completely submerged under the water until the bowl's surface warms enough to melt the bond. If you transfer this concept to something on the scale of a mountain glacier, it takes an extended period of time for the bedrock to warm or for water to seep under to dissolve a more extensive bond.

The massive Greenland Ice Sheet may be a little different story. Although the fresh water from Noah's flood would certainly be much less buoyant than heavier sea water, meaning less pressure on the ice to float off, the sheer scale of the Ice Sheet could make a stress breakup unavoidable even if the bottom of the sheet was frozen fast to the continent.

At the bottom of the GISP2 bore hole the temperature is -9° C and shows that the ice sheet is frozen tight to the bedrock. From the top of the ice sheet, down to about 2,790 meters, both the GISP2 and GRIP records are nearly identical.

Since these two holes are about 30 km apart that indicates that the composition of the ice record is consistent across a large area, or at least between those two holes.

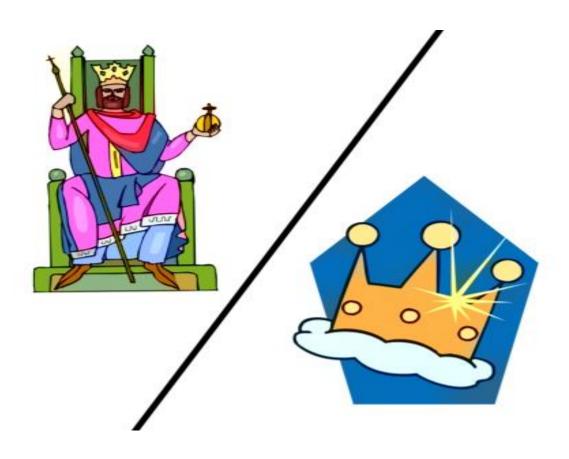
But below 2,790 meters the continuity vanishes. Quoting from a portion of the previously referenced "The GISP2 Ice Core Record - Paleoclimate Highlights" web pages:

"The climatic significance of the deeper part of the GISP2 ice core, below 2790 m depth and 110 kyr age, is a matter of considerable investigation and controversy. The isotopic temperature records and electrical conductivity records of GISP2 and GRIP, so similar for ice <110 kyr in age, are very different in the lower part [ Grootes et al., 1993; Taylor et al., 1993a]. Ice in GISP2 below 2790 m depth is folded and tilted, and shows evidence of unconformities [ Gow et al., 1993]."

This finding of folded and tilted layers and unconformities gives support to the possibility that the massive ice sheet may have been fractured and was lifted off by the global flood of Noah's time, or possibly the earlier flood found at Genesis 1:2. After floating free, the massive sheet would have remained fairly well in the same northern latitudes during such an event, held relatively stationary due to northward-tending currents induced by <a href="Earth's Coriolis Force">Earth's Coriolis Force</a> (effect), and very little would have melted. As the flood waters receded, the ice sheet would then gently settle back down and eventually fuse over the submerged ice that had not broken away, because the remaining bottom ice was still frozen solid to the bedrock.

In the next chapter we shift our emphasis away from the Science & Scripture side of the Ruin-Reconstruction and Noah's flood specifics and turn our attention to Theology, Bible Doctrine and Prophecy. Rightly Dividing these topics, in the context of Genesis and beginnings, will enhance your grasp of their significance and importance to your personal Bible study.

## Kingdom of Heaven and Kingdom of God The Doctrinal Differences



Knowing the doctrinal difference between the terms "Kingdom of Heaven" and "Kingdom of God" is the key to understanding the complete timeline of Biblical history past, present, and future, the proper place of the Church and the prophetic future of Israel. The Bible is about the struggle for a Kingdom; the Kingdom of Heaven, a Kingdom with its Capital City (*Jerusalem*) on this Earth.

Israel rejected the Lord Jesus Christ as the Messiah when He first came because the religious rulers of Israel were only looking for a political Messiah King who would make Israel the ruling kingdom of the world. (See Jeremiah 23:5, Psalms 48:2.) They were expecting a warrior leader who would deliver them militarily from the Romans and the rest of the heathen. They were expecting carnal deliverance. Because of their hardened hearts, and their legalistic and ritualistic zeal for works, they were blind to their need for spiritual deliverance and the true righteousness of God, which must be born into the heart. That is what led them to ask this of Jesus:

"And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you." Luke 17:20-21

In that statement, Jesus was declaring a spiritual truth that Israel did not see. But on another occasion, when asked about His Kingdom by Pontius Pilate, He gave a somewhat different answer:

"Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." John 18:36

In this particular passage the word "now" is not speaking about the spiritual Kingdom of God (within the heart of the redeemed), but of a literal political Kingdom yet to come on this Earth. You should also take note that the word "now" has been removed from many newer Bible translations (NASB, AMP, NLT, ESV, CEV). The reason is because most of the translators of today's "Bibles" are Amillennial in their position on prophecy. In other words, they do not accept the literal return of the Lord Jesus Christ to reign on the Earth for a thousand years as foretold in in the book of Revelations.

Although that truth is rejected by a major portion of "Christianity" today, His Jewish disciples knew what He was speaking of and they pointedly asked when the literal Kingdom would come:

"When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:6-8

The disciples were clearly asking about a literal Kingdom, and the Lord says it is not for them to know the time when that literal Kingdom (*the Kingdom of Heaven*) will take place. Until that time the disciples were given power to preach the Kingdom of God; righteousness through faith in the risen Saviour who will return to Earth one day and rule over the whole Earth from Jerusalem.

This is one of the most hated and least understood doctrines of the Bible, yet one of the most important in rightly dividing the truth, the separation of Church Age doctrine from Tribulation doctrine. Some churches do not want to hear this, because they think that the Church has replaced Israel. Certainly, the whole world reviles at the prospect of hated Israel becoming the head of the Kingdoms. There is a hatred of Christians and Jews on a spiritual level that is beyond the unsaved world's comprehension. Satan hates the Jews, and this present evil world (see Galatians 1:4) is under Satan's spiritual control. Hate and envy are the root reasons the word "now" is removed from John 18:36 in some translations. The unsaved world does not want the Lord Jesus Christ to return and rule over them. That is why the religious Jews killed their King the first time He came. Here is what their King will say about that when He returns:

"But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay [them] before me." Luke 19:27

There will be a big attitude difference between the Lord's first coming as the gentle Lamb of God and His Second Coming as the warrior King, the Lion of Judah:

"And I saw heaven opened and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God." (Revelation 19:11-13 KJV)

The Lord Jesus Christ came to His own and preached a dualistic message. To the Jews, the heirs of the promised political Kingdom, the Lord preached the Gospel of the "Kingdom of Heaven" - a literal physical Kingdom soon to come:

"From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 4:17

To the Jews and the entire Gentile world, He preached the coming "Kingdom of God" - righteousness and holiness:

"Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." Matthew 1:14

Because the Lord used the terms "Kingdom of Heaven" and "Kingdom of God" interchangeably in places in the four Gospels, most Christians think they are one

and the same. They will be, but not until the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ when He rules the world for a thousand years on the throne of His father David (His human side) at Jerusalem. Again:

"Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." John 18:36

If you rightly divide the Bible, you will see that Jesus was preaching about two (2) components of the Kingdom. He preached that the political kingdom (*Kingdom of Heaven*) was coming, and if the Jews had accepted Him after His death and resurrection, He would have come back and established it after seven years of tribulation, as foretold in the prophecies:

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, [that] from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince [shall be] seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof [shall be] with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate." Daniel 9:24-27

In fact, when Stephen was preaching to the Pharisees as they were stoning him, the Lord Jesus was standing up from His seat in the third heaven ready to come back, save the Jews, and establish the Kingdom:

"But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." Acts 7:55-56

To show by the Scriptures the difference between the terms "Kingdom of Heaven" and "Kingdom of God," the Holy Spirit has put this little nugget of truth within the Gospel of Matthew:

"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force." Matt 11:12

Ask yourself this question: If the "Kingdom of God" is within you, and if the "Kingdom of God" and "Kingdom of Heaven" are one and the same, how could anyone take it out of you by violence? And if that righteousness, i.e. the Kingdom of God within you, could not possibly be there until after the cross and the resurrection, what is Jesus saying to the Jews here BEFORE the cross and the resurrection? The answer is the Kingdom of Israel, which is God's people and Jerusalem, the Lord's chosen place from which to rule:

"But I say unto you, swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King." Matt 5:34-35

Israel rejected their King when He came the first time. In the two millenniums since then, His Kingdom has been in a MYSTERY form; the Lord Jesus Christ reigning in the heart of the believer and yet seated on the right hand of the Father in the third heaven...

"[Even] the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what [is] the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:" Colossians 1:26-27

...while Satan still holds the physical throne over this present world:

"And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine." Luke 4:6-7

Although Satan has now lost the war, the final battle for physical possession is yet to come. This is the present status of the Kingdom of Heaven.

In the two millenniums since His own people rejected His salvation, God has been chastising Israel, while blessings and salvation have gone out to the Gentiles. However, God is not finished with Israel, but He is just about finished with the Gentiles. The Gentiles' time is running out. The Apostle Paul said this:

"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:" Roma 11:25-26

We are living in the last days of the blessing to the Gentiles. The Jews are back in the land of Israel (although the Arab world does not recognize it as "Israel" but insists on calling it "Palestine"). Regardless of the name, it is still the land that God promised to Abraham and his seed through Isaac and Jacob, not through the line of Ishmael. That is the ancient root of contention still festering today over the issue of the land.

The Jews have returned to the land as prophesied in the Scriptures, but they are still mostly in unbelief about Jesus. Although they are the enemies of the Gospel of Grace by the Lord Jesus Christ, they are still God's people and He will use the present evil world to chastise them, open their eyes to the truth they rejected, and bring them again to Him.

"As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief:" Roma 11:28-30

That is the truth of the matter - a truth that is bitterly denied by the whole world. Jerusalem and the Middle East is the crucible and iron furnace that will soon wax hotter as the prophecies unfold before us.

Beware! There are two things to watch for which must come to pass before the Lord's return. First (and this is directly related to relationship of Jerusalem between Israel, the Arab world and the Palestinians) there will be some kind of contract among all parties on the matter of Jerusalem in an effort to establish peace. This is spoken of by the prophet Daniel:

"Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land. At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter. For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore, he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall

pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate." Daniel 11:28-31

Second, there is going to be a new Temple built in Jerusalem in the future. Notice that the context above is about the exploits of the coming Antichrist, whom unbelieving Israel and the unbelieving world will welcome as the Messiah. Take note about the "daily sacrifice" and the sanctuary, and the abomination that "maketh desolate." There cannot be a daily sacrifice without a Temple. This is a cross reference to what the Apostle Paul spoke about in 2 Thessalonians:

"That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there comes a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."

(2 Thess. 2:2-4 KJV)

These things are future and yet to be fulfilled, but they will come to pass. The Holy Bible says so. Believe it!

The entire theme of the Holy Bible is about the battle over a Kingdom and the rightful ruler of that Kingdom. This controversy goes back long before Abraham and long before Adam's day. It began sometime after the Lord first created the heavens and the Earth. Lucifer (*Satan*) was the first ruler under God in the Kingdom of Heaven in the ancient past

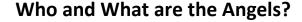
"Thou [art] the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee [so]: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou [wast] perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." Ezekiel 28:14-15

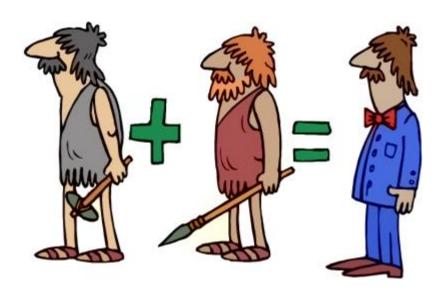
When he rebelled and sinned against God, unrighteousness was introduced into the physical realm and death came upon the ancient world.

Remember, the story of the whole Bible from the very beginning until the end is about the spiritual battle for the Kingdom. The eventual triumphant ruler of that Kingdom, both in the literal world and over the spiritual forces, will be the KING of KINGS, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Son of the Living God of Israel, who first came as a Lamb, but is soon coming as the Lion of Judah.

A comprehensive study of the Kingdom is available here: <u>The Kingdom in History</u> and <u>Prophecy</u>

In the next section we will briefly study questions about the Angels:





"And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, That the **sons of God** saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose." Gen 6:1-2

"There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown." Gen 6:4

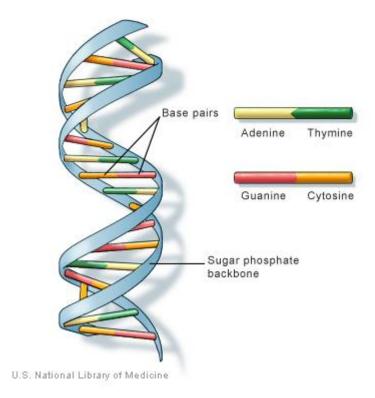
The subject of Angels is first introduced in the Bible in the above passages in Genesis. Although they are also spoken of directly as "Angels" elsewhere in the entire Bible, they are specifically identified as the "sons of God" in the Old Testament, but not in the New Testament. This can be a bit confusing for those who are unfamiliar with sound doctrine and rightly-dividing the Scriptures.

But who and what are these beings? In the above Scripture verses, these beings are said to have mated with "the daughters of men" back before Noah's Flood and, in so doing, produced male offspring with notable characteristics, specifically gigantism. Further, Genesis 6:4 notes that this was not an isolated incident; that there was a repeat of this behaviour sometime after Noah's Flood.

And in the prophecies of Daniel, there is an indication that this will occur again in the future:

"And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the <u>seed</u> of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay." Daniel 2:43

Taken as a whole, these passage are telling us that these beings called the "sons of God" have in the past, and will again in the future, mate with human women. This Scriptural fact reveals an undeniable truth: Angels, like humans, must have DNA! Therefore, they possess "seed" (*Genesis 3:15, Genesis 38:9, Daniel 2:43*).



Deoxyribonucleic acid is a thread-like chain of nucleotides carrying the genetic instructions used in the growth, development, functioning and reproduction of all known living organisms and many viruses.

This makes sense because, although the Angels of the Bible are beings of a higher-order than man with powers men do not possess, when they do appear in the flesh (as men) they MUST possess a type of DNA that is compatible with humans, else they could not breed with human women. And this act of

procreation between these particular angels and human women was a sin that they will be held accountable for:

"And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day." Jude 6

We can also reasonably conclude by rightly-dividing Scripture that there are both Good and Evil Angels out there. But where did they come from and what is their proper place of habitation? Let's run the references.

The Angels ("sons of God") are older than antiquity. They were created by God and their abode was with God BEFORE He created the Heaven and Earth:

"Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the **sons of God** shouted for joy?" Job 38:4-7

And when the Lord God first created the heaven and Earth (*Genesis 1:1*), the first inhabitants of the Earth were the Angels. The first world on the face of the Earth was made specifically for them. There was no death or entropy in the original creation, it was a place where they could live in the flesh and righteously enjoy the pleasures of Eden, the garden of God. But an event happened that ruined that pristine world and sent the entire course of physical and spiritual nature spiralling into darkness. The details are discussed in detail on this page: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/journal.org/10

Beyond what we can glean from Isaiah 14:12-16 and Ezekiel 28:13-17, there are few Scriptural details of any activity concerning the Angels and Lucifer over the course of the old Earth's geologic history until Genesis 1:2 where the old Earth is found 'without form and void' and the seven-days regeneration of the heavens and Earth that follows. Did any of the Angels live on the Earth at any times during Earth's geologic ages? We can't know for sure, although there is anecdotal evidence from the fossil records indicating the presence of man-like creatures whose presence are outside of paleo logical expectations. See the story:

Footprint discovery suggests human-like creatures may have roamed Crete nearly 6m years ago

After God created Adam on the sixth day of Genesis, He commanded the newly created humans (made in God's 'Image') to REPLENISH the Earth (Genesis 1:28). In light of what we do know about the history of the Earth and the Angels, the King James Bible's choice of English wording at Genesis 1:28 is absolutely accurate and correct. Man, and the newly regenerated Earth were made to replace the old world which the Bible says was in ruins at the time of Genesis 1:2, roughly about six-thousand years ago according to the Scriptural chronology.

The next time we see indications of the presence of the Angels, after the episode detailed in Genesis chapter six, we find the Angels and Satan appearing before the Lord God.

"Now there was a day when the **sons of God** came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. And the LORD said unto Satan, whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, from going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it." Job 1:6-7

"Again, there was a day when the **sons of God** came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, from going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it." Job 2:1-2

It is very apparent that, at least in Old Testament times, both the Angels and Satan had access to both the heavenly realms and the world below. And when the Angels appear to people on the Earth, they always did so in the likeness of men:

"Then the woman came and told her husband, saying, A man of God came unto me, and his countenance was like the countenance of an angel of God, very terrible: but I asked him not whence he was, neither told he me his name:"

(Judges 13:6 KJV)

"And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a **young man** sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him." Mark 16:5-6

"Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the **man Gabriel**, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation." Daniel 9:21

The Bible makes clear that Angels and men are very similar in physical appearance:

"And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel." Rev 21:17

Although we are similar to the Angels in image, we are made a little lower in degree. Even when the Lord Jesus Christ became flesh and dwelled with man, He assumed the same lower physical estate of man:

"What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour." Psalm 8:4-5

"Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:" Hebrews 2:7

"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man." Hebrews 2:9

And this brings us to the reason why the Angels are not referred to in the New Testament as the "sons of God" as they are in the Old Testament. The reason? After the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, those men and women that are saved and born again will obtain the likeness of the Son of God when they go to be with the Lord. We are already called the "sons of God" according to the Scriptures.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the **sons of God**, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:12-13

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Rom 8:14

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the **sons of God**: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the **sons of God**, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." 1 John 3:1-2

"For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven." Matt 22:30

Unlike the once holy Angels that followed Lucifer in his rebellion, did evil and became eternally lost for their sins...

"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the **devil** and his **angels**:" Matt 25:41

...the descendants of fallen Adam, who was made a little lower than the Angels, hath a Redeemer. And in the Lord Jesus Christ, the second Adam (see: 1 Corinthians 15:45) we now have an inheritance far better than the Angels.

There is so much to learn about Angels and their place in the Biblical picture that it just can't be fully addressed in this short treatment. But, before I close, there are a few more important things you should know. First, even though the "man Gabriel" was said to "fly swiftly" (*Daniel 9:21*), Angels DO NOT have WINGS. Even though they can fly (*and do a lot of other amazing things*), they don't have wings. Yes, I know that religious art across the centuries seems to always depict them as having wings, but that is an unbiblical impression.

There are, however, many real winged living creatures in the Bible. There are things called cherubims and seraphims, some with two wings, four wings or six wings, and some with multiple faces. There is even a vision of two women with the wings of a stork (*Zechariah 5:9*), but those are not Angels either. NOWHERE in the Bible is any Angel described as having wings.

Satan is frequently described as an Angel, but he is not an Angel. Although Satan (a.k.a. Lucifer) can "appear" as an angel of light (see: 2 Corinthians 11:14), he is actually a Cherub (see: Ezekiel 28:14) so he has wings.

Based on what the Bible has to say about Angels, and what the Bible says about our future spiritual bodies, it suggests that, like the Angels in heaven, the new "sons of God" that are the redeemed of mankind will also not have any wings.

So much for some of those old songs and depictions of "Angels" out there. (smile)

For a more detailed study concerning the Angels (the good ones and the bad ones), and amplification of some of the topics just mentioned, go to this page:

The Doctrine of Angels

### **The Doctrine of Angels**

The 'religious' world is replete with information about Angels. Unfortunately, most of it is misleading or inaccurate according to the Holy Bible. In the great artworks of man across the centuries, Angels are depicted as winged men or women, usually with effeminate facial and body expressions, androgynous by design, with heads encircled in halos. This symbolic, 'Artistic expression' reflects latent Scriptural ignorance and the carnal fleshly desires of artisans rather than revelations of spiritual truth.

When a man in a pulpit today proclaims that Satan is a "fallen angel" he pronounces a traditional misnomer. Yes, although the name Lucifer is likened to the light of a very bright star, and although Satan can appear "AS" an Angel of light (1 Corinthians 11:14), Satan is not an Angel, he is a cherub; he is a Beast (Genesis 3:1). Is this difference important? Yes, on multiple levels!

The Bible makes a clear distinction between the class of spiritual beings known as Angels and the class of beings that are identified as Cherubim or Seraphim, although both classes are spiritual types of beings. The differences in nomenclature are critical in understanding these beings' appointed purpose and functions within Scriptural revelation. Contrary to popular classical depiction, Angels have no wings. Angels are closely akin to men, yet more powerful. There are common Angels and then there are princes (Daniel 10:20) and there is the Archangel (Jude 9). There are holy Angels and there are unholy angels. On the other hand, Cherubim and Seraphim are akin to winged beasts, with varying configurations in the numbers of heads (1, 2 or 4), wings (2, 4 or 6) and other bodily features. The anointed cherub, Lucifer (Isaiah 14:12), elsewhere called Satan, is the ONLY cherubim that rebelled against God. He led an unknown number of Angels in rebellion against God in antiquity. The Devil and his Angels are the antithesis of all that is holy.

Again, Satan is not an Angel and the Cherubim and Seraphim are not Angels, they are Beasts (*Revelation 4:7*) or Living Creatures (*Ezekiel 1:5, 1:13-15 & 3:13*). Only through the illumination of the Spirit of Truth and right-division of the infallible written words of God can the full import of these distinctions be appreciated.

#### The Person and Purpose of the Angels

The beginning of Biblical knowledge about the person of the Angels is found in Job 38:4-11:

"<sup>4</sup>Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. <sup>5</sup>Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? <sup>6</sup>Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; <sup>7</sup>When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? <sup>8</sup>Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? <sup>9</sup>When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddling band for it, <sup>10</sup>And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, <sup>11</sup>And said, hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?" (*Job 38:4-11 KJV*)

In this passage, the Bible says that the Angels, who themselves are created beings, already existed in eternity-past before God created the heaven and Earth (Genesis 1:1). What is written also reveals two different class-structures of Angels: Specifically, the 'morning stars' which are the princely-line of Angels (see Daniel 10:20 & 12:1) and the "sons of God" (Ge 6:2,4; Job 1:6; Job 2:1; Job 38:7). These are sentient spiritual beings with a free-will, capable of linguistic verbal communication and the expression of feelings and emotions. They are all male in gender and are wingless, even though they are capable of flight (Daniel 9:21). When they have appeared to men in history they appeared as men (Judges 13:3, Daniel 9:21). They are capable of reproduction (but not between themselves) and are documented in the Bible to have copulated with the daughters of men (Genesis 6:2-4) and procreated human-like offspring. The ability to do so certifies they possess DNA in a form that is structurally compatible with biological earthly flesh (Genesis 6:2-4 & Daniel 2:43).

Since the Earth was created by God to first be inhabited by the Angels (*Isaiah 45:18*), and since the Angels sang with 'joy' at the prospect of indulging in the anticipated pleasures of a physical habitation upon the face of the created planet, the Scriptures suggests these spiritual being's man-like-bodily-form has existed from their inception and before the creation of the planet. Angels are like men in both mind and appearance but are a higher spiritual and physical order than man (*Psalms 8:5; Hebrews 2:7,9*). In the book of Revelation, when one of the seven Angels spoke to John (*Revelation 21:9*), and after the Angel's discourse

and exposition of the New Jerusalem, John fell down at the Angel's feet to worship him (*Revelation 22:8*). The Angel's response reveals a profound truth:

"Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God." Rev 22:9

Specifically, the elect Angels of God consider themselves fellow servants with saved men and women and consider them as their 'brethren' in the Lord. All New Testament references to the "sons of God" speaks exclusively of the saved and born-again man or woman (see: John 1:12; Romans 8:14,19; Philippians 2:15; 1 John 3:1-2), not the Angels, as observed in the Old Testament. This clarifies and provides context to the difference between the New and Old Testament references to the phrase "sons of God" in the King James Bible and confirms our place of adoptive standing within the family of God.

In Psalms 19, the psalmist points to the heavenly firmament and the unspoken language of nature that proclaims wisdom pertaining to the things of God. Most prominent is the great glory of the Lord Jesus Christ seen in the type of the sun. It outshines all other heavenly bodies during the daytime. But in the night, we can see the moon, a type of the Bride, whose only glory is the light she reflects from the sun. And then there are the stars, which are a type of the Angels. They give off their own light. The physical stars in the night sky are innumerable, as are the Angels of God in the heavenly places. The celestial stars are all different in respect to physical size, colour and radiant characteristics (1 Corinthians 15:41) and they all have individual names (Psalms 147:4). The same can be said for the Angels, and they have individual personalities, strengths and weaknesses and appointed functions within their service to the Lord God. In that way, they are a lot like their fleshly human counterparts. The purpose of the Angels is to glorify and serve the Lord Jesus Christ. The holy Angels do so faithfully with a willing heart, the evil Angels do so by command and constraint. The habitation of both the holy and evil Angels is the spirit realm around us that extends from the face of the Earth into the heavenly places above us. The holy Angels minister to God and the saved in God (Matthew 4:11, Mark 1:13, Acts 12:4-11), the evil angels minister death and suffering within the creation.

#### The Evil Precipitated by the 'Angelic Rebellion'

There is more than a bit of ambiguity in the Bible concerning the fate of the Angels who followed Lucifer in rebellion and sinned against God that fateful day in spiritual antiquity. Where they went, what they did, where they sojourned in the old world and our world in Biblical days, and what they are doing now, is complex and will dominate the remainder of this dissertation.

First, know up front that the term "fallen angels" does not appear anywhere in the Holy Bible. Know also that there is no direct mention in the Bible of any earthly Angelic activity between "...in the beginning..." (*Genesis 1:1*), across the vast expanse of Earth's geologic deep-time, and up to the old world's corruption and eventual demise where it is found "...void, and without form..." (*Genesis 1:2*). There is most certainly a narrational and chronological silence (*or time-gap*) between those first two verses in the book of Genesis.

This does not mean the Spirit of Truth is silent on this issue. The Scriptural passages of Job 38:4-11, Isaiah 14:12-16 and Ezekiel 28:13-17, when interpreted through the filter of right-division and the context of sound-doctrine, speaks volumes through the Spirit of Truth. Much spiritual insight can also be extrapolated from Earth's 'Natural History' record of things entombed beneath and within the dirt and rocks. The artifactual findings like the objects of 'Forbidden Archaeology' and 'Out-Of-Place-Artifacts' (OOPArt — i.e. human footprints found in ancient rock, or human-made artwork and objects that predate 'accepted' human origins), provide intriguing clues. A definitive documentation of this subject, however, is beyond the immediate scope of this paper.

Earth's paleontological record reveals the remains of humanoids on the planet before 'modern man' (Adam). If Adam was the first 'man' and was created in God's image, whose image were those humanoids (i.e. Homo Sapiens, Homo Erectus, Neanderthals, Cro-Magnon, etc.) fashioned after? Who, or rather what, were those beings that populated the "world that then was" (2 Pet 3:5-7) long before Adam? Were they Angels or were they the biological offspring of Angels?

There is precedent in the Holy Scriptures where, long after the fall of Adam, Angels copulated with the daughters of men and produced biological offspring that were physically superior in strength and stature to normal men (*Genesis 6:2-4*). Genetically speaking, this confirms the notion that Angels (*when they assume* 

a fleshly form), indeed possess DNA, which is defined as "Deoxyribonucleic acid, a thread-like chain of nucleotides carrying the genetic instructions used in the growth, development, functioning and reproduction of all known living organisms and many viruses." But also, genetically speaking, the notion that in the times of the 'Old World' the Angels were the pre-Adamic humanoid races, or even gendered those humanoid races, is a proposed answer that is immediately confronted by an inconvenient Biblical truth: ALL Angels are MALE (there are no female angels in the Bible, in spite of whimsical or wishful appeals to the vision of Zechariah 5:9).

Further complicating this question is the paleontological observation that these races of ancient humanoids consisted of both male and female individuals. If all Angels are male, then who, or rather what, would they have mated with to produce such a race of biological offspring? The only possible answer would bewith a beast of the Earth (*Leviticus 18:23*). Agreed, this is quite a repugnant thought to contemplate, but the word of God can be base and brutally truthful in some cases (*1 Corinthians 1:28-27*). Since these historic humanoids were predominately man-like in somatotype, it would be logical to assume that the superior DNA genetic traits of the Angels dominated in the biological development process of procreated offspring, producing a genetic hybrid with human-like form and sentient abilities of thought and reason. That would account for the artifacts of ceremonial expression found with their buried remains and the artistic fashioning of figurines and cave wall paintings associated with their time and places of habitation.

So, in addition to the Angel's initial sin of rebellion in following Lucifer, in their evil lust for 'strange flesh' the Angels also committed the sin of bestiality (*Leviticus 18:23*). And, considering the observed skeletal differences in early hominid structural characteristics belonging to different 'species' and at different geologic times, this was not only a grievous sin, but one obviously committed on more than one single occasion. This brings us to a crucial point in rightly-dividing the following passage of New Testament Scripture:

"And the angels who <u>kept not their first estate</u>, but <u>left their own habitation</u>, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and <u>going after strange flesh</u>, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire." Jude 6-7

It is obvious from the Biblical record of activities attributed to 'evil spirits', 'unclean spirits' and 'devils' (in both the New and Old Testament), that not all the "fallen angels" were "reserved in everlasting chains of darkness" mentioned in Jude 6. We know that, at least up until the time of Revelation 12:7, some of the Devil's Angels can still freely traverse between the world of man and the world of the heaven lies (John 8:23) and continue to sew hatred, wreak havoc, and inflict misery upon mankind because of their evil nature.

No, the ones Jude (above) is speaking of are only the ones that "...kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation..." and those evil Angels are the ones that went after the strange flesh of beasts in the old world (the bestiality) and the strange flesh of human women in our world after the days of Adam. In both cases, those Angels sewed genetic confusion with fleshly creatures of a lower nature. In the historic accounts of the post-flood times, the Biblically documented genetic aberrations of races of giants and people with six fingers and toes (2 Samuel 21:20, 1 Chronicles 20:6) bare record of human gene-pool corruption by those seeds of forbidden copulation.

#### The Workings of Angels in the World of Man

We know from what is written in the Bible that holy Angels are engaged in oversight involvement concerning the affairs of man (*Daniel 4:13-17*, *Revelation 2:1-18*, *3:1-14*) and that the unholy Angels are influencing the affairs of nations (*Daniel 10:20*), and those that are not currently incarcerated for past deeds (*Jude 6*) or for the Lord's specific future purposes (*Revelation 9:14*), are occupied keeping a lid on armies of their evil minions (*Revelation 9:11*), or doing the Lord's bidding in His dealing with disobedient men (*Psalms 78:49*). What is not too clear is the doctrinal relationship between the beings of evil Angels and the beings of "evil spirits", "unclean spirits", "lying spirits", "foul spirits", "devils", "deaf and dumb" spirits and such. Every Bible verse concerning the afore mentioned type of "spirits" (*check it yourself*) provides no, direct, written cross-references that specifically say, verbatim, that these spirits are evil Angels. The context of the verses leaves no doubt about the evil nature of these different types of spirits, but there remains ambiguity.

Prevailing theological paradigms hold to the Church doctrine that, because the Angels are 'spirits' (*Psalms 104:4, Hebrews 1:7*), and because the "fallen angels" are 'evil' (*Psalms 78:49*), then all of the 'evil spirits' and 'devils' spoken of in the Bible are the 'Devil's Angels' (*Matthew 25:41, Revelation 12:9*). This is an intuitive

assumption based on what we know about Angels and the workings of evil spirits and things called 'devils' described in the Holy Bible.

For example, Angels can speak, so who is doing the talking when the 'Legion' spoke to Jesus (*Mark 5:9, Luke 8:30*)? In the former case, Mark 5:8 says it was an 'unclean spirit' that had possessed the man and Mark 5:15-16 says the man was possessed by a 'devil'. In Mark 1:23-27, Jesus was confronted by another 'unclean spirit' that spoke. The Apostle Paul was confronted by a girl who was possessed by a 'spirit of divination' that could speak (*Acts 16:16-18*). In Acts 19:13-16 a bunch of unsaved Jews attempted an exorcism against an 'evil spirit' that spoke to them, then proceeded to whop the tar out of the bunch. As in both this instance, as in the case of the man possessed with the 'Legion', the possessor spirit afforded the possessed man a notable measure of superior strength. We know that Angels can speak and have superior strength to men.

There is a Biblical association between illness and possession by devils (*Mark 16:9*) and an association of devils with 'seducing spirits' and false doctrine (*1 Timothy 4:1*) and people worshiping devils. There are references to 'a devil' causing a man to be dumb and unable to speak (*Matthew 9:32*) and to another person who was both dumb and blind because of 'a devil' (*Matthew 9:22*). Devils are spiritually evil and can influence things in the physical realm, affecting both the mind and the flesh on the biological level. They utilize the same evil methodology that Satan uses and are thereby directly associated with the workings of Satan. But, concerning references to devils, there is one, single, specific case in the New Testament that cannot possibly be attributed to any Angels:

"Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil? He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve." John 6:70-71

The man, Judas Iscariot was directly declared by the Lord Jesus Christ to be 'a devil' (John 6:70-71). The Bible also reveals that Judas Iscariot was actually the biological offspring of Simon Peter (see: John 6:71, 12:4, 13:2 & 13:26). Judas was not possessed by a devil, but he WAS a devil. Even though he was not an Angel, the possibility exists that he could have either been from a biological seed of a "fallen angel" that was injected into the human gene-pool by the "sons of God" (Genesis 6:2-4) or even be a biological seed from the Devil himself who procreated the lineage of Cain (1 John 3:12).

(Note: This particular topic is discussed and documented in greater detail on this

page: Who was Judas Iscariot?

#### Conclusion

The nature and extent of all the different forms and persons of spiritual beings, both evil or holy, cannot be adequately addressed within the confines of a narrow treatment concerning the person of the Angels, who are an exclusive class of spiritual beings. Aside from the Angels (holy or unholy), that are akin to the form of men but superior in nature, the spiritual realm is populated by myriads of beings that the Bible classes as "beasts" or "living creatures" of great majesty and unimaginable forms and office of function. But, from what the Bible and Spirit of Truth also indicates, there are other classes of spiritual entities (spirits) that are unique in person and function beyond what has been revealed to us by the Spirit of Truth and the particulars about these are not exhaustively revealed to us. Perhaps this is just as well.

#### Who was Judas Iscariot?

The majority of answers are: "He was the Disciple who betrayed the Lord Jesus Christ." - "He was a man of Kerioth." (*A city 15 miles south of Hebron*) - "He was a thief." These are all correct answers found in the Bible, but they tell us nothing about the man. Where did he come from? Nowhere in the Gospels is there any mention of him being called by Jesus to follow him, as were the other Apostils. He just sort of seems to have just been hanging with the group of disciples that were following Jesus at the time. But the Bible does mention that Jesus did specifically select him when He ordained the twelve:

"And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him." (*Matthew 10:1-4 KJV*)

The Bible does tell us something else about Judas Iscariot that is quite unique. That other thing is also somewhat of an eyebrow raiser:

"Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil? He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve." John 6:70-71

#### (John 6:70-71 KJV)

The word "devil" is a New testament term that can refer to either THE DEVIL (Satan) a.k.a. that "WICKED ONE" (see: Matthew 13:19,38; 1 John 2:13-14; 1 John 3:12; 1 John 5:18) or "Beelzebub" (Matthew 12:24). The term "devil" or "devils" refers to the wicked spirits (see Luke 4:33) that could and did possess unfortunate people. These spiritual entities are frequently referred to as "Demons" but that word is not in the English KJV Bible. It comes from the Greek:

From Strong's Greek Dictionary: 1139. δαιμονίζομαι daimonizomai (daimonizomai); to be exercised by a dæmon:—have a (be vexed with, be possessed with) devil(-s). verb

Notice that the Greek word 'daemon' is a verb, denoting possession by a "devil" - it is NOT an adjective that describes the nature of the entity itself. The King James Bible's definition is used correctly to describe the type of entity. It is a DEVIL.

In looking up the words "devil" and "devils" in the New Testament there are many references. Of those, when you discount all direct references to the person of The Devil (*Satan*), every other reference denotes someone who is possessed by a devil, with only one exception. That was John 6:70 (*above*). That verse does not say Judas was possessed by a devil, it says he WAS "A DEVIL" and that is a statement right out of the Lord's mouth. Why? Was Judas not a man? Certainly, he was born in the flesh of a man. After all, the following verse says he was "the son of Simon" so how can he also be "a devil"?

A brief explanation involves reference to an event before Noah's Flood, when some evil Angels left their first estate and copulated with human women, injecting their seed (and DNA) into the human genetic code.

"There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bear children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown." Gen 6:4

Of course, there is no indication in the Bible that Judas Iscariot was any kind of a giant, but there is the genetic possibility that he could have been the latent

product of one of those seeds. That is speculation, but the that is not the only possibility. (You can learn more specifics about this matter in a complete treatment on the Angels at this page: The Doctrine of Angels.)

In the meantime, just take the Lord's word for it as fact, however that came about. This brings us to the next question: Who, exactly, is this "Simon" that was the biological father of the man called Judas Iscariot? There are multiple Simons listed in the four Gospels. Here is a breakdown by identification, by Gospel book:

### Matthew (AD 85-90)

Mt 4:18	Simon called Peter
Mt 10:4	Simon the Canaanite
Mt 13:55	Simon (a brother of Jesus)
Mt 26:6	Simon the leper
Mt 27:32	man of Cyrene, Simon

#### Mark (AD 66-70)

Mk 3:16	Simon surnamed Peter
Mk 3:18	Simon the Canaanite
Mk 6:3	Simon (a brother of Jesus)
Mk 14:3	Simon the leper
Mk 15:21	Simon a Cyrenian

#### Luke (AD 85-90)

Luke 5:8	Simon Peter
Luke 6:15	Simon called Zelotes
Luke 23:26	Simon, a Cyrenian

#### John (AD 90-110)

John 6:68	Simon Peter
John 6:71	Judas Iscariot the son of Simon
John 12:4	Judas Iscariot, Simon's son
John 13:2	Judas Iscariot, Simon's son
John 13:26	Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon

Although there are multiple people named Simon in the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark and Luke, there is only Simon named Peter specifically mentioned in the Gospel according to John, in addition to this mystery "Simon" who is referred to as the father of Judas Iscariot. In John's Gospel story, the author's four references to this mystery "Simon" are presented in a literary manner that assumes the reader should know which "Simon" he is talking about. Had the author had someone else in mind, he certainly would have been more specific, unless that was not even an issue to him. And the author makes the point four times, as if to emphasize the importance of the matter.

Therefore, the Holy Bible's evidence concerning this question points to a clear and simple answer: Judas Iscariot WAS the biological son of the man Simon, who is also called Peter. This revelation raises two very valid questions:

- 1) Why is this clearly stated ONLY in the Gospel of John and,
- 2) What practical purpose does it serve to even know and teach this answer? Let's answer those questions in the order presented.

First, notice from the dates of when these individual Gospel books were believed to be penned that the Gospel account of John was written much later than the Gospel accounts of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Although Peter and John had known each other since their days as fishermen on the Galilee, their friendship extended throughout their time with Jesus, through the post-resurrection period of the early Church, and long after the documented Acts of the Apostles (see: Mt 10:2; Mt 17:1; Mk 5:37; Mk 9:2; Mk 13:3; Mk 14:33; Lk 6:14; Lk 8:51; Lk 9:28; Lk 22:8; Jn 1:40; Acts 1:13; Acts 3:1,3-4,11; Acts 4:13,19; Acts 8:14). Paul's writing in the book of Galatians, about the point in Church history where the disciple's ministry diverged into two separate and distinct mission directions, reveals that Peter and John even continued working together afterwards:

"And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision." (*Galatians 2:9 KJV*)

While Paul and Barnabas and their group would take the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, James, Peter and John would take the Gospel to the diaspora of Jewish peoples. (BTW, "Cephas" was Peter, see John 1:42). Paul, of

course, finally ended up in Rome. Peter, on the other hand, finally ended up in Babylon in Mesopotamia (1 Peter 5:13), according to the Holy Bible. John and Peter travelled together for many years before they finally parted ways. It was only after those days that the Gospel of John was written.

It would be a safe bet to assume that John knew Simon Peter better than anyone else in the Bible, other than the Lord Himself. John was acquainted with Peter going all the way back to what country folks would call the young man's *hell raisin' days*, so he probably knew a thing or two about the old boy and his ways. But, if I was a betting man, I'm inclined to think that John did not learn the truth about this particular matter until much later in their relationship. More than likely, Peter only shared this truth with his lifelong friend John when the two were alone, possibly sitting around a fire on a dark night along a lonely shoreline or forest near the Aegean Sea. I'm talking about one of those times when a man has something gnawing at his conscience that is hurting him so bad that he just has to talk with a trusted friend and get it off his chest. Regardless of where and when, John knew about it and the Holy Ghost made sure the matter was included in the Gospel according to John.

As for the second question, knowing about this doctrinal truth from the Gospel according to John benefits your personal studies of the Holy Bible. It provides a backstory insight into the life of Simon Peter that can help the reader correctly discern an answer to these three important questions in the Gospel accounts:

One - What did the Lord Jesus Christ mean when he told Peter this?

"And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." Luke 22:31-32

Two - What was the real reason that the faithful Peter denied Jesus on the night He was arrested?

"And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me." Luke 22:33-34

Three - What was the real motivation that made Judas betray the Lord Jesus Christ?

"Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people. Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them. And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money." Luke 22:1-5

In regards to the last question, I'll give you a couple of clues to point you in the right direction. It was not for money. It was for a more personal reason, which the Spirit of Truth will reveal to you if you seek out the answer with an honest heart and objective reasoning. The 'clues' are found in these two Bible verses:

"Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; **jealousy** is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame." Song of Sol 8:6

"Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous; but who is able to stand before **envy**?" (*Proverbs 27:4 KJV*)

The backstory involves these key elements, a son born to Simon Peter before he was married (*or possibly outside of the marriage*), Peter's love for that 'secret' son, and the grown son's need for a father's love and attention. May the Lord Jesus Christ grant you understanding of this illuminating truth.

### **The Biblical Story Timeline**

Natural and Spiritual History - Prophecy Timeline from the Beginning to the End

This is a chronological ordering of the MAJOR story points of the Kingdom of Heaven as revealed by the Holy Bible

### **BIBLE - Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth**



Date: ? - Beginning of Time and Space "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." (Genesis 1:1 KJV)





### Date:? - The Angels and Lucifer on the Ancient Earth

A Perfect and Harmonious World until...
"Thou hast been in Eden the garden of
God...Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the
day that thou wast created, till iniquity was
found in thee." (Ezekiel 28:13-15 KJV)



## Date: ? - Lucifer rebels - The First SIN in Creation

Brings down the wrath of God on Lucifer's world, introducing Death and entropy into the creation

"For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God:..I will be like the most High. (Isaiah 14:13-15 KJV)

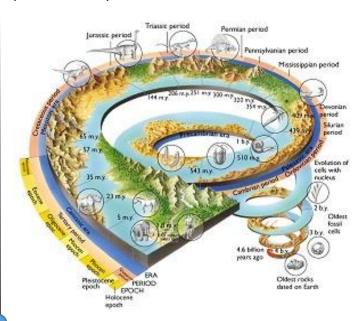


# Approx. 4.5 Gya to end of Pleistocene - Geologic Ages

Life struggles against Death across the geologic ages

"For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else."

(Isaiah 45:18 KJV)



### About 13,500 Years Ago - The ending of the old Earth world

#### The Earth and the heavens go dark

The death and entropy introduced into the creation by Lucifer's rebellion in the ancient past finally brings the original creation to a state of ruin and darkness.



### About 6,000 Years Ago The state of the heaven and Earth before the seven-days of Genesis

"And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." (Genesis 1:2 KJV)



### About 6,000 Years Ago – The "Creation Week" of Genesis

The FIRST REGENERATION of the Heavens and Earth - Creation of a New World and Man "These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth..." (Genesis 2:4 KJV) "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth..." (Genesis 1:28)



After the "Creation Week" - The Fall of Adam

Satan steals stewardship of the New World from Man - Death and Evil Enter the Regenerated Creation



"Wherefore, as by one man **sin entered** into the world, **and death by sin**.(Rom 5:12)

"And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whom soever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine." (Luke 4:6-7)

### 2345 BC - Noah's Flood – God destroys first world of man

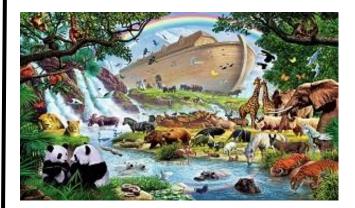
"And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth." (Genesis 6:12-13)





# 1 Year Later - Noah and Family begin a New World of man

"And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." (Genesis 9:1)



# **About 2000 BC - God calls Abraham,** Father of the Jewish People/Nations

"And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations." (Genesis 17:1-4)





# 588 BC - Destruction of the first temple Start of Babylonian Captivity

Nebuchadnezzar also carried of the vessels of the house of the LORD to Babylon and put them in his temple at Babylon."(2 Chro 36:7)



## 32 AD - Death Burial & Resurrection of the Messiah

Price is paid to redeem fallen mankind from sin and present evil world.



"Saying, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto the chief priests, and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles: And they shall mock him, and shall scourge him, and shall spit upon him, and shall kill him: and the third day he shall rise again." (Mark 10:33-34)

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved." (John 3:16-17)



# 32 - 36 AD - Jewish Nation Rejects Jesus as Messiah

### The stoning of Stephen

"Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." (Acts 7:57-59)



37 AD - God calls Paul to be Apostle to the Gentiles

#### On the road to Damascus



**As** he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." (Acts 9:3-5)



## 52 - 67 AD - Paul writes epistles to New Testament Churches

Warns about Prophetic Truths - Prophecy of Antichrist Third Temple

"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance." (Romans 11:25-29)

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God." (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4)



# 70 AD - Destruction of the second temple and the city of Jerusalem

"And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down." (Matthew 24:1-2)





# After 32 AD - "Age of Grace" (Church Age)

"Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth." (Acts 13:46-47)

"For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts." (Malachi 1:11)

# Dark Ages of Gentile history-Rise of Roman Catholicism, Islam, the Inquisitions, Persecutions of the Jews in Europe and the Holocaust

"And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee, And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee. If any of thine be driven out unto the out most parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers." (Deut 30:1-5)





#### 1948 AD - The birth of the State of Israel

### The Jewish people begin returning to their ancestral homeland

"Therefore, fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the LORD; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid. For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure and will not leave thee altogether unpunished. For thus saith the LORD, Thy bruise is incurable, and thy wound is grievous." (Jeremiah 30:10-12 KJV)



### Present Time - The World Hates Israel

The Age of Grace is ending for the Gentiles

"Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be graffed in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity. but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise, thou also shalt be cut off." (Romans 11:18-22)





#### The Antichrist is revealed

#### He will be a "King" over Israel in the end-times

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God." (2 Thessa 2:3-4) "And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders," (2 Thessa 2:8-9)

#### A time of "Great Tribulation"

"For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."

(Matthew 24:21-22)



# Sometime in not so distant Future – The Third Temple is Built

#### Jewish Ritual Worship Resumes

"And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months." (Revelation 11:1-2)





# The world is in near-total ruin by the end of the Tribulation

"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger. For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end." (Jeremiah 4:23-27)





#### **Return of the King of Kings**

#### The unrighteous are removed from the world

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." (Matthew 24:29-31)

"The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear." (Matthew 13:41-43)



## The Heavens and Earth are made new again

### The SECOND REGENERATION of the heavens and Earth

"And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the **regeneration** when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." (Matthew 19:28 KJV)

"For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy." (Isaiah 65:17-18)

"Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." (2 Peter 3:12-13)





# The one-thousand-year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ (Revelation 21)

His Kingdom on the regenerated Earth, ruling from a restored Jerusalem and Fourth Temple that the Lord will create.

"It was round about eighteen thousand measures: and the name of the city from that day shall be The LORD is there." (Ezekiel 48:35 KJV)

Although the life-spans of mankind will be greatly increased during this age, there will still be physical death on the Earth until the end of this age.

"But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I

create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days

of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD." (Isaiah 65:18-25 KJV)

### At end of the one-thousand years The Final Battle - Gog & Magog

"And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." (Revelation 20:7-10)



### The Final Judgment

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works." (Rev 20:12-13)



# The Lake of Fire The final and eternal abode of the unrighteous

"And **death** and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Rev 20:14-15)



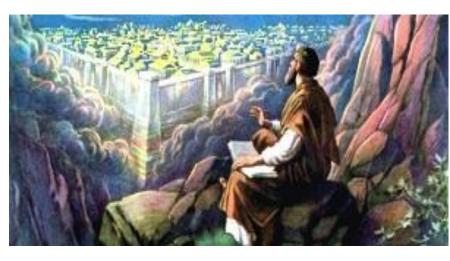


The Eternal New Heaven and Earth that follows

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God." (Reve 21:1-3)

"And God shall tears from their shall be **no** neither sorrow, neither shall more pain: for things are (Reve 21:4)

"And he carried spirit to a great mountain, and great city, the descending out God," (Reve 21:10)



wipe away all eyes; and there more death, nor crying, there be any the former passed away."

me away in the and high shewed me that holy Jerusalem, of heaven from

"And I saw **no temple** therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it." (Reve 21:22V)

### **Doctrine - The King James Bible says WHAT?**



Welcome to the "Hard Nuts to Crack" Doctrine Seminary

This is an on-going series of articles with new ones published on a periodic basis.

Check back frequently for the latest additions.

**Topics of Discussion:** 

### The major Doctrines of the Christian faith:

The Doctrine of Man
The Doctrine of the Bible
The Doctrine of Sin
The Doctrine of Salvation

The Doctrine of the Church
The Doctrine of the Trinity
The Doctrine of Satan
The Doctrine of Angels
Comprehensive Studies:
Doctrines of Grace

The Book of Romans
The Kingdom in History and Prophecy
How We Got Our Bible and Why We Believe It Is God's Word

#### **Selected Topics:**

The Prophecy of the Woman and the Seeds

Who was Judas Iscariot?

Here is Wisdom - Revelation 13:18 (666)

Parting of the Red Sea - Take 2

### The Relationship of Flesh and Spirit; Physical Things vs. Spiritual Things



"Ye MUST be born again" (John 3:7 KJV)

"Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and [of] the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." Jn 3:5-6

Each man and woman born into this world is a being made of three (3) distinct components:

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and [I pray God] your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

1: The **BODY**. This is your PHYSICAL component of being. It is flesh made from a collection of unremarkable mineral elements (*but is mostly water*) and is in harmony with the nature and spirit of this world. It grows, matures, begins to deteriorate, eventually dies, and then decomposes back into its constituent elements and remains a part of the dust of the world. The body is a part of you but is NOT ALL of what defines who YOU are.

"And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed," Prov 5:11

2: The **SOUL**. This is who YOU are; it is a part of your SPIRITUAL component. This is your individuality, your "I AM" so to speak (*made in God's image*), your "heart." Although your individual soul did not exist before your mother and father procreated you, it will exist forever. When your flesh dies, your soul goes on living forever.

"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matt. 10:28 KJV)

When your body dies your soul (YOU) will leave the body of flesh:

"And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin." (Genesis 35:18 KJV)

3: The **SPIRIT**. And this is a little more complex to explain. Every man, woman and child is born with a sin-nature (*spirit*) and a carnal mind that naturally is at enmity with the Law of God.

"But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of." (Luke 9:55 KJV)

Where your soul spends eternity after it departs is determined by your personal relationship to God (saved or unsaved). You are an eternal being, made in God's image. In fact, the Bible says that you are a "god" (small "q"):

"Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?" (John 10:34 KJV)

"So God created man in his [own] image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." (Gen 1:27 KJV)

But you don't have the Holy Spirit of God within you because of Adam's transgression. By virtue of his disobedience, you inherited his sin-nature. And in order to be saved, your spirit must be reborn. The unsaved man or women who have only the first birth are in eternal danger. Since the body and soul of the unsaved man or woman are bonded to the dead spirit of this present world, when this world's physical elements and spiritual components (*including "Death"*) are cast into the lake of fire (*see Revelation 20:13-15*), those eternal souls, living or already dead, will perish with them. You can't change yourself from this nature, but God can change you if you accept His Gift of Salvation by His Grace.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16 KJV)

The key word is BELIEVE that Jesus is the Son of God, receive His forgiveness for being a sinner (*by nature*) and accept His free Gift of eternal life. It's as simple as that, but understanding why this is God's plan of salvation requires faith in Him to do it. He will, if you trust Him to.

So, what exactly is the difference between the relationship of the unsaved soul and the saved soul? What does being "Born Again" actually mean? The answer is something that God does for you at the moment you accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your saviour: An OPERATION.

Have you ever been operated on by a doctor? The doctor uses a knife to cut away something that is diseased. Well, God's "operation" is similar. Using the Sword of the Lord instead of a scalpel, the Great Physician (*Luke 5:31*) severs the direct (*but unseen*) connection between your soul and your flesh:

"For the word of God [is] quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and [is] a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Heb. 4:12 KJV)

"Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with [him] through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." *Col. 2:12* 

This "operation" is a spiritual circumcision. Your flesh is cut away from your soul and you are given God's Spirit by the transforming power of the Holy Spirit:

"But he [is] a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision [is that] of the heart, in the spirit, [and] not in the letter; whose praise [is] not of men, but of God." (Romans 2:29 KJV)

Don't misunderstand the above verse. God does not make you a 'spiritual Jew' when he saves you, but he does adopt you into His family, whether you are a Jew or a Gentile.

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." *Galatians 3:28* 

After you have accepted the free gift of salvation through faith in the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, and as you grow and mature in the Lord (your continuing sanctification), you will begin to notice some changes in how you think. You will find that your heart (soul) grows more and more in agreement with God and His law (which is spiritual), but your flesh will still want to go the way of the world. All true born-again Christians have a split personality, so to speak. And even when you work not to sin (you don't work to stay saved), sin still happens along your path of Christian growth. Paul sums it up quite well in the book of Romans:

"I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin." *Romans 7:21-25* 

Your soul is saved, but your flesh, your present physical body, is still dead and cannot be salvaged. It will perish and return to the Earth. (You get a new body later.) Your present flesh will still lust to do those things that are unlawful, while at the same time your heart and the Spirit will condemn those thoughts and feelings and empower you to avoid the temptation. But no Christian is perfect in the flesh, and as you go through this life you will sometimes give in to those feelings and will sin in the flesh (but not in your heart).

FACT: The flesh of Christian people still wants to sin after they are saved:

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

(1 John 1:8 KJV)

"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:" (1 John 2:1 KJV)

When this happens, and the guilt begins to set in, the Christian starts worrying about losing his/her salvation or committing the unpardonable sin. Well, it can't happen. FACT: It is NOT POSSIBLE for a Christian's SOUL to sin, because that soul has been born again by His (*God's*) seed into God's family:

"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." (1 John 3:9 KJV)

After you are saved, and as your heart knowledge about God's love grows in your Christian walk, you will begin understanding FROM THE HEART the effects of sin and lawlessness on yourself and others. And as you begin to love others as you love yourself, and strive to do unto others as you would have others do unto you, you will find that you are changing and that change comes from the heart by the indwelling Holy Spirit and the Grace of God, by faith in Him.

Physical circumcision is permanent and cannot be reversed; once that flesh is cut away it is gone forever. The same metaphor applies to circumcision of the heart; once that body of flesh is cut away your soul can't be reattached to it. And Praise God for that!

Salvation is the FREE GIFT of God and eternal; it is not earned (or retained) by good works:

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." *Gal 2:16* 

If you are not good enough to earn it, why do so many Christian people think that they can un-earn it? Once you have given your soul to God it is His forever! If you have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ, then you are loved of God and don't have to worry about holding onto God because HE WILL HOLD ONTO YOU.

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39 KJV)



This He did for YOU!

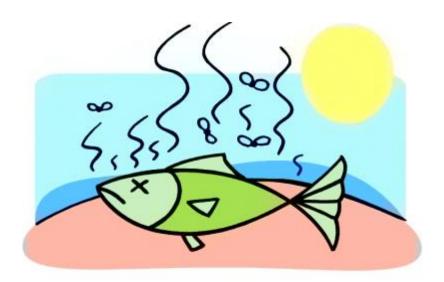
"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 3:18 KJV)

(You will find a very helpful in-depth study of these things on our pages:

# The Doctrine of Salvation and Doctrines of Grace)

In the next chapter we will study the role of Geology in Middle East end-times prophecy.

## The Dead Sea Geology and End Times Prophecy



In Revelation chapters 1, 2 and 3 the Lord addresses the seven churches "which are in Asia." That specific geographical area is the western coast of modern-day Turkey, located north of Israel and Lebanon. The Middle East is the focal point of End Times prophecy.

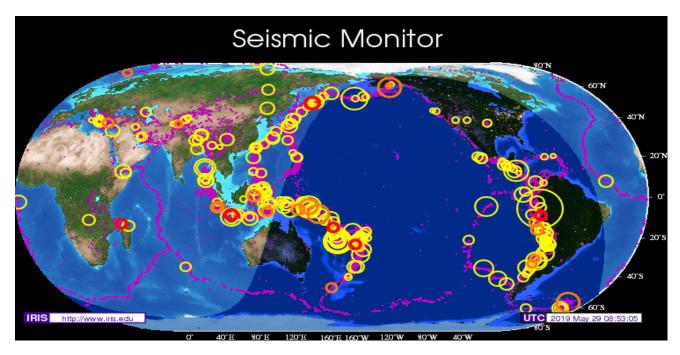
In the Gospels, the Lord Jesus Christ mentions "earthquakes" three times in His prophecy of the End Times:

"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. "Matthew 24:7

"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these are the beginnings of sorrows." (Mark 13:8 KJV)

"And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven." (Luke 21:11 KJV)

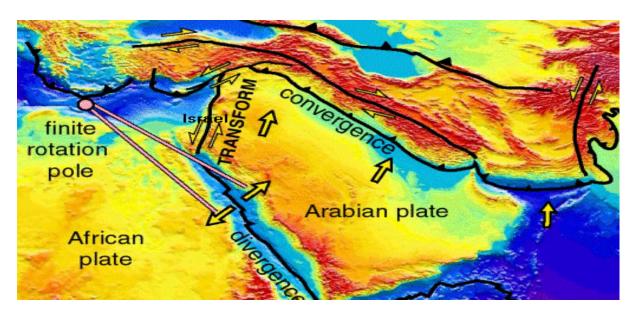
These are verses we all have heard preached over and over again, and with every TV news report of another earthquake somewhere in the world, a preacher somewhere is inspired to preach it as a sure sign that the end is near. The problem is, earthquakes happen all across the Earth every day and the yearly averages of quake activity have remained fairly constant for many decades.



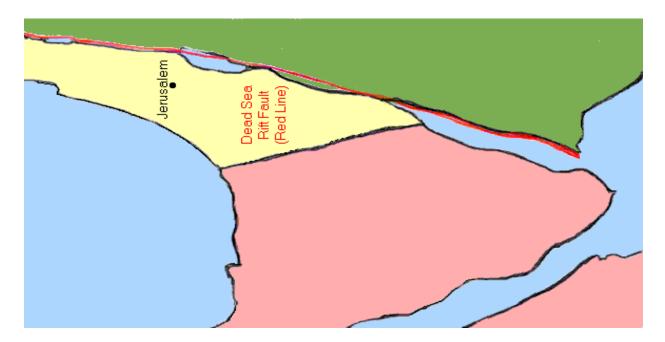


Active Seismic Activity Map from <a href="http://ds.iris.edu/seismon/">http://ds.iris.edu/seismon/</a> Click the link to go the site's interactive Monitor page

The Earth's crust is divided into about 12 major "plates" which are constantly shifting, producing earthquakes and volcanic activity on every continent. The Middle East and the countries on the eastern rim of the Mediterranean basin are situated at a geologic crossroads of tectonic plate boundaries:



The region is crisscrossed by several major fault lines. The arrows on the chart above indicate the directions the respective plates are moving in relation to adjoining plates. Both Turkey and Greece have experienced major quakes in recent times and geologists have noted that the floor of the Mediterranean Sea is fracturing like a sheet of glass as the plates shift. But the focal point of End Times Biblical seismicity is driven by a Transform Fault that's just east of Jerusalem.



The prophesied major future activity will occur along the Dead Sea Transform fault, a continuation of the Red Sea and East African Rift system. This fault runs directly under the Dead Sea, up through the Jordan River valley, the Sea of Galilee, and northward through Lebanon.

The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah in Abraham's day was in an area towards the southern end of the Dead Sea. The Bible's mention of a rain of fire and brimstone from heaven on those wicked cities (*See Genesis 19:24 - 29*) indicates that the Divine judgment came from sudden volcanic/tectonic activity in a "plain" area which is now submerged and part of the floor of the Dead Sea. There is evidence that suggests the present configuration of the Dead Sea is only about as old as the time of Abraham. In the days of the Garden of Eden, there was no Dead Sea (like today), but a river flowed through that part of the rift zone towards the south. This is discussed in more detail on our page, The Lost Rivers of the Garden of Eden.

Historically speaking, the Dead Sea transform fault has displayed catastrophic tectonic activity in the geologic past and should be expected to do so again in the near future. It should be assumed that, in addition to increased tectonic activity along the Dead Sea transform, there will also be increased tectonic and volcanic activity across the globe during those times. But for the sake of this study, we will focus mainly on the Holy Land.

The Dead Sea fault boundary passes about 25 miles east of Jerusalem which, according to the Bible, will be the epicentre for at least two great future earthquakes, the last of which will be the strongest quake to shake the world since man was created.

"And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven." (Revelation 11:13 KJV)

"And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great." (Revelation 16:18 KJV)

Earthquakes however will not be the only geologic activity to occur in Israel between now and the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. There will also be volcanic activity in the regions south of Jerusalem and west of the Dead Sea, according to the prophet Isaiah:

"The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea. And the unicorns shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness. For it is the day of the LORD'S vengeance, and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion. And the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch." *Isaiah 34:6-9* 

This "Idumea" is a region that in Greco-Roman times was bordered on the east by the Dead Sea and also encompassed Hebron and Beersheba, a large area south of Jerusalem. The word translated "pitch" is a Hebrew word which means "to liquefy" and speak of asphalt, which liquefies when heated by the sun or any heat source. The reference to "brimstone" suggests volcanic activity. If taken literally, this passage says that the burning asphalt will flow like streams. Is there asphalt in the land of Idumea? You bet there is! It is a documented geological reality:

Footnote: At the end of 1985, OEIL (later called INOC, Israel National Oil Companya government owned entity) suspended all drilling operations in order to carry out a comprehensive basin analysis study over all of Israel. Only limited exploration work continued by private operators, including the drilling of two Jurassic wells in the north-western part of the Negev which yielded oil shows but no discoveries. INOC recommenced exploration around the Dead Sea area where a large amount of asphalt oil shows encouraged continued exploration without resulting in any commercial discoveries. (Additional info on Asphalt Oil in Israel can be found on this link:

http://www.zionoil.com/info-packet
contents/12 Jacobs Blessing Booklet Final.pdf)

Can volcanic activity spew asphalt instead of lava? Yes, it happens! Read more about it at this link: What is an asphalt volcano?

Will volcanic activity outside of the immediate Middle-East region also factor into End-Time Geology and Prophecy? It is a possibility. In Revelation 9:2 we find this verse:

"And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit." (Revelation 9:2 KJV)

Could what the prophet described here be effects from the eruption of one (or more) of the Earth's "Super volcanoes" during the Great Tribulation period? Certainly, as the above verse says, under the scenario of a Super volcano eruption the sun and the air would be darkened globally by the smoke and ash from such a mega volcanic event. Global temperatures would fall, crops would fail, and famines would be triggered. Air traffic would come to a standstill because jets could not fly through the gritty ash plumes ejected high into the sky. Satellite communications would fail in many regions as the atmospheric borne ash blocked out or severely disrupted Ku band communications. Collectively these events would precipitate a melt-down of the global economy and the world would be plunged into utter chaos. Population centres downwind of the Super volcano eruption would be buried under meters of volcanic ash. It would certainly be a hell-on-earth that modern mankind had never experienced, would be helpless to prevent and sore pressed to deal with on a global scale. The "Holy Land" is just 'downwind' from two nearby known Super volcanoes, Campi Flegrei, near Naples, Italy and Santorini, an island of Greece.

But such an occurrence is only speculation and is based on a geologic possibility. So, let's return our focus to the immediate Middle-East geology and examine another prophecy. It is the prophecy of a mountain in Israel being split at the very moment of the Lord's return:

"Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee." (Zechariah 14:3-5 KJV)

This passage indicates that when the Lord returns, the Mount of Olives east of Jerusalem will split and form a valley through which the Jews will escape at the height of the battle of Armageddon.

The world will be so devastated at the time of the Lord's return that the prophet Jeremiah compared it to the condition of the Earth before it was restored in the seven days of Genesis:

"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger. For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end. For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black: because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it." (Jeremiah 4:23-28 KJV)

It should be pointed out that the above passage has been mistakenly cited by many as a proof passage for the Genesis Gap Doctrine because the phrase "was without form, and void" exactly matches the words to describe the Earth's condition in Genesis 1:2 before the start of the seven days. That assumption is an error. The passage above is a reference to the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. We know this because of the key phrase: "...the PRESENCE of the LORD, and by his fierce anger ..." and the mention of "cities" in ruin during this time. No

cities were built on the earth in Adam's world until after he left the Garden of Eden (See Genesis 4:17). So the time context here is most certainly future, not past.

The specific phrase, "was without form and void" for this future event is very instructive. At the end of the great tribulation period, the condition of the Earth and heavens is one of total devastation, resulting from the effects of global warfare, geologic upheaval, great plagues and the great wrath of God poured out on an unbelieving world. By the time the Lord Jesus Christ Returns the world will require complete regeneration.

"And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." (Matthew 19:28 KJV)

This "regeneration" is spoken of in Isaiah Chapter 65:

"For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." (Isaiah 65:17-22)

This "new heavens and a new earth" spoke of here is a REGENERATION). It is the same type of creative work God did during the seven days of Genesis. The phrase "was without form and void" at Genesis 1:2 referred to the condition of the Earth before the creation of Adam's world. The phrase "was without form and void" at Jeremiah 4:23 refers to the condition of the Earth at the coming of the last Adam and His new world (*See 1 Corinthians 15:45*). The Bible's interpretive Rule of First Mention supports this scriptural comparison.

What the prophet Isaiah's passage is speaking about is the coming future world and restored conditions on the face of a regenerated Earth following the terrible events of the great tribulation. The time of this correlates to Revelation 20:1, at the beginning of the "thousand years" Kingdom of Heaven on the Earth. This

creation of a new heavens and Earth is not to be confused with the new "heaven and earth" of Revelation 21:1, because that is a separate creative event which happens at the end of the one thousand years. Proof of this distinction is found within the above passage where it says the "child shall die," which shows that this is a time when death still has a grip on surviving mankind. It should also be noted that in the 1,000-year coming Kingdom, with the Lord Jesus Christ ruling the Earth from His throne at Jerusalem, the newly-created heavens and Earth have been restored to conditions similar to those which existed on the Earth from Adam to Noah. That is, those born during that time will live long lives, like antediluvian man. We know this because the life spans are described as "the days of a tree" and most trees live a few hundred years. Death is not finally defeated until the end of the one thousand years (see Revelation 21:14).

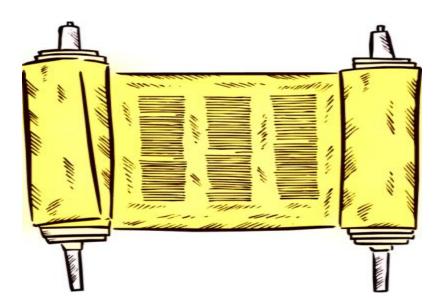
At the end of the 1,000-year Kingdom of Heaven on the Earth, the entire universe will be completely destroyed, including the present Earth, the stars, and all physical things. Death will be once and for all done away with and the unsaved consigned to eternal torment. Then God will make a new heaven and Earth (see Revelation 21:1), and will make all things new. The story will have come full circle. That is the future. Today we must deal with this present evil world and be prepared to meet God. Great geologic upheavals, astronomical events and worse are coming in the near future according to the Bible.

"And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call." *Joel 2:30-32* 

"That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung." (Zephaniah 1:15-17)

In the next chapter we are going to discuss the visions of Daniel and how show you just how close the world is to the brink of end-time prophecy fulfilment.

# The Book of Daniel is Unsealing - Focus on the Middle East and Prophecy!



People today are of the mindset that the events of the Old and New Testaments all happened back in the "Biblical days" of human history. They fail to grasp the awesome truth that we are still living in Biblical days. They never ended. What will yet happen on the face of this Earth in the years to come has already been prophesied and penned in the Bible. There remain things written in the Bible, in both the New an Old Testaments, that are yet to happen.

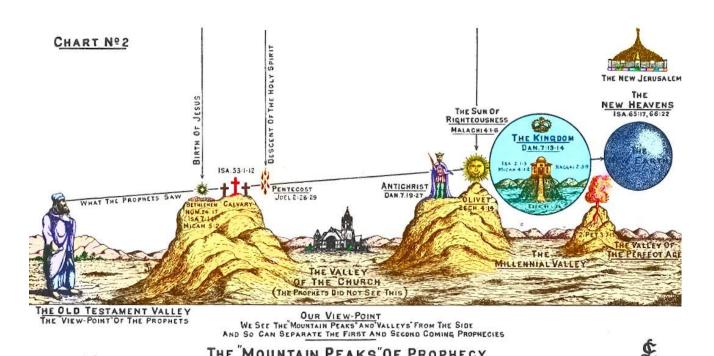
The Bible deals with the history of man's world from the beginning of our world, across historical time and into our present time and forward until the very end of time as we understand it. You are living RIGHT NOW in Biblical days. The great "I AM" of Exodus 3:14, who spoke to Moses from the burning bush, STILL IS and speaks to us today through His written Holy Word and the Holy Spirit. And also, that ancient malignant spirit of Satan is still around too and whispering in the ears of modern man, "Yea hath God said?" (*Genesis 3:1*)

Although the prophets and disciples have long since passed from our world, what they spoke lives on just as relevant today as it was in the day it was written. If you really trust the Bible, it can and will tell you where we are today and what is about to come to pass in the very near future. We will now shift gears from, "In the beginning" to the "Beginning of the end."

## The Other "Gaps" of the Bible

There are other "gaps" in the Old Testament aside from the one at Genesis 1:2 concerning Creation. One of those "gaps" is the Church Age, the roughly 2000year period of time between the first and second advents of the Lord Jesus Christ. And there is yet still another "gap" called the one-thousand-year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ when He returns in glory to rule the Earth from Jerusalem (see Revelation chapter 20). All these gaps are hidden within the writings of the Old Testament, but they are revealed by the illumination of the Holy Spirit through the doctrines of Christ contained within the New Testament.

The prophets in Old Testament days mostly proclaimed the "mountain peaks" of prophetic events (like the crucifixion, the Day of the Lord, and the Final Judgment) and the things pertaining to the Jewish peoples. The revelation of the "Bride" of Christ (both the Jews and Gentiles saved by Grace in the Church Age) and her time resides in the valley between the mountains of the first and second coming of the Lord (between the Crucifixion and the Day of the Lord). The one-thousand-years future Millennial Kingdom resides in yet another prophetic valley (between the Day of the Lord and the Final Judgment). Here is a chart from Clarence Larkin's book, "Dispensational Truth" that visually illustrates these great Bible truths:



THE MOUNTAIN PEAKS OF PROPHECY

DESIGNED AND DRAWN BY GLARENCE LARKIN FORCHASE PHIL'A. PA COPYRIGHTED

Prophetically speaking, we are living today on the far side of the valley of the Church, time wise, and quickly moving up the mountain slope towards the coming of the Antichrist and the great Day of the Lord and the end times of God's dealing with the Jews, His chosen people. There is an overlap of the Church Age (*the Bride*) and God's dealings with His Chosen People (*the Hebrews*) in what the Old Testament prophets referred to as the "latter days" (*see: Nu 24:14; De 4:30; De 31:29; Jer 23:20; Jer 30:24; Jer 48:47; Jer 49:39; Eze 38:8,16; Da 2:28; Da 10:14; Ho 3:5*) and the "last days" (*see: Ge 49:1; Isa 2:2; Mic 4:1; Ac 2:17; 2Ti 3:1; Heb 1:2; Jas 5:3; 2Pe 3:3*).

"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in." (Romans 11:25 KJV)

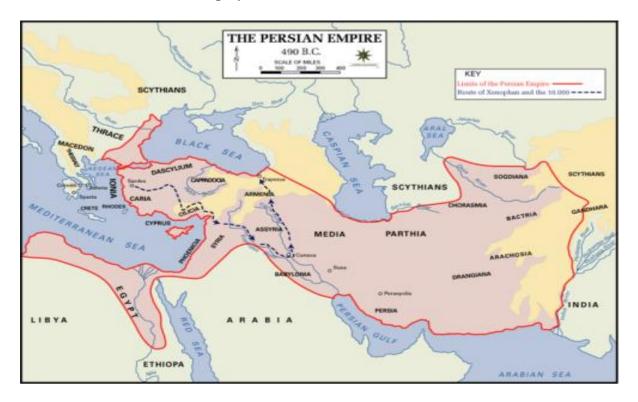
There are many things written by the prophets that will happen during this overlap, and must happen, before Daniel's "Seventieth Week" even begins (see: Daniel 9:24-27) and before the "Bride" is called out of this world (see: 1 Corinthians 15:52, 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 2 Thessalonians 2:2). The future events described in Daniel chapters 10-11 are yet to take place and a careful and prayerful reading of those prophetic events reveal they will require much longer than just seven years to unfold in entirety. So, understand, there is no clear-cut dividing line between the end of the Church Age and the beginning of the Daniel's last prophetic week. Some would argue stating such would falsify the doctrine of the "Immanency of the Rapture" of the Church. I disagree, because the prophecy deals with the Hebrew people and Jerusalem, not the Church. The Lord could call out the Bride any time before the wrath of God is poured out on the world (Song of Solomon 2:10).

This overlap of the Church Age and God's end-times dealings with His "Chosen People" is recognizable beginning with the Hebrew Jubilee period of 1917, in which the world saw the liberation of the Jewish Holy Land from Ottoman Turk rule and the subsequent establishment of the State of Israel in 1948. In the Jubilee Year of 1967 the Jews liberated the Old City of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount area. Then, in 1979, the Iranian Revolution catapulted the ancient land of Persia back onto the global political stage.

The Iranian Revolution inspired an exponential rise of Islamic fundamentalist sentiment against the west; an angry wind that began to blow with increasing velocity across the Middle east and the larger Islamic world. When the Islamic world saw that Iran could blatantly snub its nose at the powerful west, and get away with it, others quickly followed. The subsequent Iran/Iraq war, the rise of Al

Qaeda and Osama Bin Laden, the attack on New York on September 11, 2001, the Gulf Wars, the wars in Afghanistan and Pakistan and the rise of the so-called 'Islamic State' all directly or indirectly precipitated from this seminal event. The Arab Spring uprisings in North Africa and the Middle East and the increase in sectarian strife between Sunni and Shiite Islamic factions across the Muslim world are also part of this equation. Emerging out of this angry and raging sea, the Iran of today is a powerful religious-political force; its rising horns of influence pushing westward and northward, threatening all those that dare to stand in its way.

Iran is Biblical Persia and, in retrospect, we can now see that the emergence of Iran as a world power, and a modern-day growing global threat, is prophesized in the book of Daniel. The prophetic seal on the book of Daniel is unsealing right before our very eyes. The Church Age is rapidly drawing to a close and the shadows of the End-Times are rising upon the world.



The Old Persian Empire encompassed the areas of present-day Iraq, Iran, Syria, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Pakistan and also occupied-present day Turkey, Palestine, northern Egypt and Libya around 500 B.C. The Persian Empire figured most prominently in the captivity of Israel in Biblical history and, as we shall point out, Persia also figures prominently in future prophecy and the beginning of the "latter days" (See Daniel 10:14).

It is no coincidence that the Middle East is a powder keg, awaiting only the proper spark to explode; it is no coincidence that radical Islam has become the global terror threat; it is no coincidence that Iran is threatening to wipe the nation of Israel off the map; and it is no coincidence that Israel exists as a nation, once again back in most of the very same Biblical lands that God deeded to Abraham thousands of years ago. The official recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital by the United States of America, a major policy shift, and the precipitated international condemnation that followed is all part of a pattern. There is, yet once again, a resurgence of Anti-Semitism in the world. None of this is coincidence; it is the fulfilling and unfolding of God's Word and is setting the stage for the fulfilment of coming events written about in the book of Revelation.

During the days of the Old Persian Empire when Israel was in captivity, the prophet Daniel received many visions concerning his people and Jerusalem and what would happen to Israel in the times before the end. God told Daniel that those things would be sealed until this "time of the end." It is written:

"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." (Daniel 12:4 KJV)

"And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end." (Daniel 12:9 KJV)

To begin to comprehend the context of Persia (*present day Iran*) in the prophecies of Daniel, we need to start with the vision of the "Ram" at the river:

"And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai." (Daniel 8:2 KJV)

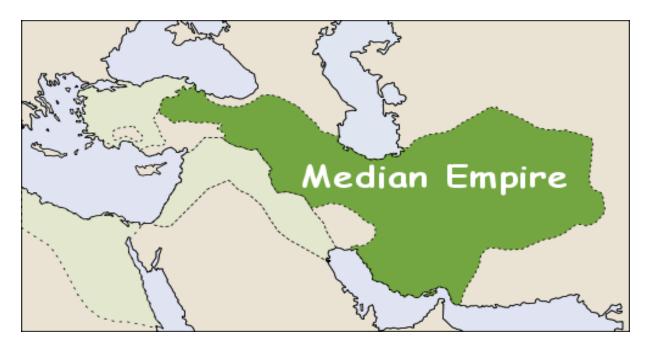
Daniel was in what today is south western Iran when he had this vision. Persia and Mesopotamia is the context and focus of this vision.

"<sup>3</sup>Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. <sup>4</sup>I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great. <sup>5</sup>And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, **and touched not the ground**: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. <sup>6</sup>And he came to the ram that had two horns,

which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power. <sup>7</sup>And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand." (Daniel 8:3-7 KJV)

The Bible goes on to define the identities of this "ram" and the "he goat" spoken of in this prophecy:

"And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be. The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of **Media and Persia**. And the rough goat is the king of **Grecia**: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king." (Daniel 8:19-21 KJV)



First of all, the Lord God reiterates that this is an END TIMES prophecy; a yet future event. Then the Lord God identifies the two horns of the ram as the kings of "Media and Persia" which would roughly indicate the land area from eastern Turkey and Iraq into Iran and eastward into Afghanistan and Pakistan. Politically speaking, Syria is now allied with the Iranians and their Hezbollah segregates against Israel. Expect to see some kind of future Iran/Pakistan political-military alliance.

The king of "Grecia" is a reference to the peoples immediately west and north of present day Turkey, specifically, the regions around Greece, Macedonia and up into the Crimea and present day Ukraine and the Balkan states. Some scholars interpret this king of "Grecia" to be a generalized reference to Europe and the western world. But, if we restrict our interpretation to a more literal one, a somewhat startling prospect arises. And the seeds of that prospect are found in the current European Union economic crisis in Greece.



What would happen to Greece should the crisis there deepen and the Greeks leave the Euro Zone? Besides defaulting on their debt, and throwing Europe into an economic tailspin, such a possibility would precipitate a political rift between the Greek peoples and Europe and a shift into the Russian sphere of influence. There is a common strong religious bond between the Greeks and the Russians because these regions are bastions of the Greek Orthodox faith. And I am not talking just about Greece or Russia, proper. This includes the Orthodox peoples of Cyprus, the Balkans and the east European nations situated between Greece and Russia. There is a strong enmity between the Greeks (*Christian Orthodox*) and the

Turks (*Muslims*) that goes back to the conquest of Constantinople (*Istanbul*) and the rise of the Ottoman Empire.

There exists the strong possibility of a new political power block rising across this region and peoples, which would become aligned against the west and Europe for economic reasons, and against the Muslim peoples of Turkey and the rising Islamic forces to the east for religious and political reasons. There eventually would emerge one leading nation within that power block who could constitute the "he goat" who will be moved to attack the ram and crush the empire. So, in effect, we have a prophecy of a future 'Grecia' military machine attacking and bringing down the future resurgent eastern empire of the Medes and Persians. Certainly the winds of politics are blowing is this direction.

The Russian aggression in the Crimea and eastern Ukraine is just another unfolding episode in this story, as are the crisis of the ongoing tide of refugees flooding into the Baltics and Europe from Syria, the rise of the Islamic State (ISIS) in Syria and Iraq, and the Russian and Iranian military intervention on the side of the Syrian dictator, president Assad. And what effect will that intervention have on Turkey which is fighting the Kurds and ISIS and insisting on military action against Syria? These are complex issues that must be factored into the prophetic equation.

We are certainly living in the days before this 'Ram' prophecy will be fulfilled, but we are also living in the times when the prophecy is actually unsealing right before our eyes, so that we can understand what is happening in this world and where all this is leading. The Ram is rising, it is becoming "great" but the larger of its two horns is yet to rise. Specifically, the lands of Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Afghanistan and Pakistan are yet to fully join forces with the Iranians. It should also be pointed out that these nations, although they are all predominantly Islamic nations, are not Arab nations. These are different peoples than the descendants of the Ishmaelite who inhabit the predominately Sunni Arab nations to the south that are on the western shores of the Persian Gulf (*Arab Gulf*) and in northern Africa.

Having said this, allow me to digress for a moment and show why the prophecy of the "he Goat" and the "Ram" is still future prophecy, and not the description of a past historical event, as many Bible scholars argue. Proponents of the historical interpretation school (*the amillennialists*) claim that this vision was fulfilled in the conquering of Persia by Alexander the Great (*about 330 BC*). But does the Bible really support that interpretation?

Notice in the prophecy that the "he goat" came from the West. Ok, so did Alexander the Great, but Alexander's army touched the ground every step of the way there. The prophecy says he "touched not the ground," and that part of the ancient prophecy could not be literally fulfilled (*or comprehended*) until the invention of the airplane. What the prophecy seems to be describing could be a massive airborne launched attack from the west; the modern doctrine of warfare (*i.e. fighter jets, bombers, troop transports, and air and sea launched cruise missiles*). The feet of attacking troops will not need to touch the ground until they parachute in or make marine landings.

There is a religious/political cultural line that runs between the Greeks and the Turks; the peoples of the west facing the people of the east; the predominately Orthodox Greek peoples against the Turks and the Islamic peoples. It is no coincidence that the beginning of John's visions in the Book of Revelation focuses on the western shores of Turkey. That is the Biblical land of Asia Minor where the seven churches of Revelation are located. Are you starting to see the connection?



All of the seven churches of Revelation chapters 1-3 are situated along the western edge of Turkey. The Aegean Sea between Greece and Turkey is a geopolitical dividing line between the so called lands of Christianity to the west and the lands of Islam to the east. The Apostle John was on an island named Patmos (*currently a Greek controlled island*), situated in the Aegean sea just west of the Asia Minor mainland, when he saw his vision.

Daniel's visions are a complement to the visions of John. The Middle East region is the future literal focus of the events in the book of Revelation.

Also make note that all this must happen BEFORE any of the 10 kings or horns of Revelation actually come upon the scene. In fact, notice the wording of the last sentence in that prophecy:

"And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king." (Daniel 8:21 KJV)

That is, the king that leads the attack against the kings of the lands of the ancient Medes and Persians will occupy and breakup this resurgent empire and establish himself as the next ruler in the region. He will be the FIRST of the 10 kings of Revelation (See Daniel 7:24 & Revelation 17:13). The rest of the kings are nations in the Middle East region, not Europe.

Of course, all of this is just background to the key focus of end-times prophecy; the nation of Israel and the time of Jacob's troubles (see Jeremiah 30). The future Jerusalem will be the ultimate "ground zero" of all geopolitical focus and the Temple Mount will be the detonator. All present conflicts in this area of the world are but a precursor to the main events that are yet to come to pass on the Earth before the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. But, before the Lord Jesus Christ returns, the Antichrist must appear on the prophetic stage.

When this person actually first appears on the prophetic scene is not clear. In the book of Revelation, John says that one of the seven churches, located at Pergamos, is in a city where "Satan's seat is" (See Revelation 2:12-17). Since the Antichrist is Satan incarnate, Pergamos may be where this "man of sin" first emerges or establishes his power base. But the Bible is very clear in telling us that when he is finally revealed to the Jews and the world for what he really is, it will be in the future Jerusalem and in a Third Temple yet to be built in Jerusalem.

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is

worshipped; so that he as God **sitteth in the temple of God**, shewing himself that he is God." *2 Thessalonians 2:3-4* 

The Bible believer knows that, however all this comes about, the still unbelieving nation of Israel will build a Temple on the Mount in Jerusalem and re-institute Temple worship and sacrifices (see Da 8:11-13; Da 11:31; Da 12:11). And this temple MUST be built before the Antichrist is revealed and before the Lord Jesus Christ returns and destroys him and his armies.

Considering the decades of bloodshed and violence between Israel and the Arabs, and the entrenched respective positions of both the Jews and the Arabs concerning the Temple Mount and final status of Jerusalem, one can only imagine the magnitude of any sequence of geopolitical events that would bring this prophecy to pass. It WILL come to pass sometime in the near future; a literal Temple will be built and it is a prophecy you can 100% bank on coming to pass before the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. How this will happen is unclear.

Israel claims Jerusalem as its eternal capital. The Palestinians and the Islamic world want Jerusalem too. In a change of policy that stunned the world, the United States of America formally recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital near the end of 2017. This act changed the political calculus of the issue and only increased the uncertainty of Jerusalem's final status and the animas between the sides.

Is there now a possible compromise to peace on the horizon? One key to how this could come about may also be found in the writings of the prophet Daniel. In future times, after that Temple is built in Jerusalem, there is a prophecy about a "Holy Covenant" already being in place for some time prior. Here are the references:

"And he shall confirm **the covenant** with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate." (Daniel 9:27 KJV)

"Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart [shall be] against **the holy covenant**; and he shall do [exploits], and return to his own land." (Daniel 11:28 KJV)

"For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore, he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against **the holy covenant**: so shall he do; he

shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake **the holy covenant**." (Daniel 11:30 KJV)

"And such as do wickedly against **the covenant** shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do [exploits]." (Daniel 11:32 KJV)

These passages of prophecy seem to indicate that there will be some form of treaty or "covenant" between Israel and their cousins in the Arab world. It could be over the question of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount; a covenant between both sides to share the Mount. The Jews build their Temple and are free to worship there, while the Arabs are free to worship beside them at the Al-Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques, with both sides respecting each other's religious claim to the Mount. A farfetched idea? Not really! Look at what is said in the book of Revelation about the Temple and the Mount during the Great Tribulation:

"And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty [and] two months." (Revelation 11:1-2 KJV)

Keep in mind that both Israel and the Arabs are blood cousins, being the common descendants of Abraham through his sons Isaac and Ishmael respectively. Both people's faiths are rooted in the same Old Testament traditions, and they are both from common genetic stock, although the Messianic line is through the bloodline of Isaac and Jacob (*the Hebrews*), a fact the Arabs deny. And, politically, both of these people have something else in common - both consider Iran a threat.

On a Bible doctrinal basis, both the Jews and Arabs have one more thing in common (*besides eschewing pork*): Both their religions deny that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that God came in the flesh in the person of the Lord Jesus.

"And every spirit that **confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh** is not of God: and **this is that [spirit] of antichrist**, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." (1 John 4:3 KJV)

"For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist." (2 John 1:7 KJV)

Therefore, based on the authority of the Scriptures, both the mainline Jewish and Islamic faiths of today (to say nothing of other world religions and apostate "Christian" cults and sects who deny the physical resurrection of Jesus and His Deity) are all under that spirit of antichrist. It is not inconceivable that both the Jews and Arabs, indeed the whole unsaved world, could find a common basis for religious unity under that spirit (i.e. religions of works and ritual, not faith in the shed blood of Jesus and His resurrection for justification by faith before God).

Jerusalem is considered a holy city by three faiths; Judaism, Christianity and Islam. What the Bible does tell us about the Jerusalem of that future time (*before the second coming*) is revealed in the book of Revelation. And what is revealed gives us an unbelievable glance into the conditions at Jerusalem at that future time.

In that day Jerusalem will be a "great city" in this present evil world and a global center of religious worship, commerce and political power. It will be a corrupt place where religious authorities (*much like the Pharisees and Sanhedrin of olden days*) rule over and suppress the poor and persecute the truly righteous. And once again the sins of Jerusalem and the world will cause the Lord God to rise up and send prophets to Jerusalem, preaching repentance and that the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand; the very same message of John the Baptist, Elijah and Jesus. (*see Matthew 17:10-11 & Mark 9:11-12*). Two of those future coming prophets are killed by the rulers of the city in that day:

"And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the **great city**, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified." *Revelation 11:8* 

The Jerusalem of the future is likened unto Sodom and Egypt. In Old Testament Jerusalem, the city was replete with sodomites when the Lord was angry with His people for their falling away from His laws and commandments (see 1Ki 14:24; 1Ki 15:12; 1Ki 22:46; 2Ki 23:7). When the Hebrews were in Egypt they were cruelly oppressed as being in an iron furnace (see De 4:20; 1Ki 8:51; Jer 11:4). Future Jerusalem, being likened to Egypt indicates that the Hebrew people may at that future time be oppressed by an occupying foreign power or in captivity in their own land by a gentile nation. Perhaps this is why other references in Revelation to the "great city" refer to it as "Babylon" and "The Mother of Harlots". These comparisons may be telling of the level of depravity and hardship being endured by the righteous in the "great city" at that future time.

Keep in mind that, in Old Testament prophecy, cities like Jerusalem are spoken of as women, and usually in less than flattering terms when the Lord God is angry with them:

"Zion spreadeth forth her hands, and there is none to comfort her: the LORD hath commanded concerning Jacob, that his adversaries should be round about him: Jerusalem is as a menstruous woman among them." (Lamentations 1:17 KJV)

It is a popular belief in the fundamental protestant school of prophecy that Papal Rome and the Catholic Church system somehow comes to power in the end times, and that Rome is the identity of the "woman" spoken of in Revelation as riding the beast:

"And the angel said unto me, wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are **seven mountains**, on which the woman sitteth." (Revelation 17:7-9 KJV)

Since the city of Rome is situated on seven hills, a phrase commonly associated with the city of Rome, they interpret this passage to be pointing to the Roman Catholic Church of Rome. Therefore, they believe that Rome is "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS." (See Revelation 17:5) They further justify this identification based on this verse:

"And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. (Revelation 17:15 KJV)

Reasoning that the Catholic Church has over a billion members in all countries across the world, and since the Catholic Church claims to be the "True Church" of the Apostles, then this could be none other than Rome the Bible is speaking of in Revelation. They then cite this verse as further justification:

"And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth." (Revelation 17:18 KJV)

The interpreters claim that the Catholic Church rules the politics of many countries on the Earth. They then make the point that the Vatican is a sovereign "State" apart from Italy, and that the "Holy See" has its own embassies and diplomatic status around the world. All these things are true, except this identification of Rome as the "woman" riding the beast of Revelation does not exactly pass the rightly-divided Biblical smell test. And here is why:

Yes, Rome is a city that sits on seven hills, but so do the cities of Istanbul, Turkey (formerly Constantinople) and Jerusalem (and for that matter, so does Cincinnati, Ohio). HOWEVER, Jerusalem is specifically referred to as the "great city" in the book of Revelation, not Rome...

"And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the **great city**, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, **where also our Lord was crucified**." *Revelation 11:8* ...and is proclaimed by the Scriptures to be the true whore of Babylon:

"And the **great city** was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath." (Revelation 16:19 KJV)

"And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." Rev 17:5

The Bible tells us that future Jerusalem, not Rome, is the true "whore" of Revelation. In the future Jerusalem, the City of Peace will be the city of a great false peace. It will be a centre of power much like ancient Babylon and will once again go a whoring as she did so many times in Old Testament days. At this future time Israel will have abandoned its current democratic form of government and will once again be a theocratic monarchy, ruled by kings and ruling with the kings of the earth. Now, I know that you may find this to be shocking and hard to believe. After all, we all think of Jerusalem as the heart of the holy land and the place where the Lord Jesus Christ will someday reign (and He will), but not before He avenges Himself on the city that rejected the Lamb of God and nailed Him to a tree outside the city walls.

How do we know for sure that Jerusalem is the "woman" spoken of? Consider this undeniable truth: In the Bible God says that Babylon, the mother of harlots, is responsible for shedding specific holy blood:

"And in her was found the blood of **prophets**, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth." Rev 18:24

And the only city on the face of the Earth that meets those criteria, according to the Bible, is the city of Jerusalem:

"Nevertheless, I must walk to day, and tomorrow, and the day following: **for it** cannot be that a prophet perishes out of Jerusalem." (Luke 13:33 KJV)

And that is the verse of Scripture that nails the woman's identity. Jesus Himself said this. And Jesus (who was also a prophet), was slain at Jerusalem. In fact, search your Bible and you will find that EVERY true prophet of the Lord God who perished did so at Jerusalem.

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which **killest the prophets**, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! (Luke 13:34 KJV)

I know that some of you will find this revelation troubling. That is understandable, since we know that God has not finished dealing with or completely forsaken the children of Israel. Paul testified to this truth:

"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance." (Romans 11:25-29 KJV)

Before God saves the Jewish remnant, they must be brought to repentance and their eyes must be opened. What happens at Jerusalem in the future is how He brings that about. (See Romans 2:4 & Hosea 3:5)

There is another corner stone prophecy in the book of Daniel that you should study:

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, [that] from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the **Messiah the Prince** [shall be] seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof [shall be] with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and

for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate." (Daniel 9:24-27 KJV)

There are two (2) "princes" spoken of in this passage. There is "Messiah the Prince" (a reference to Jesus - note that the "P" in prince is capitalized in your KJB). Then there is the "prince of the people that shall come." This is not Jesus, but another prince (the Antichrist) and the passage is speaking of Jerusalem in the future. (Notice the "p" of this latter prince is not capitalized in the KJB.) Also, keep in mind the mention of the "holy covenant" which could be a peace deal between the Jews and the Arabs that we mentioned previously.

The seventy weeks are seventy times seven years, or 490 years. This is the sum total of time God has determined for dealing with the Hebrew people and Jerusalem. This includes the time from history past (after the Babylonian captivity), up until the future day of the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and His anointing as the King of Kings. As you can see right off the bat, it has been over 2400 years since these seventy weeks of prophecy started, and they are not yet completed. And this is where the "gap" of the Church Age enters the picture. The prophetic clock was stopped for the duration of the Church Age.

The fullness of the Gentiles has just about come in and the Lord God will once again turn His mercy to unbelieving Israel and save them. But in order to do that, a great time of testing and punishment is still ahead for His chosen people. He will bring them to repentance at Jerusalem, which is 'Ground Zero' for the Great Tribulation. Our Bible tells us that the resurgence of the Persian Empire is only the beginning of the end. The Ram is already pushing its influence northward, southward and westward; there will be more wars and conflict in the Middle East region before the end.

The daily news is filled with ever increasing concern about Iran's nuclear ambitions. Will Iran build a nuclear bomb? Will they use it? Will the Israelis preemptively attack in an attempt to stop them? The major western powers (the U.S. and Europe) are currently working to pressure Iran to cease nuclear fuel production through economic sanctions. The Russians and China, who derive wealth and commerce resources from doing business with Iran, are resisting such economic sanctions. Meanwhile, the rulers of the Iranian government, a hard line Islamic regime that has publically declared it is hell-bent on destroying the nation of Israel, will not stop their march towards development of nuclear weapons. It is also apparent that Iran is getting technical assistance for rockets and nuclear

devices from North Korea. Diplomatic efforts will eventually fail. There is a nuclear showdown approaching.

In closing, consider this: In the book of Revelation, just after John hears the "trumpet" and is caught up to heaven, a prophetic event that has been equated by many to be a "type" reference to the future "Rapture" of the Church, (see Revelation 4:1), we read this passage:

"And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see." Rev 6:1

John describes hearing something that sounded similar to thunder just before the opening events of the Great Tribulation begin to unfold on the Earth. Could it be that what John heard was a Nuclear Explosion? The Book of Daniel is unsealing. Read it, and get understanding! It is my prayer that you will search the Scriptures, and rightly-divide them, to see what things are true and honest. TRUST YOUR BIBLE!

In the final chapter that follows, we are going to show you more reasons why the old Holy Bible King James Translation is worthy of your trust.

# RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH THE STATE OF THE WORD OF T

**Rightly-Dividing the Words of Truth** 

It has been the purpose of this study to affirm the Holy Bible as the final authority on all questions of natural history and spiritual truth. We have chosen to use the literal wording of the old King James Authorized Version of the Bible (based on the

original translation work of 1611 and revised in 1769), because it predates today's denominational Christian movements. Thus, it is a translation free from contamination by modern "Christian Scholarship" and textual bias. It is also a translation free of scientific contamination because it predates all works of the founding fathers of the Geological sciences (*Nicholas Steno 1638-1686, James Hutton 1726-1797, Charles Lyell 1797-1875, and William Smith 1769-1839*) and predates the publication of Darwin's 'On the Origin of Species' by over 200 years. If the written words of the English language Bible of 1611 were truth back in 1611 (just over 400 years ago), then those same written words will still be truth in the English language today. It is from this standard of written authority that the material on this site is presented and defended.

Although the King James Version of the Holy Scriptures is just one of many "translations" of the Scriptures, it is a self-interpreting whole with its own internal set of terminology and concepts. Additional insight into the choice of English wording can be gained from reviewing the Hebrew and Greek definitions, and I recommend doing so. Understanding of it all is provided by the Holy Spirit of Truth.

When studying God's Scriptures, it is important to keep these points in mind:

- 1. The Scriptures are self-interpreting when correctly translated.
- 2. Every single word, tense, and phrase is structured to convey PRECISE meaning.
- 3. Things that are different are NOT the same.
- 4. Things that are the same ARE the same.
- 5. There are NO real contradictions in the Scriptures. (see: John 10:35) For every apparent contradiction there is a Scriptural resolution.
- 6. The Scriptures cannot be broken.

In this world, when man communicates with his fellow man, lawyers draw up contracts which use precise word meanings. Legislatures draft laws and regulations on the same principles as do diplomats who must convey their nations' positions with concisely worded documents that effectively communicate across language and cultural differences. The use of a particular word, which conveys a particular nuance of meaning, can speak volumes. Words are parsed closely by the recipients for determination of intent and subtly of meaning. Should we not therefore expect the same principle and understanding in respecting and interpreting what God has to say to man in all matters? Of course!

In this final main chapter, we are going to review some of the previous topics discussed and amplify on their interpretation. We will also discuss *The Rule of First Mention* and how to apply it.

With respect to the doctrine that the seven days of Genesis are describing a regeneration of the heavens and Earth, replacing a previous world destroyed by God, there are several comparisons of Scripture-with-Scripture that suggest this doctrine:

Compare: "the generations of Adam" (*Genesis 5:1*) with "the generations of the heaven and the earth" (*Genesis 2:4*)

In Genesis 5:1-5 the Bible accounts the "generations of Adam," but the genealogy begins with Seth and makes NO MENTION of Cain and Abel. This is in spite of the fact that Cain and Abel were previously mentioned. Why? It is because it denotes a new beginning for the messianic line from Adam to Christ. The rebellion of Cain "who was of that wicked one" (1 John 3:12) and the murder of his brother, Abel, destroyed the first established order of things. Seth was the appointed replacement seed (Genesis 4:25). The importance of this will be explained shortly when we discuss the "Rule of First Mention" of Bible interpretation.

We're going to repeat some previous textual quotes given throughout the study to re-enforce the importance of Rightly-Dividing the Holy Bible. Compare these two verses:

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." (Genesis 1:1 KJV)

"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them." Gen2:1

Notice the singular tense of the word heaven in the first verse and the plural rendering of the word in the second verse. In both instances the word is from the same, "dual" tense Hebrew word. For that reason, critics of the AV say it is a mistranslation and thus render the word in Genesis 1:1 as plural in other contemporary English translations.

But remember: Things that are different are not the same, and by this one letter difference in rendering the word as singular in Genesis 1:1 and plural in Genesis 2:1 of the *King James Version* the Spirit is directing your attention to something very important; a subtle difference in the meaning of the term and its context. Why? To make you search for the significance of that subtle difference because it leads to more perfect understanding of the rest of the Bible in our own language

(*English*). And this difference supports the interpretive import of what we just compared between Genesis 5:1 and Genesis 2:4 and between Cain and Seth. It fits the intent of meaning.

By the way, that minor difference of an "s" or no "s" at the end of the word "heaven" in Genesis 1:1 is also directly connected to interpretation of other key concepts in passages including Genesis 1:10, Isaiah 65:17 and Revelation 21:1, and plays a major part in understanding the term "third heaven" that the Apostle Paul wrote about in 2 Corinthians 12:2.

## Compare these verses:

"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." (Genesis 1:28 KJV)

"And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth." (Genesis 1:22 KJV)

"And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." (Genesis 9:1 KJV)

The word "replenish" in 1:28 and the word "fill" in 1:22 are also from the same Hebrew word as is the word "replenish" in Genesis 9:1. Critics of the AV text are quick to point out that this Hebrew word 'male' can have different meanings, such as to "fill" something for the first time or to fill up something again. They are correct in pointing that out, but they are incorrect in calling it an unfortunate translation and then insisting it should also be changed to "fill" in Genesis 1:22 and Genesis 9:1. The Spirit moved the translators of the AV1611 Bible to make this particular nuance of distinction, and for good reason. When you compare the word "replenish" as spoken in Genesis 1:28 with the meaning of its rendering in Genesis 9:1 concerning Noah, we begin to see that the Spirit is saying something very important. Specifically, that as Noah and his family were told to go forth from the Ark and repopulate a new world because the former one and all its population had been destroyed, God was also telling Adam something very similar; specifically, to repopulate a new world after the former one and its inhabitants had been destroyed.

## **Compare:**

"And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." *Genesis 1:2* 

"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger."

## (*Jeremiah 4:23-26 KJV*)

The context of the first verse is the time in the past immediately before God says, "Let there be light" on the first day in Genesis. It was speaking of the condition of the old heaven and Earth prior to the regeneration of the seven-days of Genesis. That was the Earth's condition before it is prepared for the first Adam. The doctrinal context of the second verse is at a future time immediately after the Great Tribulation and the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. It speaks about the Earth's condition before it is prepared for the second Adam, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the regeneration of the heavens and Earth found in Isaiah 65:17. The common phrase "without form and void" is used in both verses, but are speaking of different regeneration (*creative*) events, one past and one future.

"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven." (1 Cor. 15:45-47)

Having previously defended the Genesis Gap Doctrine argument on the basis of these passages, let us now review them and TEST them against a commonly accepted rule of Biblical Interpretation: "The Rule of First Mention"

This rule states that the first mention of a word in Scripture sets the tone for the use of that particular word throughout the rest of the Bible. Let us begin by examining the first and second mention of the word "generations" in the Bible:

**1st Mention:** "These [are] the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and [there was] not a man to till the ground." (Genesis 2:4-5 KJV)

**2nd Mention:** "This [is] the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created. And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat [a son] in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:" (Genesis 5:1-3 KJV)

Notice that the second mention in the Bible of the term "generations" chronicles the family line of Adam. However, this verse begins the start of Adam's family line with Seth and not with Cain or Abel. This is extremely instructive, as anyone who reads the Bible knows that Eve gave birth to Cain and Abel BEFORE Seth. So why does this particular verse of Scripture and genealogy of Adam deliberately skip over Cain and Abel? Let's look at the Bible for the answer.

"And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, [said she], hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew." (Genesis 4:25 KJV)

This prior verse says that Seth was a replacement for the first seed (*Abel*), who was destroyed by the evil deed of his brother (*Cain*), but neither the one replaced (*nor his brother*) are mentioned in the genealogy of Genesis 5:1-3; they are skipped over. There is also a "GAP" in the "generations of Adam" from that point forward in time. Applying the "Rule of First Mention" to the first mention of the word "generations" in Genesis 2:1, we can be confident there must also be a "GAP" at the first mention. In other words, the "generations" of the "heavens and of the earth" beginning at Genesis 2:4 are a replacement for a previous heaven and Earth which, as revealed in the Genesis Gap interpretation, were eventually destroyed as a consequence of Lucifer's rebellion in the ancient past.

In order for this interpretation to be true and the "Rule of First Mention" to remain valid, every use of the word "generations" in the Bible (all 114 references) must refer to a starting point in time which skips over a previous generation or generations. And that appears to be the case. The third mention of "generations" begins with Noah:

"These [are] the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man [and] perfect in his generations, [and] Noah walked with God." (Genesis 6:9 KJV)

Noah was the beginning of a new generation, because he was the father of EVERY descendant who survived the flood and the father of us all, in the flesh. The destruction of the old world by the flood was a new starting point for reckoning

the "generations," as all before him, from Adam to Lamech, are skipped over in that verse.

This brings us to the application of the "Rule of First Mention" to another word, "replenish" (Genesis 1:23 & Genesis 9:1):

**1st Mention:** "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." (Genesis 1:28 KJV)

**2nd Mention:** "And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." (Genesis 9:1 KJV)

In the second mention of the word "replenish" in the KJV Bible, the Lord God is commanding Noah to repopulate and refill the Earth after all of the Earth's previous land inhabitants were destroyed by a flood. Noah is the starting point of a new generation. The command to "replenish" follows these event specifics:

- 1. The old world was flooded with water.
- 2. It was a judgment from God upon a world where the cumulative state of evil that began with a single act of disobedience (*in this case Adam's sin*) had led to a world filled with death and violence.
- 3. Noah was the beginning point for repopulation of the new world after the flood.

Referring back to the 1st mention of "replenish" where God commanded Adam to do so, we find these similarities:

- 1. The Earth was also flooded with water (*Genesis 1:2*).
- 2. This would infer that this flood was also a judgment from God upon a previous world where the cumulative state of evil that began with a single act of disobedience (in this case Lucifer's sin in the distant past) had led to an old world filled with death and violence. The Earth's geology is consistent with a long history of death and violence.
- 3. Adam was therefore the starting point for repopulation of the new world created in seven days after a flood. He replaced a race of beings that had populated the previous world.

If the "Rule of First Mention" is valid, these things must be so. We now will show you a third application of this rule that confirms this truth:

**1st Mention:** "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness [was] upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." (Genesis 1:2 KJV)

**2nd Mention:** "I beheld the earth, and, lo, [it was] without form, and void; and the heavens, and they [had] no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, [there was] no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place [was] a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, [and] by his fierce anger. For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end. For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black: because I have spoken [it], I have purposed [it], and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it." (Jeremiah 4:23-28 KJV)

As mentioned earlier, in the second mention of "without form, and void" in the Bible the prophet is describing the condition of the Earth and heavens, not in the past, but in the future; and that future time is following the Great Tribulation and the return of the Lord Jesus Christ to this Earth. We know this is future and not a reference to Genesis 1:2 because of the following facts:

- 1. There is mention of cities being destroyed, but we know there were no cities built on the Earth by man, made in God's image, before Adam was created and men began to multiply.
- 2. The Lord is both physically present and angry (*He is not a Spirit gently brooding over the creation as the commentators on Genesis 1:2 point out*).
- 3. The tense of the phrase "the whole land **shall**" makes this a reference to a future, not a past event.

Following the heavens and Earth found in this condition "without form, and void" in Jeremiah, the Lord will regenerate the heavens and Earth for His earthly 1,000-year Kingdom (*See Revelation chapter 20*). The Lord Jesus Christ is the SECOND ADAM (*Corinthians 15:22-47*). This second Adam (*the Lord*) and His Eve (*The Bride, His Church*) will rule over another new "heavens and earth" made from the remains of our present heavens and Earth.

These regenerations of the heavens and earth are referred to as "worlds" throughout the Bible, and in every instance these regenerations are followed by destruction of the previous "world" arrangement:

"Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:" (Galatians 1:4 KJV)

"Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting." (Luke 18:30 KJV)

"Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." (John 18:36 KJV)

"And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." *Matt 19:28* 

"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." (2 Peter 3:13 KJV)

"Hath in these last days spoken unto us by [his] Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;" (Heb. 1:2 KJV)

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." (Heb. 11:3 KJV)

"That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world." (Matthew 13:35 KJV)

The Greek word in the last two verses for "worlds" is " $\alpha\iota\omega\nu$ " (as in eon) which means an age or perpetuity of specific prevailing conditions in time upon the face of the Earth.

When you examine the Scriptures in the light of the "Rule of First Mention" and see the harmonious comparison of types and meanings interpreted by their Scriptural meaning, the truth comes through clearly to those who have ears to hear and eyes to see. If these things are not true, then the interpretive "Rule of First Mention" is invalid.

The main reason many Christian *Creation Scientists* reject the Genesis Gap interpretation is because, in their sincere zeal to defend the traditional church view of creationism, they fail to discern the differences in meaning between the Biblical words like "earth" & "world" and "create" & "made" and in so doing fail to

accept the literal wording of Bible at face value, although their claim is that they do.

Those who insist that the original Earth and all it contains were made for the first time in those seven famous days, about six thousand years ago, are quick to point out that Death came upon this world when Adam sinned:

"Wherefore, as by one-man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:" (Romans 5:12 KJV)

That verse is absolutely true, in its context. Death entered this world (*our world*) when Adam sinned about 6000 years ago. And Adam was the first man, made in the image of God, who sinned. But if you don't understand the Biblical differences between the words "world" and "earth" you cannot grasp the truth of the following points of logic and common sense:

- 1. The Scriptures say that the "serpent" tempted Eve and caused her and Adam to sin.
- 2. If the serpent tempted the man and woman to sin against God, then the serpent was disobedient and evil before Adam and Eve.
- 3. And if the "serpent" was evil before Adam fell, then the spirit of the serpent would have had to have sinned against God at some point of time BEFORE Adam sinned. Got that?
- 4. Therefore, if Death comes by sin (see: Romans 6:23 and James 1:15), and the serpent was a sinner before Adam, then Death already existed BEFORE Adam and Eve sinned. It was Adam's disobedience which allowed "Death" to enter the newly-formed pristine world. It was Lucifer's disobedience and rebellion which allowed "Death" to enter the original, ancient world on the face of the Earth a long ago. That is what your Bible says.

### **Common Sense Conclusions:**

- Adam may have been the first man to sin, but he was NOT the first living creature to sin.
- 2. Death entered into the world when Adam sinned but death already existed at a point in time BEFORE Adam sinned, in a previous "world" on the face of the earth BEFORE Adam.

Therefore, the exact English wording of the KJV translation of the Scriptures and the Genesis Gap interpretation do not contradict the validity of the fossil evidence of Death's ancient presence and past workings on this planet, nor does the interpretation contradict the doctrine of Romans 5:12, because the exact period of time between when the "serpent" sinned in his "world" and when Adam sinned in the present "world" is not defined in the Bible, and that length of time could range across hundreds of millions of years of time, exactly as the geological observations suggest.

Since Adam was the first "man" created (*made in God's Image*), there could NOT have been a previous race of "men" in the ancient world. There were however races of life forms which were "manlike" in physical structure and appearance, that Adam and Eve were commissioned to replace:

"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." (Genesis 1:28)

That would account for the remains of humanoid creatures such as the so-called "Neanderthal man" and other very old "manlike" remains that are undeniable artifacts of the fossil record but incorrectly interpreted by Evolutionists as early evidence of our ancestors. They were NOT our ancestors, but whatever they were they did exist in Earth's past and did have similar physical form to the men of this present world.

Many people say that the King James Bible is hard to understand. Actually, it would be more accurate to say that it's hard to Believe. Some things you just have to accept on faith. Again, my final admonition to you is TRUST THE HOLY BIBLE and lean not on your own understanding or church traditions. Additional studies:

The History of the Bible & The Doctrine of the Bible