

# Day Six is Nearly Over

“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day *is* with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.” (2 Peter 3:8 AV)

God worked at the creation for six days and rested on the seventh. It is highly likely that he has also determined that the whole creation will groaneth and travaileth, as a woman in childbirth, for six thousand years and will find rest in the seventh thousand years.

“And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.” (Genesis 1:31-2:2 AV)

“For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.” (Romans 8:22 AV)

It is quite possible that in keeping with God’s use of the number seven as his number of completeness and perfection, the heavens and earth have a seven thousand year, or seven day life cycle.

Seven is the sum of the number four (perfect world number) and the number three (perfect divine number). It is of interest that the history of God and man is divided into four days prior to Calvary and three days after Calvary. Four days of the first Adam (earthly, fleshly) and three days of the last Adam (spiritual).

The first four (thousand year) days likely ended with the crucifixion of the Lord (around A.D. 30), which means we are now near the end of the sixth day.

## The First Four Days

The first Adam was formed from the earth as a man in his prime, likely as a man in his 33<sup>rd</sup> year (circa 3970 B.C). The last Adam (the Lord Jesus Christ) became the firstborn from the dead in his 33<sup>rd</sup> year (circa A.D. 30). There is a span of four days between these two momentous events. (Most estimates of the time span, arrived at by summing Bible genealogies, are around four thousand years).

The great flood and the tower of Babel confusion of tongues occurred during day two. Abraham and Israel didn’t come on the scene until day three. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed early on day three. Moses led Israel out of captivity in Egypt mid-way through day three. King David died near the end of day three and King Solomon led Israel into day four. Israel and Judah were forced into exile in Syria and Babylon later on day four. A remnant returned from exile and rebuilt the temple mid-way through day four. The Lord was born in Bethlehem near the end of day four. The crucifixion and burial of the Lord would seem a logical point to end day four.

## Days Five and Six

The day of the Lord's resurrection would seem a logical point to start day five. The Roman Catholic Church dominated the last half of day five and the first half of day six. The Reformation and the rediscovery and spread of Bible truth has characterised the last half of day six.

Day six should end with the lead up to the great tribulation – the great “falling away” or apostasy prophesied by Paul. The wholesale rejection of the Bible and genuine Christianity seems to be gaining momentum at the time of writing.

*“Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.*” (2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 AV)*

*“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,” (2 Peter 3:3 AV)*

If the life cycle of the present heavens and earth is seven thousand years, then the current grace dispensation commenced early on the fifth day of creation's seven day life. We who are the firstfruits of the Spirit groan within ourselves, awaiting the adoption – i.e. being born from the dead, in like manner to the firstborn from the dead; being delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. This will occur when the Church departs the earth six years prior to the end of the sixth day.

*“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.” (Romans 8:16-23 AV)*

Our apostle Paul declared the revelation of the mystery, which is also the revelation of the current, unprophesied grace dispensation. If God had not interrupted prophecy with the mystery (mystery = not prophesied), the tribulation and the millennial kingdom would have run their course nearly two thousand years ago. They did not. Therefore prophecy has been interrupted by mystery – the current dispensation of grace.

## The Interrupted Tribulation

The seventh day (the prophesied thousand years of rest in the millennial kingdom) cannot include the seven years of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week, the great tribulation, so days Five and Six must include the great tribulation.

There will not be a full seven years of tribulation at the end of the sixth day because it ran for about a year at the beginning of the fifth day - from the day of Pentecost until its interruption in about A.D. 31. So we can expect the departure of the Church and the recommencement of prophecy in about 2024 (less than sixteen years away). Then the latter segment of the prophesied great tribulation will last for six years and will commence six years before the end of the sixth day.

*“For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:” (2 Thessalonians 2:7-8 AV)*

The ‘he’ who letteth (restrains) must be the Holy Spirit. Only the Spirit of God is powerful enough to restrain the spirit of Satan. The Holy Spirit currently only dwells in each member of the Church, the body of Christ. He (the Holy Spirit) is ‘taken out of the way’ when the Church departs the earth. That Wicked (the antichrist) will then have a field day until the Lord returns.

During his earthly ministry the Lord had said that the tribulation would be shortened.

*“And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.” (Matthew 24:22 AV)*

Peter declared that the great tribulation had begun on the day of Pentecost. Joel's prophecy of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was a part of his tribulation prophecy.

*“But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is *but* the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood,*

and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Acts 2:14-21 AV; see also Joel 2:28-31)

The first part of Joel's prophecy definitely came to pass on the day of Pentecost. Peter declared it had come to pass while full of the Holy Spirit, so he didn't make a mistake. So why no blood, fire, smoke vapor, dark sun and blood moon? This latter part of the prophecy must be fulfilled, but it is yet future. God has interrupted the tribulation prophecy.

This interruption was also alluded to by the Lord during his earthly ministry.

"And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave *it* again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." (Luke 4:17-21 AV)

Isaiah's prophecy of the "acceptable year of the Lord" refers to the Lord's first coming. The Lord himself declared that it was fulfilled "this day". But Isaiah immediately went on to proclaim the "day of vengeance of our God", the great tribulation, but the Lord closed the book and did not read that part or declare that it had come to pass.

"The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;" (Isaiah 61:1-2 AV)

The most likely point of God's interrupting of the tribulation prophecy was after the stoning to death of Spirit-filled Stephen (Acts 7). The prophecy clock was still running prior to Stephen's death because the Lord was still offering the kingdom to Israel through Peter and the other Spirit-filled members of his little flock. The Lord had declared in his earthly ministry that Israel could get away with blaspheming the Son of man but could not get away with blaspheming the Holy Spirit.

"Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy *against* the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the *world* to come." (Matthew 12:31-32 AV)

It is impossible to know the exact time span between Acts 2 and Acts 7. How long would it take for the Spirit-filled little flock to appoint deacons like Stephen? How long would it take for the Jewish authorities to start killing them? One year of tribulation prior to the interruption of prophecy seems generous but possible.

## The Seventh Day

The seventh day follows after the great tribulation – the binding of Satan for a thousand years and the millennial reign of Christ on earth. This is not yet the new heaven and new earth. That comes later. (See Revelation 21 and 2 Peter 3).

*“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,”* (Revelation 20:1-7 AV)

## Hosea’s “Three Days” – Days Five, Six and Seven?

Hosea prophesied that Israel is ‘torn and smitten’ but that after two days will be revived and in the third day shall be raised up and live in his sight. If Hosea is referring to ‘thousand-year’ days and the two days of ‘not living in his sight’ began with Israel rejecting and murdering their Messiah (around A.D. 30), then the third day of this prophecy (the seventh day of the earth’s life cycle), should commence around 2030.

*“Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.”* (Hosea 6:1-2 AV)

Hosea’s prophecy could well be referring to Israel’s blinded state until the “fulness of the Gentiles be come in” – i.e. until the fulness of Gentiles saved by grace during the current dispensation to the Gentiles; days Five and Six. All Israel shall be saved in day Seven. Israel are to be “raised up” after two thousand years of being blinded, torn and smitten. The grace dispensation must end prior to the commencement of the great tribulation and Israel’s being “raised up”.

“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:” (Romans 11:25-26 AV)

## Matthew and Mark’s “After Six days”

The “after six days” of Matthew 17:1 and Mark 6:2 may also be a clue as to when the millennial kingdom will commence. Perhaps it is a scriptural clue that after six days (six thousand years) we will see the Son of man coming in his kingdom, just as after six regular days the Lord revealed his glory to Peter, James and John by being transfigured before them.

“Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom. 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.” (Matthew 16:28-17:2 AV)

## After the Seventh Day

The full context of Peter’s words regarding “a day being as a thousand years with the Lord”, makes very interesting reading. After the seven days are up, this present heavens and earth will not be somewhere you want to be. All these things shall be dissolved and the whole universe will become like the centre of a great sun.

“This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day *is* with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. *Seeing* then *that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy

conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. And account *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know *these things* before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen." (2 Peter 3:1-18 AV)

Peter speaks of these things to remind us of the awesome power of our God, who has promised his people a new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

"For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain." (Isaiah 66:22 AV)

## Calendars and Date-Setting

Please don't place any Godly significance onto our man-made calendar dates. The world may well end in 3030 but the passage of exactly seven thousand years since its creation doesn't mean that 30 years were somehow lost or added on. Days and years in themselves are Godly time measurements, defined by the movement of the heavenly bodies. Our calendars have been invented quite recently. By our current BC/AD calendars, heaven and earth were created in 3970 B.C. and will end in A.D. 3030.

The years of the Jewish calendar are numbered sequentially from a year before the creation of the heavens and earth. The current Jewish year is 5769. Day seven then should commence in the Jewish calendar year of 6001. This is 232 years away, not 22 years away as I calculated. Curses. Foiled again!! But wait! On further investigation I find scholars reporting that the Jewish calendar has somewhere between 165 and 240 missing years, so that 210 (232 - 22) missing years is near the middle of their estimates.

I don't consider this study as yet another futile effort at date-setting for the Lord's return or the end of the world. It is purely the exploration of an attractive hunch regarding God's established use of the number seven and his established use of a day as sometimes meaning a thousand years. I am not the first to have explored this possibility and I am also not the most scholarly to have done so.