### Prophecy Research Initiative presents

# The Millennial "Week" of Time

The "clock" that tells us when Jesus is about to come!

Franklin S. Fowler Jr., M.D.

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (Gen. 1:1)





It must have been exciting for God when the final phase of Let us make man in our image... in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them." (Gen. 1:26-28)

### Then something special occurred:

"By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. (Gen. 2:2-3 – NIV)

To a <u>tangible</u> creation, God added the <u>intangible</u> concept of <u>time</u> – then a spiritual 7<sup>th</sup>, which completed the weekly cycle.

| Day |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   |

That week was based on a divinely decreed period of "seven days" that God established.

The months and the years were later periods of time based on the celestial movements of the earth and the moon.

The record had noted: "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for <u>signs</u>, and for <u>seasons</u>, and for days, and years." (Gen. 1:14)

But the <u>week</u> was God's special "<u>time piece</u>" – related <u>only to the number</u> "<u>seven!</u>"

The Creation week has a beginning and an ending. God later <u>expanded</u> the use of that number "seven" to represent a <u>template</u> for many other clocks!

He announced measurements tied to 7 weeks, 7 months, 7 years and even 70 x 7. They were all *defined periods* or special *appointed times*, with God as their Designer.

The Creation week is, therefore, a pattern for all the time related "sevens." Each period has a defined beginning and ending with the "seventh" always being important and/or even <u>sacred!</u>

- God ordained seven days for the <u>sanctification</u> of the altar. (Ex. 29:37)
- Seven days for the <u>sanctification</u> of the priests (Lev. 8:33)
- The <u>sanctifying blood</u> of the sacrifice was sprinkled seven times. (Lev. 8:11, 14:7).
- He ordained every seventh year as a <u>sabbatical</u> year when the land was to lie fallow. (Lev. 25:2)
- Every seven sabbatical years was a <u>sacred</u>
   Jubilee year. (Lev. 25:8)
- The Seven Feasts of the Lord were to be celebrated over seven months – a <u>sacred year</u>.

On the seventh is "restoration," "deliverance," a return back to the "original."

Revelation 20 describes a millennium of restoration and deliverance.

- Satan-bound planet earth is delivered from his evil. (vss 1-3)
- Saints reign with Christ (vss 4, 6)

Whenever there is a timing prophecy portraying "restoration" or "deliverance," one must conclude that there is a preceding "six." For Revelation 20, six millenniums.

In its full expression, the Holy Spirit is a "seven!" In the book of Revelation (1:4-6), the heavenly Trinity, or Godhead, is giving greetings to all of God's people. Referring to the Holy Spirit it says:

"... and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne.... These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God." (Rev. 1:4, 3:1, 5:6)

Intriguingly, in Revelation, the number "seven" is mentioned 54 times. In chapter 20 a millennium is mentioned three times. Again, might that be the seventh millennium from creation?

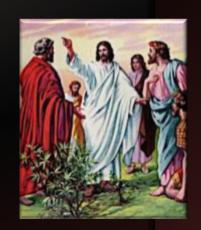
Another way God pictures the finality of this "seven" is through typological or symbolic narratives. In fact, much of prophecy is tied to such special "illustrations."

In this context, there is something important to observe: Our relationship with God determines how clearly we discern such narratives. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." (I Cor. 2:14)

How close we are to Christ relates to how deep we penetrate truth!

### Here's one such illustration:

"But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God." (Luke 9:27)



Most will quickly assume this refers to the transfiguration, and, that is true. But – there is much more to this!

What did Jesus mean? Some there would see the actual "onset" of the Kingdom of God? First – the prophecy:

"And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light." (Matt. 17:1-2)

Transfiguration

What does it mean "after six days?"

At the seventh "He came!"

This is a prophecy regarding not only His kingdom, but of the "millennial end!"

At the seventh "He comes!"

We will see that the plan of redemption occurs over a divine period of six millenniums that end in:

A "seventh," which completes a "Week of Time"

The "Millennial Week of Time."

Let's explore into this more deeply.

Many Bible expositors believe, along with this ministry, that Jesus will come 6000 years from Adam and Eve's <u>fall</u>. At the onset of the 7000<sup>th</sup> year, man is taken to the mansions that Jesus said He was going to prepare.



Collectively, this period is also called the *Great Week of Time*.

We will show that this is where we are in this 7000-year <u>time</u> period.

The first specific "time" prophecy came in Genesis: "His days will be a hundred and twenty years." (Gen. 6:3) (A time prophecy with a defined end.)

Abraham was called out of Ur of Chaldees. In faith he left. He then went through Canaan to Egypt and then back to Canaan.

Then the second "time" prophecy: In covenant promise God said, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years." (Gen. 15:13) (A time prophecy with a defined end.)

Now, looking at the final time prophecy:

It is that millennial period that has a very defined "redemptive end":

"They ... shall reign with Christ a thousand years.... When the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed.... And the devil ... was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are ... And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire." (Rev. 20:4, 7, 10, 14-15)

### What happens after that "millennial end?"

"Then I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth,' for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea." (Rev. 21:1 – NIV)



### A looming question:

Can one show there is a 6000-year period that precedes that Revelation 20 millennium?

It is stunning and faith-affirming to see what information God has actually provided.

### **Another question:**

How close can we get to the <u>onset</u> of that 6000-year period? Surprisingly – very close. We're going to find that there are clues that warn us that the end of the six millenniums is pending – then *the Second Coming* occurs!!!

LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN DISCOVER!

Daniel received a millennial vision 3426± years from Creation (we'll look at those periods and genealogies shortly). The following prophecy is recorded in Daniel 8:14.



- Those "2300" Atonement years would begin from a decree of restoration. (Daniel 9:25 and specifically recorded in Ezra 7)
- That would not occur for another 100 years from Daniel's 2300-year vision.
- 3426 + 100 = 3526 years from Creation.

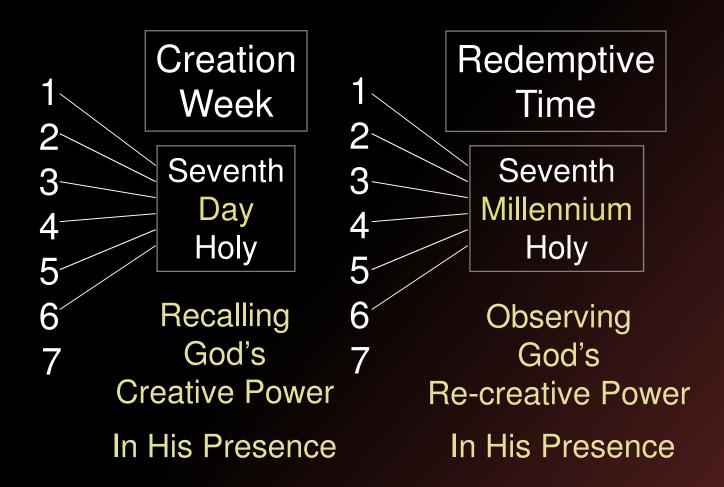
That decree was given 458–457 B.C. – 2477 years ago (as of 2018).

- 2477 + 3526 = 6003 years for the age of earth since Creation.
- This is from Creation and not Adam and Eve's fall.



How long they were in the Garden of Eden, we aren't sure – but many scholars believe a very short time. If the "end" comes at the termination of the 6000<sup>th</sup> year from that fall – and it does – we must be exceedingly close!

God repeatedly uses this "timing module" in redemptive prophecy:

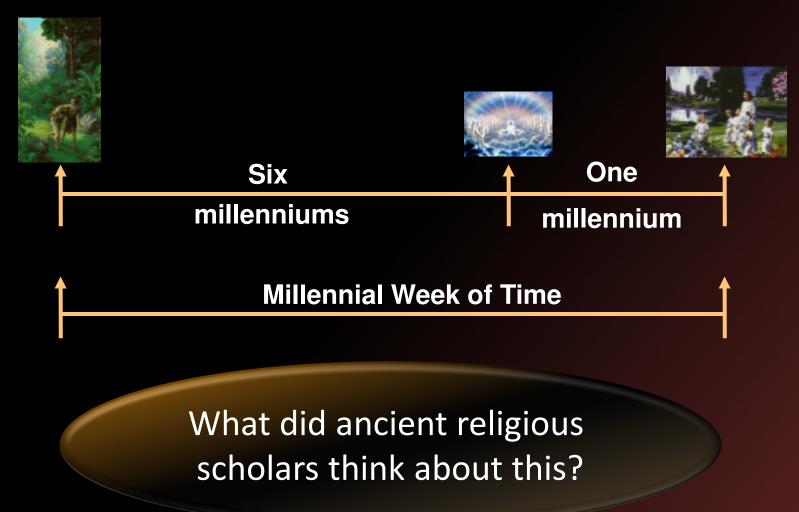


### Warning:

Because so few of God's people expected the arrival of Jesus at His first advent, expositor White made this profound observation:

"How it (the story of the leaders in Christ day) warns <u>us to beware</u>, lest by our criminal indifference we also fail to discern the <u>signs of the times</u>, <u>and therefore know not the day of our visitation</u>. It is unto <u>them</u> that '<u>look for him</u>' that Christ is to 'appear the second time without sin unto salvation.'
[Heb. 9:28]" (4SP 199)

## Let's now note how history identifies with this Millennial Week of Time



### **Jewish History**

"The verse, 'A thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday' (Psa. 90:4) having suggested the idea that the present world of toil is to be followed by a Sabbatical millennium, 'the world to come.'" ("Eschatology," *The Jewish Encyclopedia*, vol., p. 211)

### **Epistle of Barnabas** (A.D. 150)

"Consider, my children, what signify the words, 'He finished them in six days.'

They mean this: that in six thousand years the Lord will make an end of all things."

(Barnabas 15:5, 35)



### Irenaeus (A.D. 120-202)

"For in as many days as this world was made, in so many thousand years shall it be concluded.... This is an account of the things formerly created, as also it is a prophecy of what is to come.... they will come to an end at the six thousandth year."

(Against Heresies V. XXVIII, 3)

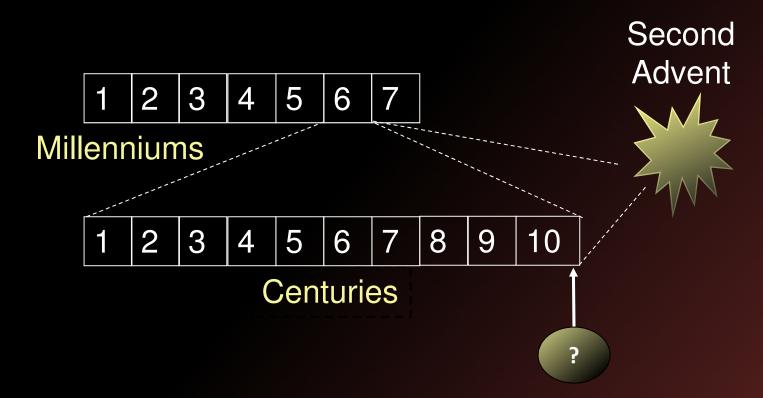
We now question: "Is <u>written history</u> of this world detailed enough to suggest or even conclude the 6000-year age, as suggested by these men?"

"Besides Daniel, is the Biblical record thorough enough to reveal a similar period?"

Finally: "Are there scientific clues that might validate the Biblical age of the earth?"

God's Great Week of Time urges us to find every clue possible to affirm this millennial Biblical precept. It is actually possible that we might just be right at its end!

Let's now explore what is known about the "ages" of the past from the Bible. It will be important evidence for Advent believers that a *terminus ad quem* of time is about to occur!



Many genealogies in the Bible are important because they contain "time markers."

The period between Adam and the flood:

Though the ancient Greek Septuagint has a vastly different age "list" than the Hebrew Masoretic Text, we rely on the latter, as do most English translations.

Those records note that Noah was 600 years old when the flood came. (Gen 7:6) This may seem too old for that colossal boat ride, <u>But</u> – God is precise. This <u>is</u> an important <u>age</u> reference to study!

"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened." (Gen. 7:11)

Did you note all the numbers? Not only is Noah's <u>age</u> given but the <u>month</u> (*lyar*) and the specific <u>day</u> when the flood began. (This would coincide with our April–May period)!

For an event that occurred over 4000 years ago, we have stunning calendar details!

### Antediluvian Patriarchs:

#### Genesis

1:27 Adam created	year 0
5:3 Seth born when Adam 130	year 130
6 Enos born when Seth 105	year 235
9 Cainan born when Enos 90	year 325
12 Mahalaleel born when Cainan 70	year 395
15 Jared born when Mahalallel 65	year 460
18 Enoch born when Jared 162	year 622
21 Methuselah born when Enoch 65	year 687
25 Lamech born when Methuselah 187	year 874
28 Noah born when Lamech 182	year 1056
7:11 The Flood came when Noah was 600	year <u>1656</u>

Creation occurred <u>1656</u> years before the flood! We still don't know how long Adam and Eve were in the Garden before the fall (which begins the 6000year clock), but again, it was likely very short.

### Let's now analyze more details:

- 1. Two years after the Flood Shem had Arphaxad (1658 years after Creation). Abraham was born to Terah 350 years later, when he was 130. (Gen. 11:32-12:4) (2008 years after Creation).
- 2. From verses 10-32, timed genealogies cover nine generations from Shem (Noah's son) to the death of Terah (Abraham's father). The earth was 2083 years old when Terah died. That was the year Abraham first received the covenant promises from God. (Gen. 12:1-4)

Abraham was 75 years old when he received those promises (year 2083 from Creation).

- 3. Galatians 3:16-17 (cf. Exodus 12:40-41) reveals that the law was given at Sinai 430 years after Abraham received the promises. 2083 plus 430 takes us to year 2513 after Creation to the Sinai experience.
- 4. I Kings 6:1 brings us up to the fourth year of Solomon's reign, when the temple building had been started. This verse notes that that year was the 480<sup>th</sup> year from the Exodus (the apparent year the law was given at Sinai).

2513 (Exodus) + 480 = year **2993** from Creation.

This was Solomon's fourth regnal year, when the temple work began.

Year 2989 would then be his first regnal year (full kingly year).

Can we discover historically when Solomon began to reign?

Ancient records do help us come close.

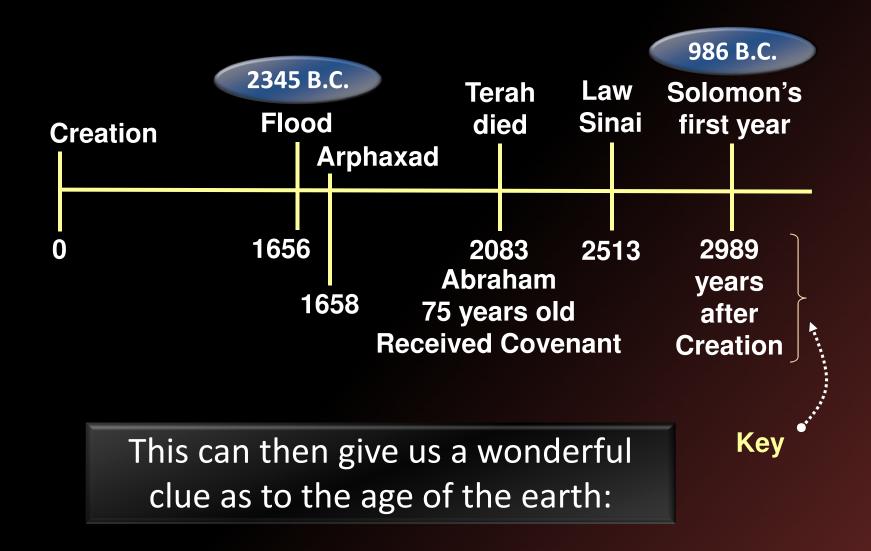
Most ancient historians suggest between 1007 and 970 B.C. That is a "scholarly range" of 37 years.

971 B.C. is a year accepted by many archeologists from the work of the late Edwin R. Thiele. 986 B.C. has been more recently presented from the work of astronomer John P. Pratt.

(http://www.johnpratt.com/items/docs/lds/meridian/2003/david.html#3)

We are using 986 B.C. for illustration purposes

### This is what we have discovered thus far:



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2989 (years after Creation that Solomon began his first regnal year)
+ 986 (years before Christ's era, i.e., 986 B.C.)
3975 (years to 0 B.C./A.D. from Creation)
[Then adding 1 year for the transition from B.C. to A.D.]
3975 + 1 + 2018 = 5994 years since Creation
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We are not attempting to develop an <u>exact</u> date when <u>Christ will come</u>. Our objective is to see if that 6000-year end might be <u>close</u>.

# <u>Interesting – isn't it?</u>

- Daniel's analysis suggested we were 6003 years from Creation.
- This latest study suggests we are 5994 years from Creation!

Might we be getting close to the 6000 years from the fall when Jesus comes again?

Many Bible expositors have reviewed the significance of a 6000-year-old earth. This is a unique area of study for creationists in their drive to show the theory of evolution to be incorrect.

Ellen G. White, put many of the issues into a healthy perspective. Her statements weren't simply a *carte blanche* that planet earth was 6000 years old. They were actually placed in a very scholarly and interesting framework of understanding.

Notice the <u>expressions</u> of her statements:

"About six thousand years" (ISp 87 – 1870)

"More than six thousand years" (HS 133 –1886)

"For nearly six thousand years" (GC 518 –1888)

"For six thousand years" (GC 659 – 1911)

At first glance, it appears that there is a lack of precision. Is it "about," "more," "nearly" or exactly "for" six thousand years?

As with all writings, the author is due a careful study of how a statement is made in <u>context</u>. That includes the Bible! Let's sequentially look at these various <u>timing</u> expressions and see how they <u>are actually very consistent!</u>

# Examples of "nearly" 6000 years:

"Never has the world's need for teaching and healing been greater than it is today. The world is full of those who need to be ministered unto – the weak, the helpless, the ignorant, the degraded. The continual transgression of man for nearly six thousand years has brought sickness, pain, and death as its fruit. Multitudes are perishing for lack of knowledge." (CT 467)

"The great controversy between Christ and Satan, that has been carried forward for nearly six thousand years, is soon to close." (GC 618, 1888 on)

If the limits of sin are bound within a sixmillennium period, then creation would have occured just before then. Did expositor White note this?

"To this earth angels have come, with the message of redemption, and its hills and valleys have echoed their songs of rejoicing. Its soil has been trodden by the feet of the Son of God. And for more than six thousand years, in its forms of beauty and gifts for sustenance, the earth has borne witness of the Creator's love." (*The Story of Jesus*, 183, 1900)

What about Satan's long rebellious history?

"More than six thousand years of continual practice has greatly increased his (Satan's) skill to deceive and allure.... The power of the human race to resist temptation is continually decreasing, Satan's skill and power to tempt are continually increasing. This is one great reason why the temptations of the last days will be more severe than those of any other age." (ST 09-29-1887)

Do you see how careful expositor White is in her wording? She is very consistent and leaves nothing to doubt.





Will God bring a halt to Satan's work at the end of the 6000 years of sin?

"The great controversy between Christ and Satan, that has been carried forward for nearly six thousand years, is soon to close; and the wicked one redoubles his efforts to defeat the work of Christ in man's behalf and to fasten souls in his snares." (GC 518)

Now let's step into another realm to continue building our information. What does the physical world show? Does it come close to the approximate Biblical data? There is much evidence to corroborate with the Old Testament accounts.

The Biblical date for the flood of 2345 B.C. is within 100 plus/minus years using several methods of calculation from earth's evidence.

Let's look at some of that evidence from the natural world.

#### **Evidence from Planet Earth:**

The earth's <u>rotational speed</u> is gradually slowing down. Currently, it is at 1000 mph. If the earth were millions of years old, its speed would have been so great that it would be like a pancake. Nothing would be retained on its surface. From earth's changing speed alone, a young earth is suggested.

Another fascinating issue comes from the magnetic fields of the earth. They are decreasing. If we could look backwards from the present trend to just 20,000 years ago, it would have been a liquefied mass – no life.

There's more to this magnetic field issue. The sun changes its electrical fields every 11 years. It changed in 2012. The next change will be in 2023.

Intriguingly, the earth has magnetic movements also. There is something very fascinating regarding earth's magnetic past! Based on McFarlane's alternative magnetic-field theory, the evidence suggests that something dramatic occurred 4500 years ago to this earth!

(http://www.pureenergysystems.com/news/2005/02/27/6900064 Magnet Pole Shift/)

That would be around the time of the Flood The clocks are "right on."

#### **Bristlecone Pine:**





1957: Methuselah – 4789 rings

1964: Promethius – 4844 rings

Calculating from the Flood, plus Methuselah's age, the earth would be 6499 years — and from Promethius, 6547 years old. Are we dealing with a six-millennial period?

Since there are many factors that might influence the number of rings within a tree, the figures given are the maximum rings that the tree could have. (www.rmtrr.org/oldlist.htm)

Time is short.

# **Evidence from Human History:**

The early work of archeologists, gleaning information from Egyptian, Babylonian and Sumerian tablets, initially set those civilizations at 3000+ B.C. More recent studies reveal that that was too old.





They are now placing the oldest Sumerian tablet (#2426) at 2385 B.C.! This would reflect a people with writing skills immediately post-Flood.

Add 2385 B.C. to 1656 years before the Flood and one gets 6041 years from Creation.

(Kramer, S. N.; "The Sumerians," Scientific American, Oct. 1957, p. 72)

A Biblically "young earth" – Time is short!

#### Oil and Gas Reserves Give Us a Clock:

These fossil fuels are located in porous or permeable rock. They are constantly leaking in many areas onto the ocean floor. If the age of the earth was even 20,000 years old, the reserves would have been depleted long ago.

Shifting of the earth's plates has been studied as initiating these leaks. They appear to have been moving since approximately 2400 B.C. Interesting!



[Baumgardner, John R., Ph.D.; "Catastrophic Plate Tectonics: The Physics Behind the Genesis Flood," *Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on Creation* (Pittsburgh, PA), pp. 113-126, 2003]

A Biblically "young earth"!

# Niagara Falls has an Interesting Clock:

20% of the world's fresh water flows over these falls. The friction of the water over the rocks erodes the cliffs approximately three feet per year.





This has been studied geologically as to how long the river channel would take to erode from its original terminus at Lake Ontario. It is 2018–4387 years ago. The time of the flood!

A Biblically "young earth" - 5938 years.

# **Earth Age from Bodies of Water:**



300 million cubic yards of mud are deposited into the Gulf of Mexico each year.

5956 years

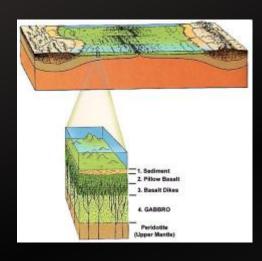
#### Mississippi Delta

As rivers flow out to the sea, tons of sediment move further out into the ocean. The depth of the silt and the pattern of its deposits are clues as to how long it took to form.

Studies now show that the present delta deposits have accumulated for approximately 4400 years! It all started at the Flood!

#### **Thickness of Ocean Sediments:**

Sediment ranges are only a few thousand feet thick on the ocean floor. The rate of sediment buildup has been studied extensively.



The thickness is consistent with the time of Noah's flood. This is a major argument for the age of the earth and the Biblical period of 6000 years!

A Biblically "young earth" is in view — Time is getting short!

#### **Coral Growth Patterns:**







Coral growth patterns now reveal that the earth is quite young. There are no known coral formations that are older than 3500 years.

(www.pathlights.com/ce\_encyclopedia/05agee3.htm)

A Biblically "young earth" is in view!

# What have we learned about God's Millennial Week of Time?

# Biblical Age from Creation (average 5996):

- 1. 6003 years (from Daniel 8:14)
- 2. 5994 years (from patriarchs)

#### Natural World Age (average 5935):

- 1. Bristlecone Pine (approx. 6700 years max)
- 2. Human History (approx. 5951 years)
- 3. Magnetic Fields (approx. 6027 years)
- 4. Oil Leakage (approx. 5967 years)
- 5. Niagara Falls (approx. 5938 years)
- 6. Mississippi Sediment (approx. 5956 years)
- 7. Coral (approx. 5006 years)

If we look at that Biblical record of this 6000 years and assume that Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden for only 3 to 4 years before the fall (i.e., they had no children until afterward), we could conclude that very soon now that "Millennial Week of Time" will come to an end!

"But there is a day 'that God hath appointed for the close of this world's history. This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.' Prophecy is fast fulfilling. More, much more, should be said about these tremendously important subjects. The day is at hand when the destiny of every soul will be fixed forever. This day of the Lord hastens on apace. The false watchmen are raising the cry, 'All is well;' but the day of God is rapidly approaching.

"Its footsteps are so muffled that it does not arouse the world from the deathlike slumber into which it has fallen.... The solemn fact is to be kept not only before the people of the world, but before our own churches also, that the day of the Lord will come suddenly, unexpectedly. The fearful warning of the prophecy is addressed to every soul. Let no one feel that he is secure from the danger of being surprised. Let no one's interpretation of prophecy rob you of the conviction of the knowledge of events which show that this great event is near at hand." (FE 335-336)



We are this close!



"Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

"Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book." (Rev. 3:11, 22:7)

# The End