Before Creation (Eternity Past) Various

The Existence of the Trinity—Father, Son and Spirit

- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God (John 1:1–2).
- Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world (John 17:24).
- How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (Hebrews 9:14).

The Father's Plan of Salvation was the Son's Sacrificial Death

- This Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death (Acts 2:23).
- But with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. For He was
 foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you
 (1 Peter 1:19–20).

The Father Chose the Saints in the Son

- Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him (Ephesians 1:4).
- Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity (2 Timothy 1:9).
- All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain (Revelation 13:8).

Creation—Days 1–5 (4174 BC)

Genesis 1:1-23

Day 1

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. [John 1:3; Col 1:16; Prov 8:22–31]

2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

4 God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

5 God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

Day 2

6 Then God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters."

7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so.

8 God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

Day 3

9 Then God said, "Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so.

10 God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good.

11 Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them"; and it was so.

12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good.

13 There was evening and there was morning, a third day.

Day 4

14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;

15 and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.

16 God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; *He made* the stars also.

17 God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,

18 and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

19 There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

Day 5

20 Then God said, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens."

21 God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

22 God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

23 There was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

Creation—Day 6: Toledot of the Heavens and the Earth (4174 BC)

Genesis 1:24-31; 2:4-25

Morning of the Sixth Day

2:4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven.

5 Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground.

6 But a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground.

Creation of Land Animals

1:24 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind"; and it was so.

25 God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

Creation of Mankind

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. [Matt 19:4; Mark 10:6]

Creation of Mankind—Expanded Account

2:7 Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. [<u>1 Cor 15:45</u>]

8 The LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed.

9 Out of the ground the LORD God caused to grow every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

10 Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the garden; and from there it divided and became four rivers.

11 The name of the first is Pishon; it flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.

12 The gold of that land is good; the bdellium and the onyx stone are there.

13 The name of the second river is Gihon; it flows around the whole land of Cush.

14 The name of the third river is Tigris; it flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.

16 The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely;

17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."

18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him."

19 Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought *them* to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name.

20 The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him.

21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place.

22 The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.

23 The man said,

"This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."

24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one

flesh. [Matt 19:5; Mark 10:7-8; 1 Cor 6:16; Eph 5:31]

25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

"Be fruitful and multiply"

1:28 God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

29 Then God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you;

30 and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, *I have given* every green plant for food"; and it was so.

31 God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Creation—Day 7 (4174 BC)

Genesis 2:1–3

Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts.
 By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. [Exod 20:11; Heb 4:4]
 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

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Chronological Notes

- Genesis 1:24–31 describes God's creative activity on the sixth day of creation. Genesis 2:4–25 is an expanded account of the same events. The texts can be arranged as follows: Gen 2:4–6; 1:24–27; 2:7–25 (1:27 corresponds to 2:7, 22); 1:28–31. In this way the expansion of chapter two is included in the overall narrative of the sixth day.
- 2) This chronological arrangement of the Scriptures is built on several key assumptions: a) the division of the kingdom in 931n BC, b) the exodus of Israel from Egypt in 1446 BC, and c) the birth of Abraham in 2166 BC.¹
- 3) In order to date events prior to the flood, I made the following assumptions: a) Abraham was 75 when he left Haran (Gen 12:4), b) Terah was 205 at his death (Gen 11:32), c) Terah was 130 when he fathered Abraham² (205 75 = 130), and d) Noah was 502 when he fathered Shem³ (Gen 5:32). Using the data in Genesis 5 and 11, the following table is then constructed.⁴ For an overview of the issues related to using Genesis 5 and 11 as chronological genealogies, see David McGee, "Creation Date of Adam from the Perspective of Young-Earth Creationism," Answers Research Journal 5 (2012): 217–230.⁵

¹ These assumptions are standard for conservative scholarship and follow the work of Eugene H. Merrill (*Kingdom of Priests*), Andrew Steinmann, (*From Abraham to Paul*), and Rodger Young (<u>Papers on Chronology</u>). See also Eugene H. Merrill, "Fixed Dates in Patriarchal Chronology," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 137:547 (Jul 1980): 242–48.

² Eric Lyons, "Could Terah Have Been 130 When Abraham was Born?" (2002) [Online] URL: http://www.apologeticspress.org/AllegedDiscrepancies.aspx?article=665.

³ Eric Lyons, "How Old was Terah when Abraham was Born?" (2001) [Online] URL: <u>http://www.apologeticspress.org/apcontent.aspx?category=6&article=758</u>.

⁴ The first named child in the genealogy is often assumed to be the firstborn son, but this is only speculation. Notable exceptions to this assumption include Seth (he was Adam's third son, cf. Gen 5:3), Shem (Japheth was firstborn, cf. Gen 5:32), and Abraham (Terah was 130 when Abraham was born, cf. Gen 11:26; Acts 7:4).

⁵ See also Terry **Mortenson**, "Systematic Theology Texts and the Age of the Earth: A Response to the Views of Erickson, Grudem, and Lewis and Demarest," *Answers Research Journal* 2 (2009): 175–200; Travis R. **Freeman**, "A New Look at the Genesis 5 and 11 Fluidity Problem," *Andrews University Seminary Studies*, Vol. 42, No. 2 (2004): 259–286; Jonathan **Sarfati**, "Biblical chronogenealogies," *Journal of Creation (TJ)* 17 (2003): 14–18; Pete J. **Williams**, "Some Remarks Preliminary to a Biblical Chronology," *Creation Ex Nihilo Technical Journal*, Vol. 12 No. 1 (1996): 98–105; Gerhard **Larsson**, "The Chronology of the Pentateuch: A Comparison of the MT and LXX," *Journal of Biblical Literature* 102/3 (1983): 401–409; Gerhard F. **Hasel**, "The Meaning of the Chronogenealogies of Genesis 5 and 11," *Origins* 7 (1980): 53–70.

	Age at birth	Years lived after	Total years		
Father	of child	birth of child	lived	Born	Died
Adam	130	800	930	4174	3244
Seth	105	807	912	4044	3132
Enosh	90	815	905	3939	3034
Kenan	70	840	910	3849	2939
Mahalalel	65	830	895	3779	2884
Jared	162	800	962	3714	2752
Enoch	65	300	365	3552	3187
Methuselah	187	782	969	3487	2518
Lamech	182	595	777	3300	2523
Noah	502	450	950	3118	2168
Shem	100	500	600	2616	2016
The Flood				2518	
Arphaxad	35	403	438	2516	2078
Shelah	30	403	433	2481	2048
Eber	34	430	464	2451	1987
Peleg	30	209	239	2417	2178
Reu	32	207	239	2387	2148
Serug	30	200	230	2355	2125
Nahor	29	119	148	2325	2177
Terah	130	135	205	2296	2091
Abraham	86	89	175	2166	1991