



Contact Us:

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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service N/A
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class N/A
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Don Smith

John Barnum

Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children
Gospel Broadcast Network
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
World Bible School

The Short Span of Man's Existence on Earth (The Ultimate Perspective)

The idea of an extremely old earth simply has no scientific foundation. The fact is, there is scientific evidence that the earth is relatively young, in thousands, not millions or billions of years.

For children of God, there are many great events to ponder. Of these events there is one of special significance, not only because of its magnitude but also because it occurred *not very long ago*. Though this event is continuously evident, yet the fact that it was *not that far* in the past is often overlooked and with many may even fall out of view. And, it is not that this (it) is done intentionally, rather, many have been slowly conditioned to allow it to slip into a foggy distance. What is this event? What it is may surprise and even alarm some.

In your mind's eye, think back in time, back to the very beginning to creation itself, and grasp this truth—the fact that creation was *not that long ago*. Lock onto this thought. Looking back into the *not too distant* past, the earth, on which we live did not exist.

Not long ago there was no universe—no sun, no moon, no stars, no galaxies and, furthermore, no space. Looking back just a few thousand years, nothing of a material nature existed and no place for it to exist. Hence, the sobering truth—the world on which we live has not been around very long.

It was just a short time ago that God brought everything to be by fiat creation. He spoke and it was done. "*And God said ... and God said ... and God said*" This was the beginning of time and counting time by the earth's rotation of each day.

Genesis 1:1, "*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*" This was the origin of space and the earth, both of which occurred on the first day of creation. Then three days later the sun, moon and stars were created. Keep in mind that all this took place just a few thousand years ago.

Although Christians should understand this, the fact is, many have been strangely, even subconsciously, conditioned to view the earth having existed for an extraordinarily long time. The concept of an ancient earth is so pervasive in our culture it is hard to escape. It so permeates the media and our education system, our children are constantly exposed to it. Thus, it is no wonder that some have been subtly influenced to see a world that is somewhat ancient.

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And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will.
2 Tim. 2:24-26

Let us know if you want to study the Bible to know more about Christ and His Church.

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Some have reasoned, "Look at the world, it just looks old." Yes, it may look old, but not billions or even millions of years old. Others have said: "Science tells us the earth must be several billion years old." Does it? The answer is No. Such a claim is only "guesswork" and "wishful thinking." Most are not aware that advocates of an old earth view disagree widely on the earth's age. The truth is, the idea of an extremely old earth simply has no scientific foundation.

What many do not realize is that the fundamental reason people promote this view is because they have accepted the theory of evolution. Evolution, of course, requires eons of time and evolutionists know that without multiplied millions of years, evolution could never have happened. So, for them, an extremely old earth is essential.

There is another factor that tends to influence people to assume the earth is old—the vastness of space. Some have said: "Just look at the size of the universe. It must have taken millions of years for star light to travel to the earth. This shows the earth has been around for a long time." However, this is flawed reasoning. Light from the stars did not travel to earth. Rather, God set this light in place. Hence, star light, created on day four (Gen. 1:14-19), was immediately visible on earth and could be seen by Adam and Eve two days later when they were created.

All attempts to support an extremely old earth have failed miserably. The fact is, there is scientific evidence that the earth is relatively young, in thousands and not millions of years. Here are just a few examples.

Human population. Considering the ratio at which human population doubles and extrapolating this into the past, we arrive at a beginning point of about 2,500 B.C. Amazingly, this is approximately the time of the flood when the human race began to repopulate. However, extending this ratio into the past for several million years, when evolution presumes humans first appeared, there would be enough people to fill literally thousands of earths. This alone throws the old earth concept into a

tailspin.

Shrinkage of the sun. At a measurable decreasing rate, the Sun is gradually burning up. At the present rate it is calculated that no more than 100,000 years ago it would have been near double its present volume. At that volume the Sun would have been far too large and hot for life to exist on earth.

Helium in the atmosphere. This gas is the product of disintegrating minerals that, at a measurable rate, accumulates in the upper atmosphere and cannot escape earth's gravity. However, based on the known accumulative rate, if the earth is as old as evolutionists say it is, there should be gigantic amounts of helium in the upper atmosphere. Yet, the amount now present shows an estimated age for the earth to be no more than about 10,000 years.

To further show the pervasiveness of an old earth concept, even some who claim to believe the Bible have accepted it. But how can this view be reconciled with the Biblical creation of six days? It is argued, "Genesis 1:1 is not a part of the first day, because day one began at verse two. Hence, verse one could include millions or even billions of years." However, Moses exposes such a notion. Exodus 20:11 clearly places the creation of heaven and earth within the framework of the six days. "For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth and all that in them is." Believing the earth is extremely old means one must reject Moses' inspired statement.

Of course, those who accept Biblical inspiration believe God created everything in six days. But do we really appreciate the fact that the creation week is as near to us as it is—in terms of only a few thousand years?

As we gaze back in time, it should remain fresh on our minds that the creation of our world was relatively recent and the existence of the human race is indeed brief. By capturing material existence in these terms helps to see things from God's perspective.

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Television

In Search of the Lord's Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:00am on KTAB

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

God's Plan for Redeeming Man

Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)
Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

Bible Reading Schedule

video.wvbs.org/access/interactive-bible-reading-plan/

July 19	Joshua 22—24; Psalm 18
July 20	Judges 1—3; Psalm 19 (video)
July 21	Judges 4—6; Psalm 20
July 22	Judges 7—9; Psalm 21
July 23	Judges 10—12; Psalm 22
July 24	Judges 13—15; Psalm 23
July 25	Judges 16—18; Psalm 24
July 26	Judges 19—21; Psalm 25

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

(2 Timothy 2:15)



Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Last week **28** contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **Summer Youth Series** this week will be at **Hico**.
- ◆ We host the **Summer Youth Series** next Tuesday evening (7/28) at **Festival Park**.
- ◆ If you can **help put together the food containers** for SYS, please **meet in the multi-purpose room next Sunday afternoon at 4:30**. We are still grilling hamburgers, but everything else will be prepackaged this year.
- ◆ If you are visiting with us, welcome! Please fill out the “visitor” side of an attendance card on the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the collection plate.

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ October 11-14—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Denny Wilson
- Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow*

◆

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But now, let’s shift our thinking and look at the other direction, into the future. When we do, we see a similar basic fallacy, the idea that the earth has an almost indefinite future. Atheists, of course, must believe this, they have no other choice. And, there are even religious groups that promote the idea that the earth will somehow exist forever.

Though Christians should understand that the earth will someday be no more, we must realize how easily one might fall under the influence of an old earth philosophy. Some carelessly lose sight of the truth that the world’s end may not be far away and think to themselves: “Oh, the end of the earth is probably not that near.”

Like those so long ago who asked, “*Where is the promise of his coming?*” (2 Peter 3:4) they seldom find themselves giving serious attention to the Lord’s second coming and the world’s eventual demise.

The fact is, just as swiftly as the earth appeared it will, without notice, suddenly disappear. Just one slight touch of the finger of God and it will be over. God put it this way, “*in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump*” (1 Cor. 15:52).

How near is the end? We don’t know. But we do know that today it is one day closer than it was yesterday.

The universe is like a gigantic alarm clock that has been wound up and is slowly winding down. At a point, possibly not far away, the alarm will go off. The universe and all within it will be dissolved and swept away. Our earthly time, which is but a brief parenthesis in eternity, will be no more.

So, it is extremely important that we put all this into proper perspective, that we see how near we really are to the beginning and how near we may be to the end.

We should back away and see the larger picture. Looking back, there is no “endless earthly time” behind us and looking forward there is no “endless earthly time” ahead of us.

Essential it is that we keep our very brief existence in perspective.

Jon Gary Williams (Seek The Old Paths, July 2020, pp. 49, 54)

Celebrate

“*Rejoice with those who rejoice...*” (Romans 12:15)

July Birthdays: Laura Huckaby (6), Jason Warman (6), Chase Churchwell (11), Cindy Fuller (12), John Barnum (26), Jack Hill (26), Jaye Dennard (27).

July Anniversaries: John & Tammie Ross (1).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	July 5, 2020	July 12, 2020
Bible Class	43	35
AM Worship	48 + [3]	40 + [10]
PM Worship	35 + [7]	27 + [11]
Wednesday PM	35	32
Contribution	\$1,718	\$1,396

	This Week: 7/19/20	Next Week: 7/26/20		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: James Fuller	<p align="center">July 2020 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: Mike & Patti Bannister Clean Building: Mike & Patti Bannister</p> <p align="center">August 2020 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Maninger Family Clean Building: Randy & Laura Huckaby</p>	
Greeters	—	—		
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Tom Wilcox		
Communion	John Barnum*, Dex Dennard Randy Huckaby, Rafe Smith	Don Smith*, Ken Maninger Chase Churchwell, John Barnum		
Closing Prayer	James Fuller	Rafe Smith		
Attendance Cards	—	—		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: James Fuller		
Opening Prayer	Don Smith	Dex Dennard		
Scripture Reading	Chase Churchwell	Vernon Zier		
Communion	John Barnum	Don Smith		
Closing Prayer	Ryan Rudloff	Randy Huckaby		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 22 Don Smith	July 29 5 th Wednesday Video	August 5 Prayer Night	August 12 Ryan Rudloff

Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

Studies for the week of July 19, 2020

Sunday Class *1 Corinthians 11:4*
 Wed. Class *Exodus 18:13*

<p align="center">Qualifications of Elders: "Able to Teach" (1 Tim. 3:2): "Holding Fast the Faithful Word as He Has Been Taught" (Tit. 1:9)</p> <p>I. An Elder must be Able to Teach [apt to teach, skillful in teaching] (1 Tim. 3:2).</p> <p>A. What does "able to teach" mean? An elder must have <u>the ability</u> to teach.</p> <p>B. What must he have the ability to teach?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Does the elder have to be able to teach any subject at any time? Does the elder have to be able to teach any and every Bible subject? What must the elder be "able to teach"? He must be able to teach someone what they must do to be saved and how to live faithfully. Where must an elder be "able to teach"? The Greek word does not have public teaching as part of its inherent meaning. <p>C. A look at 2 Timothy 2:24: "...a servant of the Lord must...be...able to teach."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Every Christian is to be "able to teach." Same writer (Paul) writing to the same person (Timothy) – this same phrase means the same thing in both instances. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Must every Christian be able to preach on Sundays? No. Must every Christian be able to teach the adult Bible class? No. Must every Christian be able to teach others the gospel? Yes! More than just <i>ability</i>, all Christians must also have the <i>willingness</i> to teach. <p>II. An Elder must Hold Fast the Faithful Word as he has been Taught (Tit. 1:9).</p> <p>A. This qualification goes hand-in-hand with the ability to teach. One describes the <i>ability</i>; the other describes the <i>standard</i> held while teaching.</p> <p>B. The word of God is where the gospel is found.</p> <p>C. Teaching any other gospel than what is found in the Scriptures causes one to be cursed by God (Gal. 1:6-9).</p> <p>D. It is in the gospel that God's power to save is found (Rom. 1:16-17).</p> <p>E. Why must an elder hold to the faithful word of God?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "That he may be able, by sound doctrine ... to exhort." "That he may be able, by sound doctrine ... to ... convict those who contradict." <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Holding to God's word will help <i>convict/convince</i> those who have the disposition to accept it. Does this mean than an elder must always be able to <i>convince</i> the opposers? No, it speaks of <i>responsibility</i>. Some will never be convinced. 	<p>Christ's Life Prior to His Ministry: The Genealogies of Jesus (Mt. 1:1-17; Lk. 3:23-38)</p> <p>Because the Gospel records are concerned with a person (Jesus), it is of the utmost importance that we know who this person is and where He came from.</p> <p>I. Matthew's genealogy (Mt. 1:1-17).</p> <p>A. Matthew has no formal preface; rather, he immediately stressed that Jesus was the <i>Messiah</i> for whom the Jews had been looking.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham" (1). The family tree is rooted in <i>Israel's greatest patriarch, Abraham, and in its greatest king, David</i>. The genealogy is divided into three sections – each representing a major period of Israel's history: Abraham to David; David to the Exile; and the Exile to Jesus. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Each section has 14 names (17). (David is included twice.) Purpose: To show that Jesus is the fulfillment of all Jewish history. When compared with OT genealogies, it is clear several names are left out. (The intent is to show lineage, not to provide a complete list.) <p>B. A couple of interesting notes about Matthew's genealogy.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew purposefully places David before Abraham in v. 1, abandoning the chronological order of the rest of the genealogy. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> David's prominence in v. 1 is a key to the whole book. Jesus is the king of the Jews, the promised descendant of David. Another striking feature of Matthew's genealogy: his inclusion of women. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Four of these women seem almost scandalous (Tamar – prostitution, incest; Rahab – harlot; Ruth – foreigner; Bathsheba – adulteress). Matthew describes Mary differently than the others: "<i>of whom was born Jesus...</i>" (v. 16). A subtle statement about the virgin birth. <p>C. A theological issue: 2 Samuel 7:12-17 vs. Jeremiah 22:30. Can both be true?</p> <p>II. Luke's genealogy (Lk. 3:23-38).</p> <p>A. Matthew begins with Abraham and shows Jesus' kinship with the Jews; Luke ends with Adam (3:38) and shows Jesus' kinship with all people.</p> <p>B. Matthew's and Luke's accounts of Jesus' genealogy are strikingly different. (The best explanation seems to be that Matthew gives Jesus' legal lineage [through Joseph], while Luke gives His biological lineage [through Mary].)</p>
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