A book that goes along with this Millennial Week of Time series is *God's Great Week of Time*, which can be obtained by:

Calling: 760-248-1111

Writing: Prophecy Research Initiative

P.O. Box 829

Lucerne Valley, CA 92356 USA

E-mailing: prophecy-research@earthlink.net

We now begin our studies on:

The Millennial "Week" of Time

## 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.

#### Lesson One

## A Timeless God Introduces Time

Revised

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

"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." (Gen. 1:1-2)

The Record says of everything God made during that first week: "God saw that it was good."





It must have been exciting for God when the final phase of creation came!

"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over ... all the earth....

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." "And God blessed them." (Gen. 1:26-28)

Something else special was introduced within that first week:



As Creation progressed, the Bible notes:

"And the evening and the morning were the first day." (vs 5) "... were the second day." (vs 8) "... were the third day." (vs 13) "... were the fourth day." (vs 19) "... were the fifth day." (vs 23) "... were the sixth day." (vs 31)

## Notice how God introduces and wants those "time pieces" recognized:

- 1. The "day" begins in the evening, then the morning follows.
- 2. Creation is complete in six days God's example of a "work week."

"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them." (Gen. 2:1)

The creation was finished, but the <u>week had</u> not yet concluded!

"And on the <u>seventh day</u> God <u>ended his work</u> which he had made; and <u>he rested</u> on the <u>seventh day</u> from all his work which he had made.

"And God <u>blessed the seventh</u> day, and <u>sanctified it</u>: <u>because</u> that in it <u>he had rested</u> <u>from all his work</u> which God created and made." (Gen. 2:2-3)

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

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

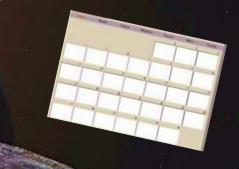
That week was based on a divinely decreed period of "seven days" that God established.

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

But the <u>week</u> was God's special "<u>time</u> <u>piece</u>!"

"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)

The <u>week</u> became a recurring cycle of time, which hasn't changed since that Creation week.



That weekly cycle was a <u>period</u>, as much a part of Creation as the physical treasures He brought into existence.

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, 7 times 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 "sevens." Each period has a *defined* beginning and ending with the "seventh" always being important and/or even <u>sacred!</u>

Intriguing is another timing point called the "eighth." Sometimes in prophecy, this is the number that is emphasized. When it is, it represents some "beginning again."

| Day |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |

Though it <u>is</u> the "first day" of the next week, <u>when</u> used for a prophetic "renewal" or "beginning again," it is expressed in the context of an "eighth."

In the Bible, many timing messages within prophecies are associated with the number "seven!"

- Thus, Biblical <u>time periods</u> often end in <u>something sacred</u> – a "seventh."
- The special year that "begins" with Abib
  (Ex. 12) ends with sacred feasts in Tishri, the
  seventh month (Lev. 23).
- As Creation <u>was presented</u> within a framework of time, the fulfillment of redemption will come also be completed in a template of time – followed by an "eighth" of renewal!

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." That is the focus of this study.

Intriguingly, in Revelation (the last book of the Bible) the number "seven" is mentioned 54 times. In chapter 20 a millennium is mentioned three times. That is felt to be the seventh millennium from creation.

Just preceding that time, the seventh trumpet sounds and the seventh vial angel pours out its contents. That is <u>when</u>:

- "The mystery of God will be finished." (10:7) Then:
- Christ announces "It is <u>done</u>" (16:17), associated with the
- Consummation of His wrath. (15:1)

The next "time" alluded to after that millennial story, is when a "new heavens and earth" come into existence, symbolic of an "eighth!" (Rev. 21:1) Everything is new, there is a beginning again!

Many scholars conclude that the saints will spend that seventh millennium in heaven with Christ, right where God's throne resides!

Looking more deeply at this number "seven":

The Hebrew word for "seven" is *sheva*. There are two associated root words:

sheva: seven

sava: satisfy, fill, full, plenty, satiated

shava: swear, charge, oath

In putting these <u>collective intimations</u> together, there is a unique message. When God uses the number "seven," it is His mark of assurance that:

The <u>restoration</u> and <u>deliverance</u> themes found in His Word are divine guarantees that the effects of evil will end.

#### Thus:

Every time we see the number "seven" we are seeing one way God assures us of the final fulfillment of His covenant promises!

"I promise you, through this number seven, what is conveyed will happen — it will be completed."

#### This is so important – even Moses was told:

"Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign [God's mark] between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you [the restoration promise].

"... keep the sabbath ... throughout ... [your] generations, for a perpetual covenant." (Ex. 31:13, 16)

The "seventh day" or weekly Sabbath reminds us that God will deliver us and restore us – make us holy.

That is why God said that the Sabbath day was blessed and hallowed.

That was not originally a Jewish directive. Those people weren't even in existence at Creation.

It later became a "covenant metaphor" – for all of mankind!

At the "number seven" there is a culmination, something is completed, something ends, we are assured.

At the end of time some "six" will have come to an end and a "seventh" will begin. We will look at that momentarily.

First, the number "seven" has another Biblical meaning – a "<u>full expression</u>." Something can't get any better or stronger!

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)

Apocalyptic prophecy notes a time when a full expression of the Holy Spirit is coming to earth, called the "latter rain" — another message of "seven." Christ has those Spirits. (5:6)

Another important "rule" comes in the "prophetic completeness" of the number "seven."

If there is a prophecy of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years, that means elsewhere is another  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years to equal a seven. There must be that "seven" to make <u>the</u> prophetic message a "whole." <u>Example</u>:

"And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days." (Rev. 11:3)

Where is the other 3½ years of witnessing? It is the first half of the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel 9, when Jesus began to preach the "kingdom of God" was "at hand." (Matt. 4:17)



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



Together, this period is called the *Millennial Week of Time* or 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 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)

Then, again, comes the re-creation of the world:

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away." (Rev. 21:1)

That <u>imagery</u>, as we have previously noted, is of an "eighth." There is a "new beginning."

The redemptive "cycle of seven" came to an end! Something new started!

## That is <u>when</u> the incredible words of expositor White apply:

"The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love." (GC 678)

## The two key places in Scripture where a millennial prophecy is mentioned are:

- 1. In Daniel 8:14. 2300 Atonement years must pass before "holiness is vindicated."
- 2. In Revelation 20:
  - a. Satan is bound for a thousand years. (vs 2)
  - b. He is there till the <u>thousand</u> years will be <u>fulfilled</u>. (vs 3)

- c. Saints live and reign with Christ a thousand years (vs 4)
- d. Wicked are dead in their graves a thousand years (vs 5)
- e. Wicked aren't raised until the end of the thousand years (vs 6)
- f. Satan is freed at the end of the thousand years (vs 7)

#### A looming question:

Can we show there is a 6000-year period that <u>precedes</u> the Revelation 20 millennium?

That is what this study will reveal. 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 6000year period? Surprisingly – very close. We're going to also find that there are typological clues that tell us that the end of the six millenniums is pending – at the Second Coming!

### Let's get started!

Daniel received a millennial vision 3437 <u>+</u> years from Creation (we'll look at those periods and genealogies in Lesson Two). His prophecy is recorded in Daniel 8:14 – 549 B.C.

- Those "2300" Atonement years would begin from a decree of restoration. (Dan. 9:25, which is specifically recorded in Ezra 7)
- That would not occur for another 92 years from Daniel's 2300 vision in 8:14.
- 3437 + 92 = 3529 years from Creation.

That "decree" was given 458–457 B.C. – 2478 years ago (accounting for the year "0" – calculated in 2020).

• 2478 + 3529 = 6007 years for the age of earth since Creation. (Masoretic Text)

Note: Adam and Eve's fall came later, when that millennial clock would begin. (Important – 6000 years is the "clock of redemption.") How long were they in the Garden before sinning? We aren't told. But it appears to be quite short because they didn't have their first child until after they were driven from the Garden!

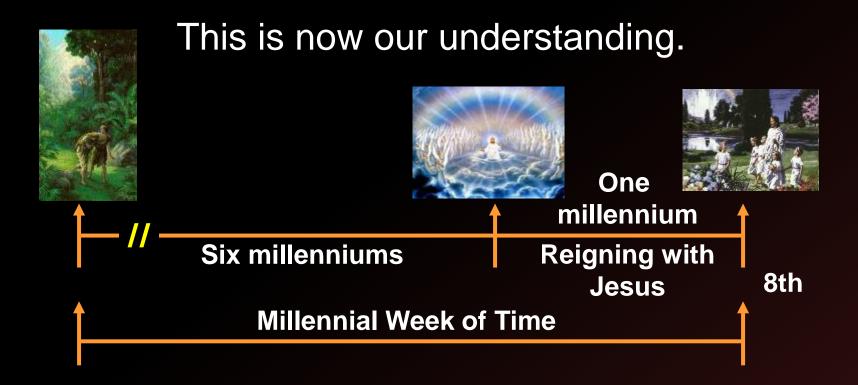
If the "end" comes at the termination of the 6000<sup>th</sup> year from that fall – and it does – we must be exceedingly close!

Shortly, you will see convincing evidence of how close we really are!

The *millennial* cycles <u>have to</u> prophetically play out! Since we are nearing the end of the sixth millennium, <u>we</u> are the privileged people to soon see the culmination of earth's final events! We are in that awesome TIME!!!

Revelation 20:6 notes: "They shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a <u>thousand years</u>."

The saints have just arrived in heaven and have been given thrones surrounding God's throne! This is the millennium when a "holy people" have joined the family of heaven!



This pictures God's greatest and longest "appointment of time" within His redemptive plan. Those many "appointments" or prophetic clocks span from hours to this block of millennial years.



Let's go back to the Garden of Eden, where Adam and Eve were driven from its precincts. Their <u>sin</u> seemed to be an "innocent" sin:

BUT – they disobeyed God and obeyed the devil.

In that time of horror, and maybe even terror, our first parents were given promises that described plans to <u>restore</u> them through a coming Savior. Then, the devil would be mortally wounded. (Gen. 3:15)

This became part of God's "covenant promise."



But man would have a part, as would God.

The Savior would receive the death sentence for all sin.

Again – God asks us to obey.



There's something interesting about His plan:

It has hundreds of "little parts."

Many of the significant pieces are associated with numbers, all based on 1–7!

- 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.

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

Our prior <u>Danelic</u> illustration of 2300 years helps to confirm just that! <u>Important!</u>

Another way God pictures the finality of this "seven" is through typological narrative. 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) This, too, is so important!

#### 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 "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!"

In Revelation, where Jesus notes on many occasions, "Behold I come quickly," He had intimated previously that a "six" was about ended. The concept?

"After six days - I come."

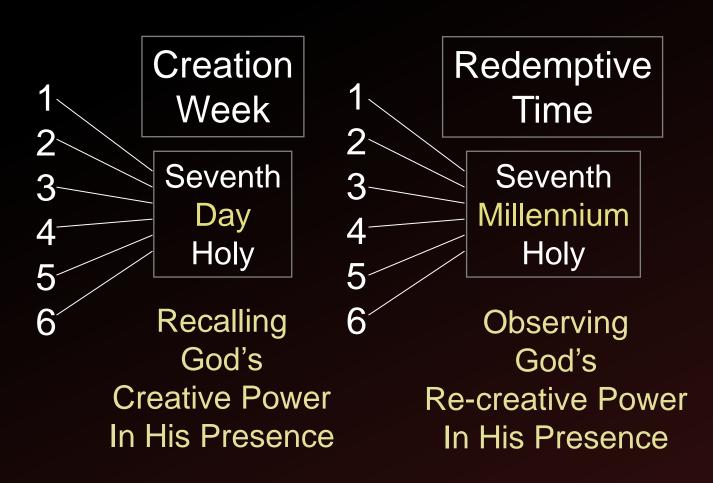
If a "kingdom prophecy" is contextually urgent, a "six" is about to end.

The seventh "day," when <u>deliverance</u> occurs, is not only represented by <u>when</u> the <u>transfiguration</u> occurred, but it represents <u>when</u> the <u>transformation</u> occurs at the eschaton or Second Advent!

We even go back to the days of the creation week where we can see that they were great metaphors for timing prophecies that lead right up to the very end of time!

 $1-6 \rightarrow \text{then} \rightarrow 7$ Preparation Resting in His presence

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



Christ taught the 1–6, then <u>7</u>. He later noted that there could also be a 4–2, then <u>1</u> in prophecy, where 7's are a distinct Advent theme. We see that 4–2–1 in the: Seven Seals

Seven Trumpets Seven Vials

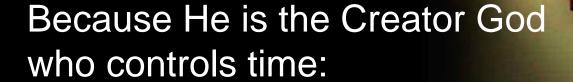
1–7 was part of God's <u>original</u> Module of Time. When sin came into this world, He built event-driven prophecy onto <u>that framework</u> of "sevens." This is the infrastructure of all apocalyptic prophecy, and the events are always sequenced alike.

#### Jesus self-declared:

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."
(Rev. 22:13)

#### Jesus is announcing:

- "I control time"
- "I surround time"
- "I am sovereign over all time"
- "I am over history"
- "But I work within your framework of time"



- 1. God can add new clocks
- 2. He can make time symbolic
- 3. He can stop clocks
- 4. He can delay clocks from starting
- 5. He can destroy clocks



Time is God's <u>Key</u> to Make Prophecy Relevant

That is why chronology is so valuable!

Redemption is God's administrative plan to restore man back to His moral image.

Timed periods are waymarks, pointing toward its completion. Without events tied to time, redemption would be a nebulous "tale of ceaseless future bliss!"

When <u>time</u> is added to a very defined sequence of events, God's salvic plan is beautiful. No matter where one enters that sequence, there is an <u>end</u>, when eternal <u>hope begins</u>.

Note! In all of the timing prophecies, we are never given information on the <u>date</u> for Jesus' coming! (Matt. 24:36)

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father."

But: The timing periods go to the very eve of that event. Many resist that thought because they are taught that all timing prophecy ended years ago.

The simple challenge is:

"What does the Bible say?"

In the parable of the fig tree (Matt. 24:32-33), we know that "summer is nigh" — a season.

In Luke 21:28 and 32 we are told that when these signs begin collectively, Jesus will come in "one generation." The millennial week of time tells us that He will come at the end of 6000 years from the fall of Adam and Eve.

Prophecy is loaded with <u>timing</u> clues. Here – a season, a generation, a millennium.

### Failure to study and understand Biblical time has dire consequences:

Jesus was overlooking the City of Jerusalem, the great center and symbol of His holy people. Because they failed, He cried these anguishing words:

"Saying, <u>If thou hadst known</u>, even thou, at least in <u>this thy day</u>, the things which belong unto thy peace! but <u>now they are hid from thine eyes</u>. [Then He describes <u>why</u> their desolating curse.] <u>because</u> thou knewest not <u>the time</u> of thy visitation." (Luke 19:41-44)

No wonder the counsel was given long ago: "Let us show the people where we are in prophetic history." (5T 116 –1889)



How do you show people "where they are?"

By knowing the timing prophecies! If all we look at are <u>events</u>, we have <u>no</u> "now orientation."



God worked with Noah to show the event that would come and when!

It had a very "now orientation" to every person on planet earth! BUT — <u>Jesus said</u>: They "knew not," until the flood came. (Matt. 24:38-39)

#### This is a moral issue. Why?

- Without God's "clocks," man becomes the standard of all priorities.
- His desires take precedence.
- A sense of divine "belonging" is lost.

That is why the Sabbath is so important. It is a <u>time</u> when man's thoughts and devotion lead away from himself to nature and its Creator.

All of God's clocks are designed to synchronize with Himself. In the millennial clock – the "fullness" of time is met in God's redemptive plans.

Note:

"Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him." (Eph. 1:9-10)

When that fullness comes, "His period of time" ends; everything will be <u>accomplished</u>, <u>ended</u>, <u>complete</u>. (Freiberg Lexicon on Eph. 1:10)

#### Are these millennial cycles Biblical?

It will be clear that they are as our study progresses.

Many Bible expositors have been working on the deeper meaning of this for over 1½ centuries. Why? Because they have all recognized that the end of those millennial cycles was approaching! Here is a list of a few:

Armstrong, H W 1979. *The Wonderful World Tomorrow*. Everest House. New York. p.47. Elliot-Page, J 1948. Second edition. The Great Pyramid. New Covenant Assembly. New Zealand. pp. 54-55.

Foster, T 1977. The Pope COMMUNISM and the coming NEW WORLD. Acacia Press. Australia. Gibbon. E 1963. The Decline And Fall Of The Roman Empire. An Abridgement by D M Low. Penguin, Great Britain. p. 158.

Norris, H 1915. When Will Our Lord Return. Second Edition. Chas. J. Thyne. London.

Staniforth, M (Translator) 1968. Early Christian Writings. Penguin, Great Britain.

Tatford, F A 1947. Paperback edition 1969. *Prophecy's Last Word*. Pickering & Inglis. Great Britain. pp. 241, 13.

Wolston, W T P 1891. Fourth edition. 1920 *Behold the Bridegroom!* James Nisbet & Co. London. p. 180.

In fact, many have boldly predicted time periods soon to arrive, based upon God's "Millennial Week of Time." You will shortly see that the weight of evidence suggests that we must not delay in our preparation.

We have been given clocks, and God says:
"I want you to learn how to tell My time!"

"The exact day and hour of Christ's coming have not been revealed. The Saviour told his disciples that he himself could not make known the hour of his second appearing. But he mentioned certain events by which they might know when his coming was near."

(RH, 11-22-1906)



## The importance of identifying with timing prophecy?

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

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

### The End

#### Next Lesson:

# How Close are We to the End of the 6000 Years?





PRI Headquarters

These PowerPoints are a production of Prophecy Research Initiative



Franklin S. Fowler Jr., M.D. Director

P.O. Box 829
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356 USA
1-760-248-1111
www.endtimeissues.com
prophecy-research@earthlink.net
(8–5 M–Th, 8–12 Fri)