



May-June 2015

BIBLICAL AGE OF THE EARTH

by Lanny and Marilyn Johnson

Mr. Jones had just gotten home from church with his daughter Mary. His wife and their son Billy were visiting one of Billy's sick friends.

"Dad, I heard you talking to some people today about the age of the Earth; so, how old do you think the earth is?" Mary asked.

"I believe the Earth is about 6,000 years old," replied Mr. Jones.

"Why do you think that?"

"First of all, you need to understand that I did not always believe in a young earth. All through school and college I was taught that the universe was about 15 billion years old and the Earth formed about four and a half billion years ago. Even after I became a creationist and a Christian, I still thought the Earth was very old; however, as I began to study the Bible, I began to see big problems with what I believed about the age of the universe. Today, I believe the Bible shows that God's creation is fairly young."

"Also, there are over 75 different scientific ways for figuring out the age of the Earth," continued Mr. Jones. "Most of these ways give an age of the Earth in thousands of years, not billions."

Verse in Genesis	Father	Son	Age of Father
1:1-31	Creation		0
5:3	Adam	Seth	130
5:6	Seth	Enos	105
5:9	Enos	Cainan	90
5:12	Cainan	Mahalaleel	70
5:15	Mahalaleel	Jared	65
5:18	Jared	Enoch	162
5:21	Enoch	Methuselah	65
5:25	Methuselah	Lamech	187
5:28	Lamech	Noah	182
		TOTAL	1056
7:11	Age of Noah at Flood		600
Creation to Flood			1656

"Where does the Bible say the Earth is 6,000 years old?" Mary asked.

"Nowhere in the Bible does God tell us the exact year of Creation. However, by studying the scriptures and using historical documents, from today back to the time of Jesus was roughly 2,000 years ago, and from Jesus back to Abraham was another 2,000 years," explained Mr. Jones.

"But that is only 4,000 years, Dad. Where do you get the other 2,000 years to make the earth 6,000 years old?" a confused Mary asked.

"The Bible contains a lot of history. Using the genealogies of Genesis, we can figure out a timeline from Creation to the time of Abram (Abraham). A genealogy is a record of who a person's parents were. Here are some charts that will help you understand Abraham's timeline (see charts on this page)."

Mr. Jones explained, "In Genesis 1:1 God states '*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*' In the beginning time was also created, so Creation was at year 0. The Bible says

that God created Adam on day 6 of the Creation week (Gen. 1:26-31), so he was created in year 0. Using the genealogies of Genesis 5, we find in Genesis 5:3 that Adam was 130 years old when he had his son Seth, so Seth was born 130 years after Creation. Genesis 5:6 says Seth was 105 years old when he had his son Enos. So adding 105 to 130, Enos was born 235 years after Creation. By continuing to add up the genealogies of Genesis 5, we discover that Noah was born 1056 years after Creation.

"In Genesis 7:11 we find that Noah was 600 years old when the Flood began, so 600 years added to 1056 years gives us a date for the Flood of 1656 years after Creation.

"Noah had 3 sons that were on the ark with him, Shem, Ham and Japheth. In the second chart, we see that Shem's son Arphaxad was born 2 years after the Flood. Then we continue to use the genealogies of Genesis 11 to find the ages of the fathers when they had their sons. At the end of the chart, to get the age of Terah when Abraham was born, we find that Terah
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Verse in Genesis	Father	Son	Age of Father
11:10	Shem	Arphaxad	2
11:12	Arphaxad	Salah	35
11:14	Salah	Eber	30
11:16	Eber	Peleg	34
11:18	Peleg	Reu	30
11:20	Reu	Serug	32
11:22	Serug	Nahor	30
11:24	Nahor	Terah	29
11:26	Terah	Abram	130
Birth of Abram after Flood			352
Creation to Flood			1656
Age of Abram after Creation			2008

and Abraham were living in Haran when Terah died at the age of 205. When Terah died, God told Abraham to leave Haran. Abraham was 75 years old when he left (Gen. 11:31-12:4). So 205 minus 75 equals 130 years old, the age Terah was when he had Abraham. Adding the years from the Flood to Abraham after the Flood (352 years), to the year of the Flood (1656) gives us Abraham's birth at 2008 years after Creation. If you round that number off to 2000, what would be the approximate age of the Earth, Mary?" Mr. Jones asked in conclusion.

"Let's see, about 2000 years from Creation to Abraham, and 2000 from Abraham to Jesus, and 2000 from Jesus to now ... that's about 6000 years old!"

"As you can see, Mary, from the Bible genealogies we can know that the age of the Earth is only thousands of years old, not the billions the world is teaching," concluded Mr. Jones.

Note - the Jewish Calendar for April 21 shows the earth being created 5775 years ago.



FAMILY SPRINGTIME GARDENING

Find the 25 differences between the two pictures



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