

Disproving the Gap Theory

Though it is this author's conviction that the Book of Genesis does not leave anything out of its pages that is important to our knowledge of why we sin and are in need of salvation, some Christians see it as incomplete. In fact, there are some who think that the Book of Genesis does not record the original Creation of the Earth, but its re-creation! This view is known as the Gap Theory, and those who espouse it believe that there is a gap of millions or billions of years hidden between the words of Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2 that provides the time period necessary to support the Theory of Evolution.

However, in the Scripture in question, there is no proof whatsoever that the Gap Theory could be true. To understand why, let's take a close look at the opening sentences of Genesis:

"(1) In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (2) The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. (3) Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light." - Genesis 1:1-3 (NKJ)

Gap Theorists have a very unorthodox interpretation of Genesis 1:1 through 1:2. In fact, they insist on playing word games in this very first paragraph of Genesis that are totally unfounded. Furthermore, their theories supporting Evolution are unsupported in any other ancient manuscripts outside of the Bible, and - using God's Word alone - they can easily be refuted.

This Scripture begins with the verse: *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."* In my book: *"The Language of God in Prophecy"* I show how this sentence is made up of seven words in Hebrew, with the middle word not pronounced, but representing the first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet, Aleph and Tav (A-T). Furthermore, if the seven letters of this verse were placed over the lamps of a seven-branched Menorah, this Aleph-Bet combination would mark the fourth or center lamp. This lamp is known as the Servant Lamp, since it is used to light all the other lamps. As such, the letters connected to this lamp allegorically depict Christ as the Alpha and Omega or the First and the Last, and show that Christ is the Suffering Servant who came to be the Light of the World! Since the Servant Lamp lights all the other lamps, this designation of Christ as the Servant Lamp also suggests that He switched the Universe "on" in His Preincarnate state and filled it with the light of His and His Father's goodness.

In studying the Hebrew of the first half of the second verse of Genesis, where it says: *"The earth was without form, and void,"* **there is**

absolutely no indication of an implied gap of billions of years between this phrase and the next sentence, nor is there any support for this belief elsewhere in Scripture. In fact, this second verse of Genesis means exactly what it says: the existing matter that would serve to make up the Earth was without form or shape and it was void, meaning it had no life or structure. Nonetheless, Gap Theorists insist that the second verse actually says: "the Earth was desolate and laid waste," as if its original fully-formed surface features had recently been destroyed. Genesis 1:1, however, gives no indication that the Earth was partly destroyed before being mentioned as "without form and void" in Genesis 1:2.

In fact, in Mark 10:6, Yahshua said: *"But from the beginning of creation 'God made them male and female.'"* With these words, Yahshua was partly quoting this Scripture:

*"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; **male and female He created them.**" - Genesis 1:27 (NKJ)*

This means that Yahshua was teaching that all the animals and Adam and Eve were created "*male and female*" in "*the beginning of creation*," or immediately after the Earth had been fully formed at the end of the Fourth Creation Day. Only after this, on the Fifth Creation Day, did God begin to populate the Earth with animal life.

In Genesis, the Days of Creation are described as occurring over six indeterminate days consisting of darkness followed by light, which suggests something turning over from left to right or down to up - as in the turning of a Calendar Wheel or a planet making its orbit around the Sun. Since the Spring Equinox occurs in the same Zodiac sign for approximately two thousand years in each Precessional Cycle, a thousand years can be seen as the length of time it takes for one half of a Precessional regression through one sign of the Zodiac. Could this be the origin of the idea that God calculates one year as a thousand years, and that each Day in the Creation Week was a thousand years - just as the Apostle Peter suggested in his second letter?

*"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." - 2 Peter 3:8 (NKJ)*

Note here that Peter is drawing much attention to the great importance of this point by saying: "*do not forget this one thing.*" Peter *emphasizes* that it is important to remember that a day to God is as a thousand years. This suggests that the time between the empty Earth and the creation of Adam and Eve could have amounted to 6000 years rather than 6 days, but could never have been billions of years! Also, the

expression "*from the beginning of creation*" used by Christ rules out any "re-creation" or "second start" theories as taught by many Gap Theorists.

As the people at Answers in Genesis explain, the main reason that people try to place a gap between the first two verses of Genesis is to account for the billions of years they assign to Earth's age based on Evolutionary Theory. However, Christians who do this are essentially placing more faith in the world's secular (i.e. without God) understanding than in God's infallible Word. They are also ignoring the fact that nearly every ancient society believed in a Special Creation by one or more gods. They also saw no gap of millions or billions of years between the world they inhabited or the world that many of them knew had been destroyed in a worldwide flood - a flood so devastatingly destructive that it could clearly account for the massive layers of fossils and oil and coal deposits found all over the Earth.

Yahshua made it plain that Adam and Eve have been around since the beginning of the finished Creation, which was - at best - only six thousand years old when they first inhabited it. For people to suggest otherwise clearly goes against God's Word and denies the inerrancy of the Bible record as well as the other ancient manuscripts deemed as canonical in the Ethiopian Church, which include the Book of Jubilees and the Ethiopian Book of Enoch.

The Waters Above and Below

In regard to the Gap Theory, this section presents several more sound refutations of Scripture-based arguments that Gap Theorists use to uphold their ideas. For example, to support their beliefs, Gap Theorists often point to the Appendix of the Companion Bible. In that Bible's Appendix, there are notes about the actual meaning of the phrase "*the foundation of the world*," which occurs ten times in the King James Version of the Bible.

These notes suggest that the Greek word "katabole" used for "foundation" in this phrase should be translated "ruin," making the phrase read "ruin of the world," instead of "*foundation of the world*." However, according to Strong's concordance, the word "katabole" literally means "founded" or "conceived," and is derived from the word "kataballo," meaning to "cast down" or "lay." This is not referring to an act of destruction, but means "to lay down," as in laying down a firm foundation.

As already discussed, the Companion Bible contains notes regarding Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 that suggest that Genesis 1:2 speaks of a destroyed Earth, not an unfinished one. The notes also suggest that Peter taught that there were two destructions of the Earth by water. Here are Peter's words regarding his supposed reference to these two destructions:

*"For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, **by which the world that then existed perished**, being flooded with water." - 2 Peter 3:5-6 (NKJ)*

In this passage, the Companion Bible suggests that the phrase "*the world that then existed*" is referring to the world of dinosaurs and giant animals that were supposedly destroyed prior to the creation of mankind and created the fossil record before the Six Days of Creation discussed in Genesis 1:3-27. However, this assumption suggests that the Great Flood was not violent enough to have caused the fossil record. Nonetheless, there is much evidence to the contrary all over the Earth, especially in the worldwide discovery of deep fissures and caverns that are filled with the ripped apart, churned together fossil remains of countless types of animals, birds, and fish that were much bigger but still recognizable as modern varieties that are smaller. These remains show clear evidence that many types of living creatures died horrible deaths in a massive flood that violently ripped these creatures apart, mixed them together, rapidly sifted their remains, and deposited them in layers. Yet Evolutionists completely ignore or refute this evidence!

In fact, Peter's words in 2 Peter 3:5-6 appear to support the conclusion that the Earth was destroyed by violent water action in the Great Flood. For example, Peter says that "*the earth (was) standing out of water and in the water.*" In saying this, Peter may have been asserting that the world that Adam and Eve knew was surrounded by water in Outer Space and beneath the land they stood upon, and this world was subsequently destroyed by the violent action of these churning waters that came from above and below at the time of the Flood. In fact, Peter is likely referring to two conditions of the Earth that no longer exist to any great degree. These are revealed in Genesis, where it says:

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

Some godly scientists have postulated that a water canopy or ring of frozen water once surrounded our Earth, kept it uniformly warm, and protected it from harsh UV radiation. This water canopy may have contributed to mankind's much longer lifespan and the Greenhouse Effect that allowed the large stature of many plants and animals prior to the Flood. However, when the windows of heaven were opened (or removed), this water canopy slowly collapsed, partly causing the forty days of unrelenting rain that fell all over the Earth. The Book of Genesis also indicates that there was water underneath the surface of the Earth that watered the plants without the need for rain prior to the Flood. Interestingly, it does so in a paragraph that says it recaps *"the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created."* Here, the word for "created" is the Hebrew word "bara," meaning "created," not "recreated":

"This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day... before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the LORD God (Yahweh Elohim) had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; but a mist (i.e. streams) went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground. And the LORD God (Yahweh Elohim) formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." - Genesis 2:4-7 (NKJ)

In this passage, the streams that watered the ground likely had its source in the *"fountains of the great deep"* that broke up to flood the world in Genesis 7:11. In addition, note that the Earth was watered from below in order to fill it with the plant life that people and animals would need to eat in order to survive. Then, when the Earth was finally ready to support life, God created all animal life on the Fourth Day. Then, on the Fifth Day, *"God formed man of the dust of the ground."*

In conclusion, there is nothing in any of the Scriptures quoted here that suggest that the Earth in Genesis 1:1 had been created and destroyed before the rest of the Creation account in Genesis 1:2-27. In addition, there is no mention of this prior world in any other passages of the Bible, or in any other ancient Judeo-Christian manuscript. It is therefore an idea built on the flimsiest of evidence, and designed only to uphold the views of believers who support the Darwinian Theory of Evolution, or believe that the Earth was populated with aliens or angels for thousands or millions of years prior to the Genesis Creation account. Nonetheless, as will be shown in this book, these beliefs are contrary to the Bible's factual account of the Six-Day Creation ending with the

creation of mankind, the scourge of the fallen angels, the arrival of the Nephilim, their ravaging of the Earth, the Great Flood that was sent to destroy them, and the continuation of humanity and the Giants afterward.

Creating a Purely Biblical Chronology

Throughout this book series, I refer to a historical timeline that was created utilizing genealogical and historical information found in the Bible. In this section, we will discuss these passages and how they were applied to the Biblical Chronological Time Chart found in this book's Appendix.

Many years ago, Archbishop James Ussher created a biblical timeline that begins in 4004 BC and that is still widely used today. My Biblical Chronology is similar to Ussher's, though mine begins one year later. The main reason for this discrepancy of one year between these timelines may be that Bishop Ussher attributed 100 years between Abraham and Isaac's births, whereas I specify 99 years between them. Following is a concise explanation of how I came to conclude that 4003 BC rather than 4004 BC is the starting point for human history.

First of all, a list factoring in the ages of the patriarchs at the time of the birth of their heirs was created using the genealogies in Genesis, Chapters 5, 10, and 11. The twenty-two patriarchs named in these genealogies are sequentially listed as they appear in the Bible in my Biblical Chronological Chart in the Appendix. Beginning with Adam's age at the birth of Seth and ending with the age of Terah at Abraham's birth, we can add up the ages of all the patriarchs at their son's births to find out how many years passed from the creation of Adam to Abraham's birth. This amounts to 1,948 years, placing Abraham's birth in the year 2055 BC.

Interestingly, just as there were twenty-two patriarchs from Adam to Abraham, there are twenty-two letters in the Hebrew Alphabet. Now, as shown in Book Four, the number 22 indicates a complete prophetic period of time. Even more intriguingly, the 1,948 years leading to Abraham's birth matches the modern year 1948, which marks the nation of Israel's phoenix-like rebirth. This might lead one to ask: "Are these number connections a mere coincidence?" From what I have learned about the spiritual meaning of symbols hidden throughout the Bible, I don't think so. In fact, the hidden Mazzaroth references discovered in the Bible as revealed in Books One, Two, Three and Four and the hidden Bible Codes revealed in Book Four are good indicators