



### The Bible Time Line:

*Rev. Bob Hall*

- This is a short presentation to encourage further study on details concerning the importance of the Bible Time Line. Consider it an overview to assist in removing the fear of using the time line & dispensations to understand truth. Some have made errors about this study because of the fear of predestination & predicting Jesus' return. Don't allow this ignorance to affect you as God provides greater help in understanding the past, present & future.
  - **John 8:14** ... *for I know whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go.* Jesus states that He knows where He came from and where He is going. Man needs a reference point for past, present & future by also knowing where we came from & where we are going so that we will live right in the present. A warrior who knows where he stands, what's behind him & what is ahead, is stable, strong, & confident about his position & can plan right action for success.
- The time line is important to understand so many topics in scripture. To make excuse & ignore this study because of the fear that some might think it can be used to predict the coming of Jesus is ignorance &/or laziness. God gave us so much detail about people's ages, births, years of reign, length of time for many events, if we profess to be Bible believers we better not leave out all this detail about time. No man will ever determine the day or the hour (Mk.13:32) so this time line is not for that purpose. But, we can conclude when the end times are & time is running out to encourage people to get right with God.  
Creation Days are 7000 yrs. long:
- **Day 6** of creation is man's day (Gen.1:26-27) and it ends on vs.31. Day 7 is the day when God rests from all His work and has no ending – therefore, since He is still working building the church, day seven has not started yet and much of prophecy is still to be fulfilled. How long is a creation day then?
  - **Gen.2:7** shows man actually being made. Therefore, 1:26-27 is simply a discussion about making a man. The work of 'making the man is Gen.2:7 which begins the history of man, day 6. Using genealogies in Luke 3, Gen. 5 & other dates & ages of people, the Old Testament is about 4000 years long. Hos.6:2 defines the length of the New Testament 2000 yrs. also called the 'times of the gentiles' (Luke 21:24). The last 1000 yrs. or millennium is discussed in Rev.20:1-7. We can only assume that all creation days are the same length (7000 yrs.) because in Gen.1 all 6 days are described the same – with an evening and a morning. By equal comparison the six days would be the same length. Day 7 is eternal, God's day of rest, no ending is described.
- I believe the scripture is correct & accurate & take it at face value. With '7' as God's perfect number of completion it does not surprise me day 6, man's day, is 7000 yrs. long. If you know the exact time the Old Testament ends & New Testament begins (on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Ghost was 1st poured out & the church was born) then 4000 yrs. before that was Adam & Eve; 2000 yrs. after Acts 2:4 will be Armageddon, & 1000 yrs. later the Judgment. I am not interested in studying man's calendars because I have no reason to. Jesus said we cannot know the day & hour so why waste time. But the knowledge that the Rapture is close 'is' important to help get serious about truth.

### Seven Dispensations:

- Dispensations are 'not' predestined conditions of ages. Predestination only exists in 2 groups – the church & everyone not in the church. We are given the free will to choose to be in or out. There is no predestination for the individual.
- In theological studies, scholars choose to label for identification purposes, certain periods of time that God chose to deal with man a different way than other times. By comparing these seven times or dispensations, we can see a progressive revelation of God as God placed more & more responsibility upon man. (Adam had one commandment, Moses wrote hundreds, & in the New Testament we have even more due to the application of spiritual affects on our mind & heart sinning without the act taking place in the flesh. No one can live holy &

acceptable in the New Testament, without the Holy Ghost.

● **Here are the 7 dispensations:**

1. Adam and Eve were without knowledge of good or evil – a time of Innocence. But disobedience is still guilty.
2. Adam and Eve outside the garden, lived by letting their Conscience be their guide. Man cannot successfully live for God this way & it ended in complete failure with the flood in Noah's day. (Gen.6:5).
3. Noah's generation began to organize to live in one area under 'Human Government' rule with a king. Again it failed without following God, they tried to build their own plan of salvation, a tower at Babel. They were dispersed by God confounding their languages.
4. God turned to one faithful man (Abram) to lead, teach and prepare for raising a seed that would live right – Promise. (Gen.12).
5. After Isaac was born, the family increased with Jacobs 12 sons, they end up in Egypt & 430 yrs. later receive the Law.
6. Law ended in failure also & brought in the need for God to become flesh, offer His blood. The New Testament is Grace.
7. After the New Testament will come the Millennium reign of Christ for 1000 yrs. Of peace on earth with the devil bound.

**Conclusion:**

- These 7 labels can be applied to individuals to understand our place in God at different times. As babies we are innocent & cannot sin because we cannot talk to repent (no, we cannot inherit sin from another person read Ezek.18). There will come an age of accountability for our actions & all will sin (some age 2 or 3 – depends on maturity). Then as a young person we will follow our conscience since we can't read & understand yet. Once we think we are smart enough & rebel, we will try to govern our own lives making up new rules to follow (if it feels good do it). When we learn about the promises of God to satisfy our soul & take care of us, surrender to His Spirit & become born again, by faith we stand on His promises. Then we learn the scriptures about the lifestyle that pleases God, His Laws, we obey them because we love Him (perfect law of liberty). Since we do not follow the Old Testament Law but the Law He writes in our hearts, with faith we are saved by Grace. This will ultimately lead us to being saved in death or in the Rapture when we will live in Peace with Him forever.
- Although there are 7 distinct ways God dealt with man all men of all ages still had something in common. To please God & be saved we must all become holy & acceptable to God. Adam just had to obey one commandment & he would remain holy. The Old Testament believers had to offer blood sacrifices & keep commandments to be holy. Today we obey Acts 2:38 & follow the apostles' doctrine to be holy and during the millennium they will also have to be obedient to please God. Our goal is to be holy & God will receive us.