

*Lesson  
17*

# The Age of the Earth

The Bible records the true history of mankind and the universe.

# Memory Verse

## Psalm 8:5–6

For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet.

Does the age of the earth matter?

# Genesis 5:1–3

1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;

2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

3 And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, and after his image; and called his name Seth:

## Genesis 5:4–7

4 And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters:

5 And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died.

6 And Seth lived an hundred and five years, and begat Enos:

7 And Seth lived after he begat Enos eight hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters:

## Genesis 5:8–11

8 And all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years: and he died.

9 And Enos lived ninety years, and begat Cainan:

10 And Enos lived after he begat Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years, and begat sons and daughters:

11 And all the days of Enos were nine hundred and five years: and he died.

## Genesis 11:10–12

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

11 And Shem lived after he begat Arphaxad five hundred years, and begat sons and daughters.

12 And Arphaxad lived five and thirty years, and begat Salah:

## Genesis 11:13–16

13 And Arphaxad lived after he begat Salah four hundred and three years, and begat sons and daughters.

14 And Salah lived thirty years, and begat Eber:

15 And Salah lived after he begat Eber four hundred and three years, and begat sons and daughters.

16 And Eber lived four and thirty years, and begat Peleg:

## Genesis 11:17–20

17 And Eber lived after he begat Peleg four hundred and thirty years, and begat sons and daughters.

18 And Peleg lived thirty years, and begat Reu:

19 And Peleg lived after he begat Reu two hundred and nine years, and begat sons and daughters.

20 And Reu lived two and thirty years, and begat Serug:

## Genesis 11:21–24

21 And Reu lived after he begat Serug two hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters.

22 And Serug lived thirty years, and begat Nahor:

23 And Serug lived after he begat Nahor two hundred years, and begat sons and daughters.

24 And Nahor lived nine and twenty years, and begat Terah:

## Genesis 11:25–26

25 And Nahor lived after he begat Terah an hundred and nineteen years, and begat sons and daughters.

26 And Terah lived seventy years, and begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

# Definitions

## Chronogenealogy

a genealogy that includes the timeframe of the relationship; in the Bible, the age of the father at the birth of the son is given

# 1 Chronicles 1:17–21

17 The sons of Shem; Elam, and Asshur, and Arphaxad, and Lud, and Aram, and Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Meshech.

18 And Arphaxad begat Shelah, and Shelah begat Eber.

19 And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg; because in his days the earth was divided: and his brother's name was Joktan.

20 And Joktan begat Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah,

21 Hadoram also, and Uzal, and Diklah,

# 1 Chronicles 1:22–27

22 And Ebal, and Abimael, and Sheba,

23 And Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab. All these were the sons of Joktan.

24 Shem, Arphaxad, Shelah,

25 Eber, Peleg, Reu,

26 Serug, Nahor, Terah,

27 Abram; the same is Abraham.

## Luke 3:34–36

34 Which was the son of Jacob, which was the son of Isaac, which was the son of Abraham, which was the son of Thara, which was the son of Nachor,

35 Which was the son of Saruch, which was the son of Ragau, which was the son of Phalec, which was the son of Heber, which was the son of Sala,

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,

## Luke 3:37–38

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.

# Calculating Earth's Age

According to the genealogies recorded in Genesis:

1,056 years from Adam to Noah,  
2948 BC

952 years from Noah to Abraham.

A total of 2,008 years from Adam to Abraham.

# Calculating Earth's Age

Total age of the earth according to  
God's Word:

From Jesus to today = about 2,000 years.

From Abraham to Jesus = about 2,000 years.

From Adam to Abraham = about 2,000 years.

The earth is about 6,000 years old!

# Calculating Earth's Age

Total age of the earth according to the big bang model:

The universe is 13,750,000,000 years old.

The earth is 4,540,000,000 years old.

Compared to 6,000 years old.

These numbers are quite a bit different!

## **Genesis 5:5, 8, 27**

5 And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died.

8 And all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years: and he died.

27 And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died.

# God's Word in the Real World

In what areas of our culture do the questions about the age of the earth typically get asked?

# God's Word in the Real World

As we think about the vast difference in the descriptions of the age of the earth—6,000 years versus 4.5 billion years—how is this debate primarily a debate about the authority of Scripture?

# God's Word in the Real World

Should our goal in a conversation with an unbeliever over the age of the earth be to get them to agree that the earth is young?

# God's Word in the Real World

How would you describe the issue  
in terms of authority?

# God's Word in the Real World

How could you use the passages we have looked at today to help answer the questions of those who doubt the Bible's authority on the issue of the age of the earth?

# God's Word in the Real World

Because you are standing on  
God's Word, how might you  
expect to suffer for Christ's sake  
when this issue is raised?