

How old is time?



Many Christian leaders say that we should not insist that the first day was a literal day as in the following next five days of Genesis Chapter 1, so as not to offend or just avoid the effort it takes to defend it. Why don't we just footnote the first 5 verses as being uncertain in meaning? Or better yet change the first 5 verses to be more specific about how long we think it was. Then we will not have to suffer the repercussions of 'adding unto or away'. Anybody want to take the responsibility for doing so? Maybe just initial the redact:

1. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2. 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. 3. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. 4. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. 5. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.[^]

(a really, really, really long day)

I love watching Asian news on TV. Seems like they have not yet learned from American News (it's all about our rights) how to manipulate the stories to influence how I should think. I grew up with more responsible reporting. You know, "and that's the way it 'was' October 23rd, 4004 BC". Walter Cronkite (it's all about our responsibilities). CBS Evening News for 19 years (1962–81). Replaced by Dan I'd Rather distort today and apologize later.

I do have a problem with metric weather however. To me 32 is a snow indicator, or 95 is too hot to play golf. Celsius? What? When do I check my antifreeze? Or when should I not play golf? I grew up with a foot is 12 inches, 3 feet is a yard, a mile is 1760 yards, or 5280 feet. I ran track in high school. A 100 yards or a mile was a race. Meters and kilometers?

Thank goodness we still have 100 yard football fields, or 90 feet between bases in baseball, or a good wedge is 100 yards. If my caddie says 100 meters, I may deep six my ball over the green and into the lake! I honestly believe that golf is the 'last good civilized game'. A perfect venue for a Sunday afternoon 'thank you Jesus', just before 60 'apologize?' Minutes.

I suppose metric is good for technology, but it is not based on my history of understanding. Fortunately we have not yet tinkered with the concept of measuring time. Of course a lot of confusion exists over how old is time itself. 60 seconds is a minute, 60 minutes is an hour, 24 hours is a day, 365.25 days is a year. What? If God created a perfect universe, why 365.25 days for us to circle the sun? You know, leap year. I am guessing that 30 days times 12 months would be perfect, just like 'in the beginning'. 360 would be a perfect circle time wise.

I have heard some Christian scientists are looking for Joshua's extra-long day as evidence for the discrepancy. I believe the pillar of fire and cloud, God's presence, let the sun go down as normal. Jashur, the first journalist to cash in on 'uniformed' eye witness news? A Book Deal!

The Jashur comment, or why it is there, has to be considered – tongue and cheek, by the writer or the Spirit - a question of inspiration?

Joshua 10: 10:14 There has been no day like it before or since, when the Lord heeded the voice of a man, for the Lord fought for Israel.

Now Hezekiah's sundial, a more likely possibility for the discrepancy. 10 degrees back or 15 more years of life. I love exploring possibilities and measuring things rightly. I believe the answer to this riddle is 'the universally traumatic flood of Noah's time'. Still waiting for an answer on the sundial?

However I believe can rule out God breaking a physical law (at least in this reality). And Hezekiah's wish brought 15 years of peace, but also brought the Babylonians to see the Temple Treasure and Manasseh his son, who turned in 55 years of really bad rule. Had to be I guess...

But I will still not be any younger. Or am I?

As of Nov 17, 2016, I was 72 years old or lived 26,298 days. If I lived before Noah I would only be 25,920 days old. I would still be 72, but I would be 378 days younger. I may need to think more about that one.

As the Ussher Chronology illustrates, the Universe is about 6020 (2017) years old ($6020 \times 365.25 = 2,198,805$ days). And did you know that the '6 day Creation' concept is repeated in the middle of the 10 Commandments, right after the Keeping the Sabbath Command. Must be there for a reason!

My last year in high school (1962) we started our day with the Lord's Prayer. Then went to Biology class. A distant uncle was a monkey? I was confused for a while. Then I read Genesis 1. (ps The 1925 Scopes Trial, the judge and jury were in the tank for 6 Days – today, judge and jury would put us in the tank).

Growing up in the 40's and 50's, the 10 Commandments were respected as 'normal behavior'. Everyone seemed to be going to church on Sunday. Not all were Christian, but morally it seemed to be the right thing to do, for the family. During the 60's the 10 Commandments became the 10 Suggestions.

In the 70's abortion of the unborn was legalized. In today's chaotic political and judicial world, the 10 Suggestions have become the 10 Rights, or it is 'practically' legal to break all the Commandments; even encouraged to do so; even increasingly mandatory...

In Ecclesiastes 12 Solomon says in verse 13. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man."

I know the Bible says we are not saved by keeping the commandments, but by trusting in the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross.

But as Joshua warned the Israelites in Joshua 22:5. But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the Lord charged you, to love the Lord your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Or as Moses said in Deuteronomy 5:33. Ye shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess.

Maybe we all should be more controversial and explore the possibilities and measure things rightly. When we stand before Jesus on that last day, and long to hear that “well done good and faithful servant” we can honestly and confidently say “we did the best we could with the time we had”.