

"The Importance of Genesis 5"

Part 1

The Age of the Earth

Genesis 5:1-32

Introduction: Last week in our study of *Genesis* we stepped briefly into the 5th chapter of *Genesis*. Today I want to take you deeper into this marvelous chapter of *God's Word*. This chapter as well as chapter 4 is very important for the reason which I told you previously and that is these 2 chapters are the only record we have of life before the flood. The flood was so catastrophic that it destroyed all evidence for the period before the flood.

When people first look at *Genesis 5* they only see a bunch of names listed in the genealogy found in this chapter. But there is so much more in this chapter. This chapter is so rich that we could spend hours upon hours in this study. We will do just that but we will not take it all in one bite. So let us begin this morning with a question:

Why is this chapter so important?

I. It Enables us to Date the Age of the Earth

God has given to us ages of the people listed in this genealogy so that we can know how much time passed from Creation to the flood which will also help us then to determine the age of the earth. I want to take some time here and show you how this can be done.

From creation to Seth's birth was 130 years (<i>Genesis 5:3</i>).	130
From Seth to Enos was 105 years (<i>Genesis 5:6</i>).	+ 105
From Enos to Cainan was 90 years (<i>Genesis 5:9</i>).	+ 90
From Cainan to Mahalaleel was 70 years (<i>Genesis 5:12</i>)	+70
From Mahalaleel to Jared was 65 years (<i>Genesis 5:15</i>)	+65
From Jared to Enoch was 162 years (<i>Genesis 5:18</i>)	+162
From Enoch to Methuselah was 65 years (<i>Genesis 5:21</i>)	+65
From Methuselah to Lamech was 187 years (<i>Genesis 5:25</i>)	+187

From Lamech to Noah was 182 years (Genesis 5:28-29) +182

If we add these up we see from Creation to Noah was 1056 years

Now let me show you another verse.

Genesis 7:6

⁶ And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.

Now if we take the years from Creation to Noah's birth (1056) and we add 600 which was how old Noah was when the flood came we can see that the flood came 1656 years after Creation.

Now some people say there are gaps in the genealogy found in Genesis 5. I say there are no gaps and the genealogy is "tight". I believe we can support this with the Bible. Let me show you.

1 Chronicles 1:1-4

Adam, Sheth, Enosh,

² Kenan, Mahalaleel, Jered,

³ Henoah, Methuselah, Lamech,

⁴ Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth

This is the very same genealogy with a little different spelling.

Luke 3:36-38

³⁶ Which was the son of Cainan, which was the son of Arphaxad, which was the son of Sem, which was the son of Noe, which was the son of Lamech,

³⁷ Which was the son of Mathusala, which was the son of Enoch, which was the son of Jared, which was the son of Maleleel, which was the son of Cainan,

³⁸ Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God

Here in the Gospel of Luke we see the very same genealogy.

Now there would still be some who would say there could be gaps in the genealogy so let me show you one more portion of Scripture.

Jude :14

¹⁴ And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints

Jude tells us Enoch was the 7th from Adam.

1. Adam
2. Seth
3. Enos
4. Cainan
5. Mahalaleel
6. Jared
7. Enoch

According to the genealogy Jude is exactly correct. All of this is solid evidence that there are no gaps in the genealogy and therefore there was 1656 years from Creation until the flood. But that still does not tell us the age of the earth. So we need to consider a few other verses.

Before the birth of Christ there was no calendar as we have today. They could not claim the year they were living in as 400 years BC because they did not know when Jesus would be born.

But archeologists have discovered several calendars which were used in Old Testament days. The Assyrians seemed to have kept the greatest details in what was known as the "Assyrian Eponym List". They would identify the years by the king who ruled. Now with that said there is a verse in the Old Testament which the Assyrian Eponym List has confirmed and can actually be dated.

1 Kings 6:1

And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.

This verse is an anchor point when it comes to Biblical dating. From external and internal evidence we know this verse can be dated **966 BC**. Now as we work our way back toward Creation we must continue to add to this verse.

This verse tells us that the 4th year of Solomon's reign was **966 BC** and this was **480** years after Israel came out of Egypt. Therefore if we add **480** to **966 BC** we have a firm date for the Exodus which was **1466 BC**. Let me show you another verse.

Exodus 12:40

⁴⁰ *Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.*

Now we can add **430** to **1466 BC** and we now know that Israel started their time in Egypt in the year **1876 BC**. This happened when Israel (Jacob) moved to Egypt.

Genesis 47:9

⁹ *And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.*

When Jacob stood before Pharaoh he said he was **130** years old. Therefore if we add **130** to **1876 BC** we know that Jacob was born in **2006 BC**.

Genesis 25:26

²⁶ *And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac was threescore years old when she bare them.*

Here was the birth of Jacob and the year is **2006 BC**. We also see that Isaac was **60** years old when Jacob was born. Therefore we can add **60** to **2006 BC** and we know that Isaac was born in **2066 BC**.

Genesis 21:5

⁵ *And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.*

This verse can be dated at **2066 BC** and we see here that Abraham is **100** years old. Therefore we can add **100** to **2066 BC** and we now know that Abraham was born in **2166 BC**.

Genesis 11:10-26 is a very important portion of Scripture. I have listed the verses in reverse order so we can add some numbers together.

Let us remember that Abraham was born in 2166 BC. Therefore Genesis 11:26 can be dated 2166 BC.

²⁶ *And Terah lived seventy years, and begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran. (2166 BC)*

Terah was 70 years old when Abraham was born so we can add 70 years to 2166 BC and we now know Terah was born in 2236 BC.

²⁴ *And Nahor lived nine and twenty years, and begat Terah: (2236 BC)*

We see that Nahor was 29 when Terah was born so if we add 29 to 2236 BC we now know that Nahor was born in 2265 BC.

²² *And Serug lived thirty years, and begat Nahor (2265 BC)*

Here we see that when Nahor was born Serug was 30 Years old. So if we add 30 to 2265 BC we now know that Serug was born in 2295 BC.

²⁰ *And Reu lived two and thirty years, and begat Serug: (2295 BC)*

Here we see that when Serug was born Reu was 32 years old. So if we add 32 to 2295 BC we now know that Reu was born in 2327 BC.

¹⁸ *And Peleg lived thirty years, and begat Reu: (2327 BC)*

Again we see that when Reu was born his father Peleg was 30 years old. So if we add 30 to 2327 BC we know that Reu was born in 2357 BC.

¹⁶ *And Eber lived four and thirty years, and begat Peleg: (2357 BC)*

Here we see that Eber was 34 when Peleg was born. So if we add 34 to 2357 BC we now know that Eber was born in 2391 BC.

¹⁴ *And Salah lived thirty years, and begat Eber: (2391 BC)*

Here we see that Salah was 30 years old when Eber was born. So if we add 30 to 2391 BC we now know that Salah was born in 2421 BC.

¹² *And Arphaxad lived five and thirty years, and begat Salah: (2421 BC)*

Here we see that when Salah was born Arphaxad was 35 years old. So if we add 35 to 2421 BC we now know Arphaxad was born in 2456 BC.

¹⁰ *These are the generations of Shem: Shem was an hundred years old, and begat Arphaxad two years after the flood: (2456 BC)*

Here we see that Arphaxad was born 2 years after the flood and we know that that Arphaxad was born in 2456 BC. If we add 2 years to 2456 BC we now know that the flood was in 2458 BC.

The flood occurred 2458 BC and we know the flood was 1656 years after creation so if we add the two together we see from Creation to the birth of Jesus Christ was 4114 years.

We live in the year 2013 so if we add these together we find the earth is somewhere around 6127 years old.

Conclusion:

Why does this even matter?

The answer is very simple; many today believe the earth is 4.5 billion years old. The majority of the world's population accepts this teaching. This lie has been proclaimed so long that many churches have accepted this teaching and have twisted the Scriptures in an attempt to fit the teaching of millions of years into the *Genesis* record.

That is where the "Gap Theory", the "Day Age Theory", and "Theistic Evolution" have all been brought in.

The result has been much confusion and much doubt about what is recorded in *God's Word*.

This is exactly the plan of Satan. He desires to get people to doubt the *Genesis Record* then he knows they will doubt the "Virgin Birth" and the "Resurrection" of Jesus Christ.

Listen, evolution does not mix with *God's Word*. To accept evolution is to be guilty of suppressing the Truth of *God's Word* which is a very serious offence.

Romans 1:18

¹⁸ *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;*

Sunday November 10, 2013

Genesis Study

Hebrews 11:1-3

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

² *For by it the elders obtained a good report.*

³ *Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.*