

In the mind's eye

Man forgets that God knows exactly what He is doing!

I know that whatever God does, it shall be forever. Nothing can be added to it, and nothing taken from it. God does it, that men should fear before Him. That which is has already been, and what is to be has already been; and God requires an account of what is past. (Ecc 3:14-15)

Jesus Christ's crucifixion was planned from the Beginning of Creation

And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. (1Pe 1:17-21)

The six days of Creation were six literal days

For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. (Exo 20:11)

The Sabbath Day is an eternal covenant of remembrance and rest

The Sabbath day is a day of rest which celebrates the six day Creation, and it is still meant to be kept according to the fourth Commandment of God. It was instituted before there was any sin in the world, and will be kept in the New Creation according to the prophet Isaiah.

"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind." (Isa 65:17)

"For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me," says the Lord, "so shall your descendants and your name remain. And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the Lord. "And they shall go forth and look upon the corpses of the men who have transgressed against Me. For their worm does not die, and their fire is not quenched. They shall be an abhorrence to all flesh." (Isa 66:22-24 also Mar 9:43-48 and 2Th 1:9)

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I AM the Lord who sanctifies you. You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.' " (Exo 31:12-17)

God gave us Ten Commandments written in stone by His own hand. These laws are forever and still binding today. The only law which is contended today, is the fourth commandment, to remember and keep the weekly Sabbath day of rest.

"These words the Lord spoke to all your assembly, in the mountain from the midst of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness, with a loud voice; and He added no more. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me." (Deu 5:22)

And when He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God. (Exo 31:18)

And Moses turned and went down from the mountain, and the two tablets of the Testimony were in his hand. The tablets were written on both sides; on the one side and on the other they were written. Now the tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God engraved on the tablets. (Exo 32:15-16)

Jesus Christ is Lord of the Sabbath as everything was created through Him!

"For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath." (Mat 12:8)

And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath." (Mar 2:27-28)

And He said to them, "The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath." (Luk 6:5)

Also see the blessings of keeping the Sabbath in Isa 58:13-14. How anyone can deny the importance of keeping the Sabbath day a holy day of rest is beyond me!

The Book of Handwriting of the Law

So it was, when Moses had completed writing the words of this law in a book, when they were finished, that Moses commanded the Levites, who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord, saying: "Take this Book of the Law, and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there as a witness against you; for I know your rebellion and your stiff neck. If today, while I am yet alive with you, you have been rebellious against the Lord, then how much more after my death?" (Deu 31:24-27 - *this was fulfilled in 2Ki 22:8, also 2Ch 34:15*)

Joshua also added a covenant to this Book of the Law, writing with his own hand as Moses had done, see Jos 24:14-28. Moses laws governing sacrifice, circumcision, purification, washing and foods etc. were a temporary law written in a book by his hand, and kept at the side of the ark as a testimony against the children of Israel. These laws were nailed to the Cross as Jesus came in the flesh to fulfill all the fleshly requirements of the law, and to die sinless for Mankind's sin.

In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. (Col 2:11-14)

N.B. The sabbaths mentioned later in verse 16 are not the weekly sabbaths, but the monthly sabbath festivals, and yearly sabbath days of remembrance.

Abraham was justified by faith and he became our 'father of faith'.

And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. (Gen 15:6)

"No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations." (Gen 17:5)

What purpose then does the law serve?

It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one.

Is the law then against the promises of God?

Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. But the scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. (Gal 3:19)

So the law of circumcision and the laws of Moses were implemented by disobedience of the sons. Abraham also did not wait for the promised seed Isaac, but went into Hagar to produce Ishmael. I believe that the covenant of circumcision would not have been implemented otherwise, as Abraham had believed God in his heart and was justified by faith. He made the first covenant at the age of 70y and if circumcision was required, it would surely have been implemented then. Abraham was 99y when he was circumcised, he sinned in the flesh so he had to be circumcised in the flesh. Ishmael was circumcised at 13y and the future sons of the covenant were to be circumcised on the eighth day. Moses listened to his father-in-law and didn't circumcise his firstborn, this nearly cost him his life! (Exo 4:24) Disobedience to God's law, unless it is annulled by God, results in one's death and separation from God.

It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience – concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation. (Heb 9:9-10)

"And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live." (Deu 30:6)

There is also an antitype which now saves us – baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him. (1Pe 3:21-22)

Wow, have I got side-tracked! Let's go back to Creation.

The Bible clearly states that this Creation took place over six days, and not 6000y as some people think. I have also noticed that the grass, herbs and fruit trees were created on the third day. The sun, the moon, planets and stars were created on the fourth day. If the days were a 1000y long, we know that the plants and trees would not have survived, without the necessary sunlight for photosynthesis.

My NIV Bible contains timelines where they guess when Biblical events took place; but Noah's birth, Noah's Flood, and the year of Creation all have question marks!!! The first 1948y is clearly stated from Genesis 5:3 – Genesis 11:26. All that is required is a pocket calculator, paper, pencil, and some careful reading.

Adam had Seth when he was 130y. Seth had Enosh when he was 105y

By adding up these father years, Noah was born in 1056AM, the Flood came in 1656AM and Abraham was born in 1948AM. AM is anno mundi = the years since creation began. Working back from AM to BC, Adam was created in 3968BC!

Abraham was 70y when he made the covenant with the Lord and he was 100y when Isaac (the son of promise) was born. The Lord told Abraham that his descendants would return to the land in four generations and 400y in Gen 15:13-16. I find it very strange that people have not taken the trouble to prove this prophecy, they even say that the children of Israel were in Egypt for 430y!

*The four generations were Isaac, Jacob, Jochebed (Moses mother) and Moses. Isaac was 60y when Jacob was born, Jacob was 130y when he went into Egypt. Jochebed was born after they arrived in Egypt. Jochebed was 126y, when she married Amram (Num 26:59). Jochebed was 130y when she gave birth to Moses. Moses was 80y when they left Egypt. Isaac was the first descendant so :-
 $60 + 130 + 130 + 80 = 400y$, the children of Israel were only in Egypt for 210y!*

Now the sojourn of the children of Israel who lived in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years – on that very same day – it came to pass that all the armies of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt. (Exo 12:40-41)

Here Abraham's journey is included from the year of the Covenant, as he also, was a stranger living in the land of Canaan. It is verified by Paul, who also knew that Abraham had made the covenant when he was 70y. Hence the 400y from Isaac the first descendant, and 430y from the Covenant, dual explanations.

Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise. (Gal 3:16-18)

Now from the Exodus from Egypt, till the fourth year of the reign of Solomon was 480y. This is the year when Solomon started to build the Temple of God.

And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the Lord. (1Ki 6:1)

Now Solomon began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the Lord had appeared to his father David, at the place of Ornan the Jebusite. And he began to build on the second day of the second month in the fourth year of his reign. (2Ch 3:1-2)

I worked out this year as being 2928AM. I then followed the reign of the kings of Judah, until I reached the year when the house of Judah was taken into captivity by Nebuchadnezzar, which was the year 3358AM.

According to the prophet Jeremiah they were to be in captivity for 70y. This is mentioned in Jer 25:11. They were freed when King Cyrus of Persia conquered Babylon and placed King Darius the Mede to rule over the region. This is recorded in the Book of Daniel in Dan 9:1-2.

The prophet Isaiah prophesied about King Cyrus, see Isa 44:28, Isa 45:1,13. Isaiah also prophesied about the destruction of the Temple by Nebuchadnezzar some 140y before this happened. King Cyrus gave instructions for the Temple to be rebuilt and he took all the vessels of silver and gold which were confiscated from the Temple by Nebuchadnezzar and sent them with Zerubbabel back to Jerusalem. They laid the foundation of the Temple in the second year of King Cyrus which I calculated as 3428AM. This was exactly 500y after Solomon had started to build the first Temple. I have since realised the prophecy by Ezekiel in Eze 4:1-8. Ezekiel had to lie on his left side for 390 days and on his right side for 40 days. Each day was equal to a year of iniquity for the house of Israel and Judah respectively. Adding up the years: 390y + 40y + 70y (for the Babylon captivity) also equals 500y. This confirmed my Kings of Judah calculation of 500y.

Looking at the years left I realised that Jesus Christ's Crucifixion had to take place in the 4000y. There were basically two reasons for me thinking this. The crucifixion is the redemptive price paid for Mankind's sin, and marked the end of the sacrificial law and the beginning of Grace. The veil of the Temple was torn from top to bottom so the way into the holy of holies was open to all. Jesus Christ became our heavenly High Priest to intercede for us, as our bodies become the temple of the Holy Spirit.

From the Book of Jasher I discovered that Abraham had left Babylon when he was 52y. Remember he was born in 1948AM, so this was the year 2000AM. King Asa became King in 2985AM. In the fifteenth year of his reign they had a huge revival, it is described in 2Ch 15:10-19, which was the year 3000AM.

In both cases Abraham and King Asa forsook the unrighteous and embraced the righteous. I saw these events as shadows of the Cross. Jesus was crucified in the 4000th year of Creation. There are two other shadows of this fourth day event.

In Exodus 12 when the Passover was instituted the people had to select a lamb on the 10th of the month. This lamb had to be without injury or blemish. It was kept until the 14th of the month and then it was killed at twilight, which was four days later. Jesus, Son of God, was also chosen from the Beginning of Creation.

And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.
(1Pe 1:17-21)

"But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." (2Pe 3:8)

In the Book of Ezra 7:9-10, Ezra a skilled scribe in the Law of Moses, led an expedition back from Babylon to Jerusalem. He left on the first day of the first month and arrived on the first day of the fifth month, his journey took exactly 4 months to complete. All these examples convinced me that the Lord was crucified in the 4000th year, 33AD as we now know it. There is also astronomical proof for the conception, birth, and death of Jesus Christ. The heavenly events described in the Bible, actually did occur in the sky.

Working backwards we know that Jesus was born in 2BC which was 3966AM, that meant that from the year of the laying of the temple's foundation - 3428AM till 3966AM was exactly 539y = 77 x 7 weeks of years. The first 49y = 7 x 7w were spent rebuilding the Temple and Jerusalem. That left 70 weeks of years, till Jesus was born. See Matthew 18:21-22 regarding forgiveness, seventy x seven times.

"Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy." (Dan 9:24)

Thinking about Israel's periods of captivity, they had been in Egypt for 210y and in Babylon for 70y. If 70y is equivalent to one day, that meant they were in captivity for four days, just as Jesus conquered sin and death in the fourth day.

King Saul had, had two chances to be righteous and follow the Lord's instructions. He made an unlawful sacrifice, then later he ignored the Lord's instructions to destroy Amalek. After the second offence, the Lord took the Holy Spirit from Saul and then the Lord sent Samuel to anoint David to be king.

Abraham came from Babylon and his descendants inherited Jerusalem. When they continually sinned against God, they were taken back to Babylon. This was their first chance completed. They were brought back from Babylon 70y later, to rebuild the Temple and Jerusalem. Then they had a second chance at righteousness under the Law of Moses, and again they proved themselves disobedient. The chosen people had proven to God and man, that they could not remain righteous by works, under the Laws of Moses.

The Lord had to rescue His people from sin by His own arm (Isa 63:5). If God did not provide the sacrifice for sin, mankind would have been lost to death. This was God's plan of Salvation from the beginning of Creation. Mankind was given free choice to serve or not to serve the Lord. The children of Israel had rejected God as King when they asked Moses to intercede, to speak to God on their behalf. They did the same again when they demanded a king from Samuel. Each time they chose a man instead of personally serving the Lord God as King.

For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. (Heb 9:13-15)

The week has seven days, perhaps 7000y for this Creation? We know that man is given six days to labour, and the seventh is the Sabbath day of rest.

And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. (Rev 20:4-6)

This seems to indicate a Sabbath period of 1000y to me. There is a first Resurrection, the 1000y Sabbath, and then the second Resurrection. Paul describes what will happen at the first Resurrection.

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words. (1Th 4:13-18)

“but many who are first will be last, and the last first.” (Mat 19:30 & Mar 10:31)

“So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.” (Mat 20:16)

“There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God. And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last.” (Luk 13:28-30)

For the last to be first and the first to be last, all have to be waiting; the living and the dead, for the first Resurrection of the righteous people of God.

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed – in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. (1Co 15:50-53)

Now we know that Jesus was crucified in 33AD, so that means that the first Resurrection could be anytime from now until 2033AD. See Mat 24:36, Mat 25:13, Mar 13:32. 2033AD will be the 6000th year since Creation began. Then comes the 1000y Sabbath, when the righteous will be taken away to the heavenly city and the heavenly tabernacle where God dwells. After the 1000y Sabbath Jesus Christ will return to Earth with all His saints. Then the second Resurrection, of the unrighteous, will take place and every eye will see Jesus Christ's return.

Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. (Rev 1:7)

Judgement Day follows this and all that is wicked and unrighteous will be thrown into the lake of fire. The Earth and heavens will be recreated and the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, will descend from heaven onto the New Earth. Hebrews 11:39-40 makes it clear that all the people of faith have not yet received the promised city and they are still waiting as we are, for the first Resurrection. The heavenly city, made by God is mentioned in Heb 11:13-16, Heb 12:22, Gal 4:24-26, Rev 21:1-3,10. Looking at it's description in Rev 21:11-21, it is very clear that this is no earthly city. This is the inheritance that the Lord promised Abraham, his descendants by faith, and the promised land is the New Earth.

The Lord's inheritance is the righteous people of God, and their inheritance is eternal life, the New Jerusalem and the New Creation. This creation is here for the sole purpose of identifying the righteous people, who love God more than their own lives. God prepared the way to rescue all mankind from sin just as the lake of fire is prepared for the devil and his angels - Mat 25:41.

Heaven does not wait for the dead, it waits for the first Resurrection. Luke 16: 19-31, explains what happens to the dead. Those that die righteous, are collected and taken to the place of the righteous people. Abraham welcomes them as sons of faith, this is the promised rest from the trials of this world. The unrighteous are gathered into the place of torment below, waiting for the second Resurrection and their second death. It is important to note that they will be there for a minimum period of 1000y, which is no short period to suffer. (Isa 48:22, 57:21, 59:8)

The Book of John was written after Jesus Christ was crucified. Jesus is the firstfruits of the resurrection of the righteous. He sits in the heavenly tabernacle interceding as High Priest on our behalf. (Heb 9:11,24)

"No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven." (Joh 3:13)

"He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (Joh 3:18)

"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (Joh 3:36)

If a person is unsaved and dies, the wrath of God falls on him immediately and he enters hell, the place of torment. This is not preached by teachers and preachers!

For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment ... then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. (2Pe 2:4 ... 9-10)

Some people argue that Hell does not exist and that all people rest in death!!! Not only are they disputing what the prophet Isaiah said, but what Jesus, therefore God says, described in Luke 16:19-31 and in many other verses???

The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. (Rev 20:13-15)

Life is not just about living comfortably on this earth, it is about who we really worship. We can live for ourselves striving for wealth etc. or we can live in God's will, worshipping God and working for His Kingdom. We can trust the Bible and its history, it is reliable and true as it is the Word of God.

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