

AM The Wonderful Power of the Cross Rom 1:16  
PM God's Second Law of Pardon Acts 8:22  
Sermon Notes

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# Gospel Guidance

July 4, 2021  
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### “With God One Day is a Thousand Years”?

by Eric Lyons, M.Min.

If I had a dollar for each time I heard someone use this phrase to add thousands of years to the biblical, six-day Creation, I finally might be able to purchase that newer model minivan my wife would love to have. It seems as if whenever there is a discussion of the days of Creation, someone mentions how those days may have been long periods of time. After all, the Bible does say, “With God one day is a thousand years and a thousand years is one day.” Does this phrase really support the Day-Age Theory as many suggest?

First, the Bible does not say, “With God one day is a thousand years and a thousand years is one day.” The apostle Peter actually wrote: “[B]eloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Peter 3:8). Peter used a figure of speech known as a simile to compare a day to a thousand years. It is not that one day is precisely equivalent to 1,000 years or vice versa. Rather, within the specific context of 2 Peter 3, one could say that they share a likeness.

What is the context of 2 Peter 3? In this passage, Peter reminded Christians that “scoffers” would arise in the last days saying, “Where is the promise of His [Jesus’] coming?” (vss. 3-4). Peter declared: “[T]he heavens and the earth...are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men” (vs. 7). Regardless of what the scoffers alleged about the Second Coming, Peter wanted

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#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**Sunday**  
Bible Study:  
9:30am  
Worship:  
10:30am, 5:00pm  
**Wednesday**  
7:00pm

#### ATTENDANCE

Sunday:  
Classes 32  
Worship AM 40  
Worship PM 32  
Wednesday: 27

#### CONTRIBUTION

Offering: \$2,013  
(Budget): \$1,985

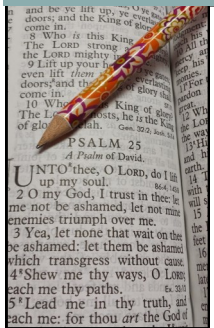
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the church to know that “the Lord is not slack concerning His promise [of a return], as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (vs. 9). Sandwiched between these thoughts is the fact that the passing of time does not affect God’s promises, specifically the promise of His return. If Jesus promised to return 1,000 or 2,000 years ago, it is as good as if He made the promise yesterday. Indeed, “with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.” With men, the passing of long periods of time generally affects their keeping of promises, but not with God. Time has no bearing on whether He will do what He said He would do: “a thousand years are like a day” (vs. 8, NIV).

Another point to consider is that Peter used the term “day” (Greek hemera) and the phrase “thousand years” (chilia etc). This in itself is proof that God is able to communicate to man the difference between one day and 1,000 years. (For similes to make sense, one first must understand the literal difference between what is being compared. If there were no difference, then it would be meaningless to use such a figure of speech.) What’s more, within Genesis chapter one God used the terms “days” (Hebrew yamim) and “years” (shanim). Many rightly have questioned, “If a day in Genesis is really a thousand years (or some other long period of time), then what are the years mentioned in Genesis chapter one?” Such a definition of “days” makes a reasonable interpretation of Creation impossible. The facts are: (1) God knows the difference between a day and a thousand years; (2) Peter and Moses understood this difference; (3) their original audience comprehended the difference; and (4) any unbiased reader today can do the same.

Finally, even if 2 Peter 3:8 could be tied to the length of the Creation days (logically and biblically it cannot), adding 6,000 years to the age of the Earth would in no way appease evolutionary sympathizers. A person could add 600,000 years or 600 million years and still not come close to the alleged age of the Universe. According to evolutionary calculations, one would still be 13+ billion years away from the Big Bang and four billion years this side of the formation of Earth. Truly, even an abuse of 2 Peter 3:8 will not help Day-Age theorists.

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**Dates to remember**

Ladies’ monthly Bible Study July 5 6:30  
 Men’s monthly Bible Study July 12 6:30  
 VBS July 17 10-Noon (Pizza provided afterwards)  
 Youth Devo hosted by Byron and Shelby (at the building)  
 NEA Areawide Ladies’ Bible Study at Nettleton August 21 3:00

*“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Colossians 3:23*



### **Leading in worship**

**This week–**

#### **Sunday AM 7/4**

Opening Prayer– Ike  
 Closing Prayer– Paul  
 Song Leader– Keith  
 Lord’s Supper– Jackson, David,  
 Kevin, Tim

#### **Sunday PM-**

Opening Prayer– Keith  
 Closing Prayer– Jackie  
 Song Leader– Kevin

#### **Wednesday Night– 7/7**

Opening Prayer– Tim  
 Closing Prayer– David  
 Devo– Kevin  
 Song Leader– Byron

**Next week–**

#### **Sunday AM 7/11**

Opening Prayer– Paul  
 Closing Prayer– Tim  
 Song Leader– Kevin  
 Lord’s Supper– Jackie, Byron  
 Jordan, Keith

#### **Sunday PM-**

Opening Prayer– Kevin  
 Closing Prayer– David  
 Song Leader– Byron

#### **Wednesday Night– 7/14**

Opening Prayer– Jordan  
 Closing Prayer– Byron  
 Devo– Jackson  
 Song Leader– David

### **Sick/ Prayer List**

Ike  
 Reta  
 Shane Johnson  
 Tabitha Hudspeth  
 (Cancer)  
 Mike Nutt  
 Coy London  
 Hayden Carr (Cancer)

### **Shut ins**

Johnnie Leatherwood  
 Pauline Curtis  
 Betty Moore  
 (St. Elizabeth’s)

### **Works we support**

Dave Leonard  
 Manna Project  
 Gage Coldwater  
 Ronnie Gootam

### **Clean the Building/**

### **Prepare lord’s**

### **Supper**

Tim and Theresa/  
 Paul and Sheila

### **July usher**

Kevin

### **July Birthdays**

Patsy– 2  
 Nancy–4  
 Mandy–7  
 Carley– 11  
 Theresa– 19  
 Keith– 26  
 Chloe–27