The background of the slide features a close-up, slightly blurred view of ancient Hebrew script carved into stone tablets. The characters are dark and set against a lighter, textured stone surface. The lighting is dramatic, with some areas appearing brighter than others, creating a sense of depth and historical significance.

Genealogies & OT Chronology

Genesis 5 & 11

**Dr. Rick Griffith • Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary
BibleStudyDownloads.org**

What is OT Chronology?

- ◆ The **arrangement** of OT events in time, including their **dates** and **correlation** with secular history
- ◆ **Purpose**: To determine the correct dates of events and persons in the OT as precisely as possible



Why is the Chronology of the OT important?



- ◆ It describes the **building of the nation** of Israel, a country with **timeless significance**
- ◆ It fits OT events into the **extra biblical records** of the Near Eastern world
- ◆ It helps give confidence in the **historicity** and **reliability** of the Bible
- It builds **faith** in God and His message



How do Historians Determine the Chronology of the OT?

Sources

1. The **Bible** (genealogies, ages, lengths of reigns, time spans, synchronisms with events of other countries)
2. **Historical records** of the Ancient Near East (ANE)
3. **Astronomical data**
4. **Material remains and archaeological findings**
5. Records of **contemporary historians**



How do historians determine OT Chronology?

Methods

1. General: Examine the **milieu** of the time and compare with **other known records** to find compatibilities
2. Establish **sequence and time** according to Bible
3. Compare **synchronic events** in Bible and another reliable source
4. Verify with **other sources**
5. Work from **established dates**

Is Genesis 1–11 Real History?

1. Myths don't teach "deep truths" better than history
2. A non-historical approach is very subjective
3. Genesis 1–11 has vital information otherwise not known
4. Genesis 1–11 fits into the book's argument on election
5. Events are presented as historical
6. Science confirms the Genesis 1–11 historical record
7. Christ said these events are historical (Matt. 19:4-6)



Hominids? Really?

• But before [10,000 BC], the “human” story tails back into multimillennia of which we know less, and of which one may well ask which (and what) are humans proper and which (or what) are simply humanlike “hominids.”



Kenneth Kitchen, *On the Reliability of the Old Testament*

(Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003), loc. 9197 of 14432, Kindle ed.; picture of Australopithecus afarensis (<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/lucy-species-brain-skull-heralded-rise-long-childhoods-hominids>)

Genesis Questions

Beginnings

- **When did the creation occur?**
- **Did the patriarchs really live that long?**

Oh, no... I hit the genealogies



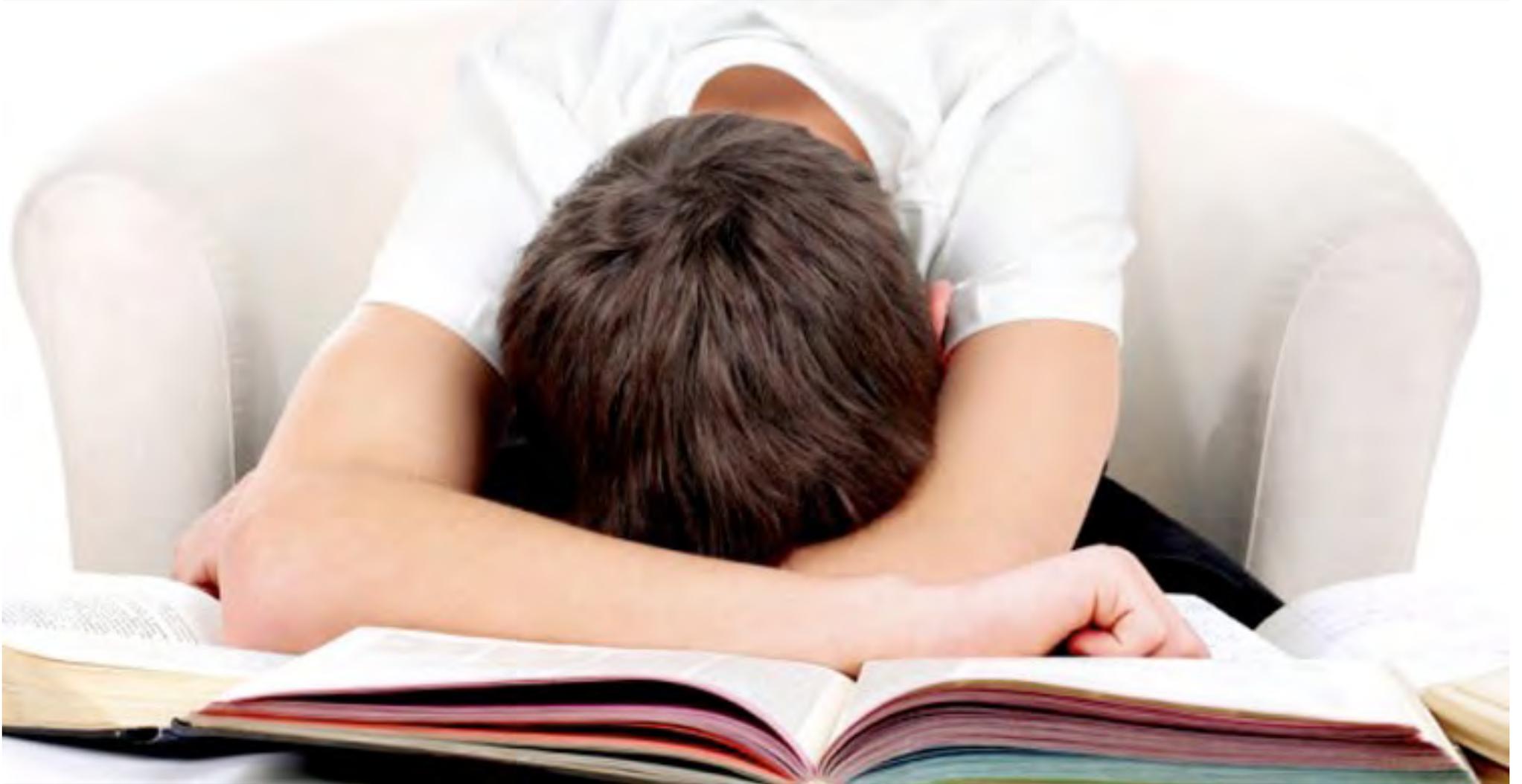
**in my read-through-the-Bible
program again...**

What's the point?

GENEALOGY



What's the point?



Genealogies can help you catch up on your sleep?

Can We Find the Date of Creation from Genesis 5 & 11?



Some Say "No"

- Other genealogies in the Bible have gaps (e.g., Matt. 1:1-17)
- Therefore there must be gaps in Genesis
- A "no gap" view puts the Flood at 2487 BC but Egypt's history goes back before 3300 BC

Others Say "Yes"

- The other genealogies do not give the father's ages when their sons were born
- God wants us to "mark seasons and days and years" (Gen. 1:14)
- Why else would God give us the ages of these men?



The Mystery of the Genesis 5 & 11 Genealogies

- ◆ **Genesis 5** carries the genealogy that stretches from Adam to the Flood.
Genesis 11 carries the genealogy from Shem (son of Noah) to Terah (father of Abram)
- ◆ Can information found in the genealogies of Genesis 5 and 11 be used to **determine the dates** of certain events in history?

Genesis Genealogy Mysteries



Adam

Noah

Shem

Terah

Genesis 5

Genesis 11

Can these genealogies help **determine the dates** of events in history?

Genesis 5 Genealogy

Adam

Seth

Enosh

Kenan

Mahalalel

Jared

Enoch

Methuselah

Lamech

Noah

Why Don't Genesis 5 & 11 Have Gaps?³⁸

Adam

Seth

Enosh

Kenan

Mahalalel

Jared

Enoch

Methuselah

Lamech

Noah

1. State lengths of time

Age at Son's Birth

Adam-130

Seth-105

Enosh-90

Kenan-70

Mahalalel-65

Jared-162

Enoch-65

Methuselah-187

Lamech-122

Noah-500

Genesis 5 Age at Death

38

Adam	930	
Seth	912	
Enosh	905	
Kenan	910	
Mahalalel	895	
Jared	962	
Enoch	365	God took him without death
Methuselah	969	
Lamech	777	
Noah	950	

Why Don't Genesis 5 & 11 Have Gaps?³⁸

Adam

Seth

Enosh

Kenan

Mahalalel

Jared

Enoch

Methuselah

Lamech

Noah

1. State lengths of time
2. Shorter lengths

Genesis 5 Shorter Than Luke 3

Adam

2006

yrs

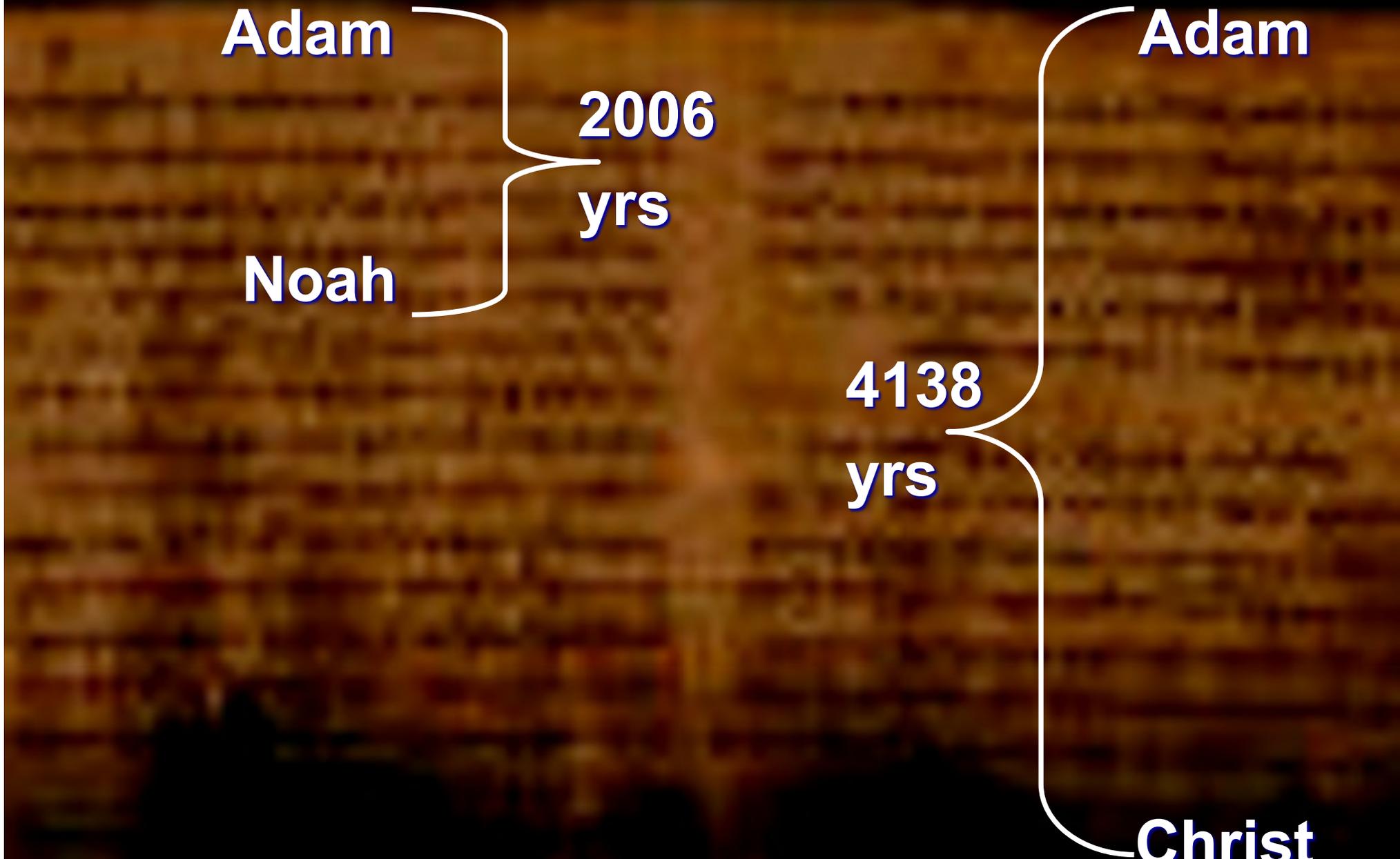
Noah

Adam

4138

yrs

Christ



Why Don't Genesis 5 & 11 Have Gaps?

7

Adam
Seth
Enosh
Kenan
Mahalalel
Jared
Enoch
Methuselah
Lamech
Noah

1. State lengths of time
2. Shorter lengths
3. Most natural
4. Show father-son
5. Jude 14
6. Similar ANE chronologies

"Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied saying. . ."
(Jude 14a, NASB)

Two Views



◆ Straight chronology

- The Bible has the necessary data to map out the basic historical timeline of the OT

◆ Genealogical gaps

- There are gaps not mentioned in the Bible
- Genealogical information should not be used as the only source for dating events

Arguments Posed for Gaps

- ◆ It is normal for Scripture to **pass over very long periods of time** with little or no remark
- ◆ **Omission of unimportant names** is the rule rather than the exception
- ◆ In the ancient world "begat" simply indicated "**became the ancestor of,**" however far removed that ancestor was
- ◆ **Lack of harmony** exists between OT chronologies and neighboring states





Straight Chronology Support

- ◆ The Bible is filled with much chronological information though **scattered** in many places
- ◆ When this chronological information is fully **systematized**, a straight chronology may be proven



**How can
you tell the
age of the
earth?**

**Just ask the only
Eyewitness!**

**"Just do
the math."**



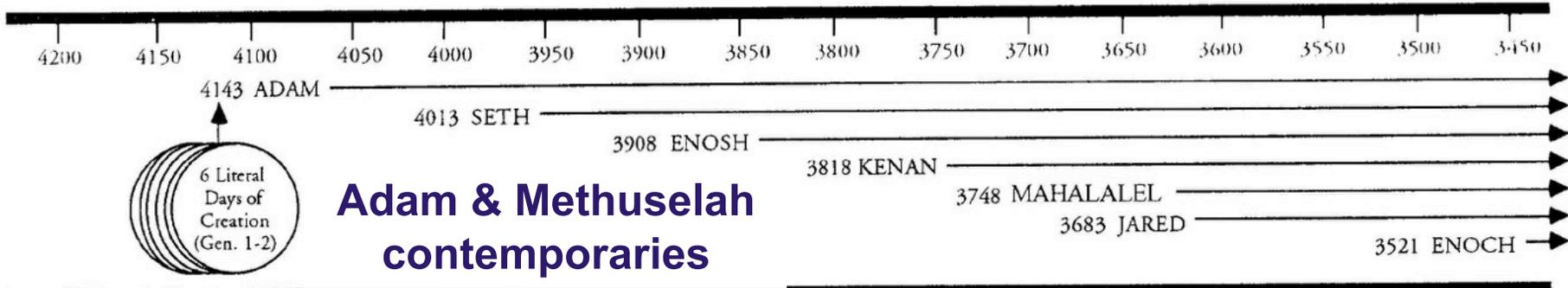
**"God, how
old is the
earth?"**



Chronology of the Patriarchs (Gen. 5, 11)

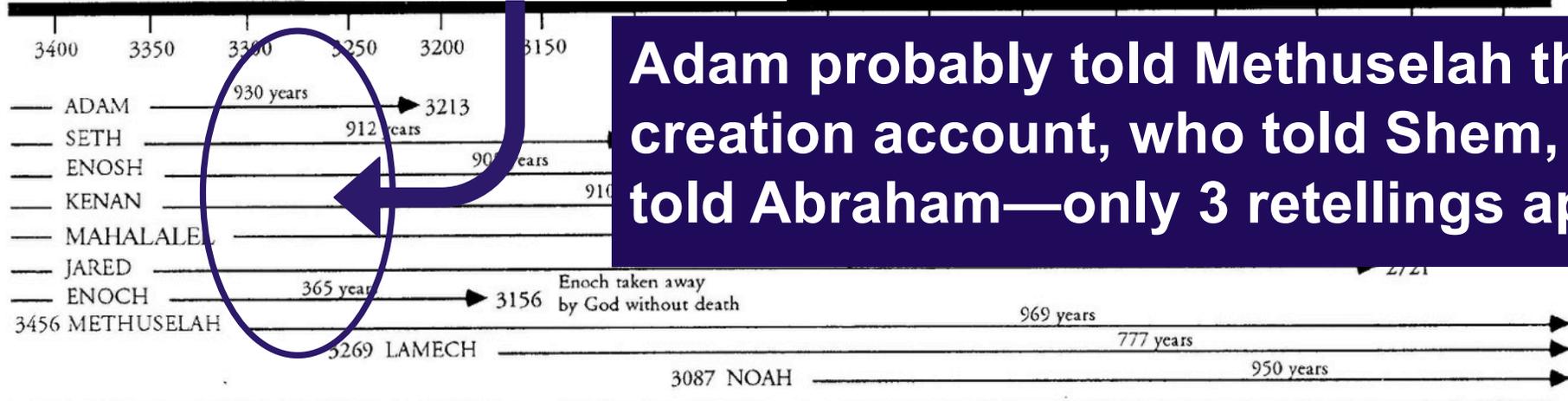
38-44

Event	Reference	AH	BC
World created	"God finished"	-6 days	4143
Adam created	"God created man"	0	4143
Seth born	"Adam was 130..."	130	4013
Enosh born	"Seth was 105..."	235	3908
			
Jacob & family go to Egypt	"Jacob age 130 at 400 years before Exodus in 1445 BC"	2298	1845
			

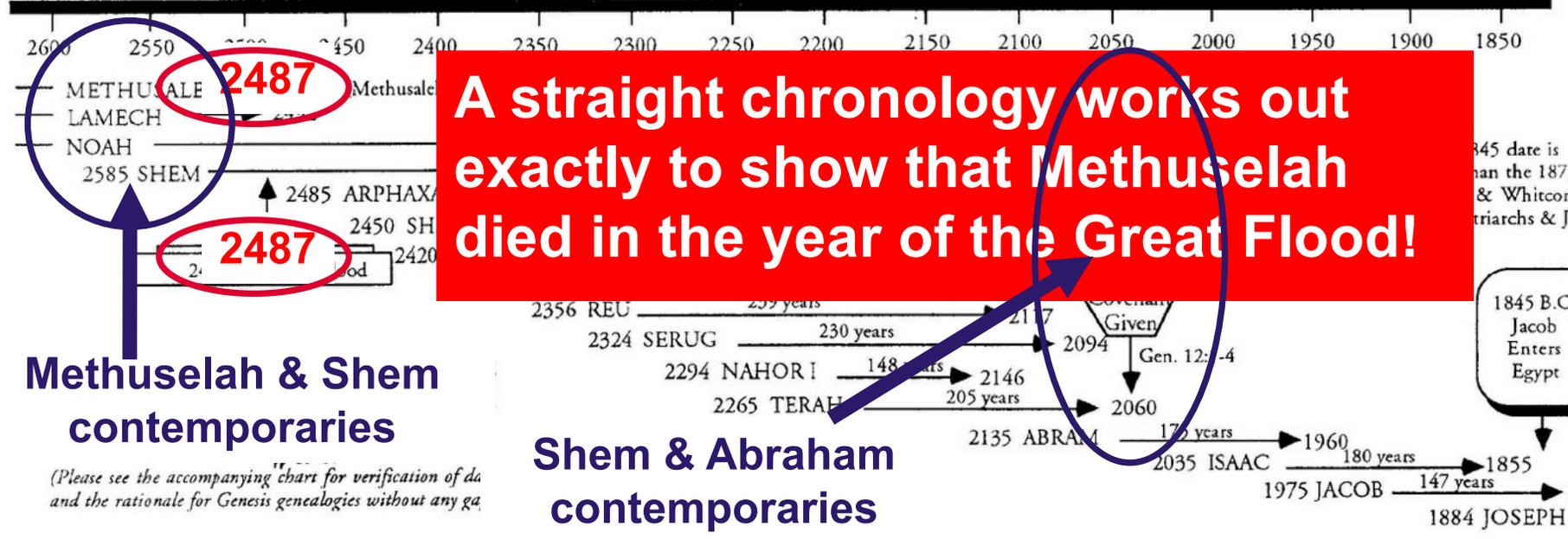


Adam & Methuselah contemporaries

Adam probably told Methuselah the creation account, who told Shem, who told Abraham—only 3 retellings apart!



Line of the Patriarchs



A straight chronology works out exactly to show that Methuselah died in the year of the Great Flood!

Methuselah & Shem contemporaries

Shem & Abraham contemporaries

(Please see the accompanying chart for verification of dates and the rationale for Genesis genealogies without any gaps.)

A “day” means a “day” in the Flood account.

Flood Chronology

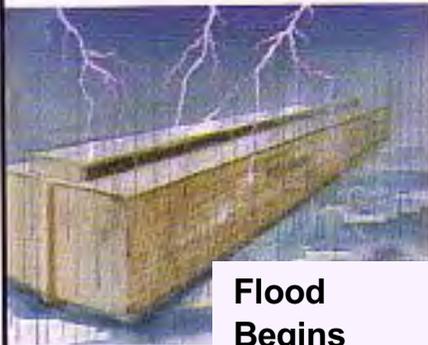
Day
0



God Shuts the Door

Noah and his family sealed within the ark (Gen 7:16).

Day
7



Flood Begins

Waters trapped deep in the ground break open on the land in 40 days of hard rain with volcanic eruptions, erosion, earthquakes, and more (Gen 7:12, 17). Waters cover the whole earth (Gen 7:18-20). All land creatures die (Gen 7:21-22).

Day
47

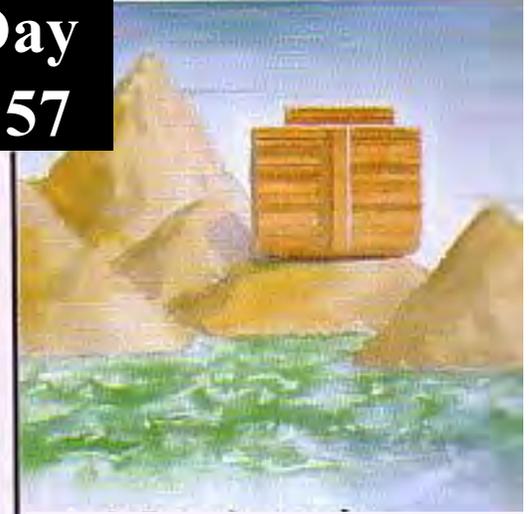


Day 47 of Flood—Intense Rainfall Ends

For 110 more days, the waters cover the earth (Gen 7:24), as the rain and eruptions continue. Many layers of mud laid down, full of dead things. They have now turned into rocks and fossils.

Finally, the water begins to go down.

Day
157



Ark Lands on New Ararat Mountains (Gen 8:4)

For 74 days, Noah and his family wait while the water continues to go down. A great wind (Gen 8:1) helps to drive the water off the land. The mountains continue to rise and valleys form. The flood waters continue to collect in the new oceans.

7
Days

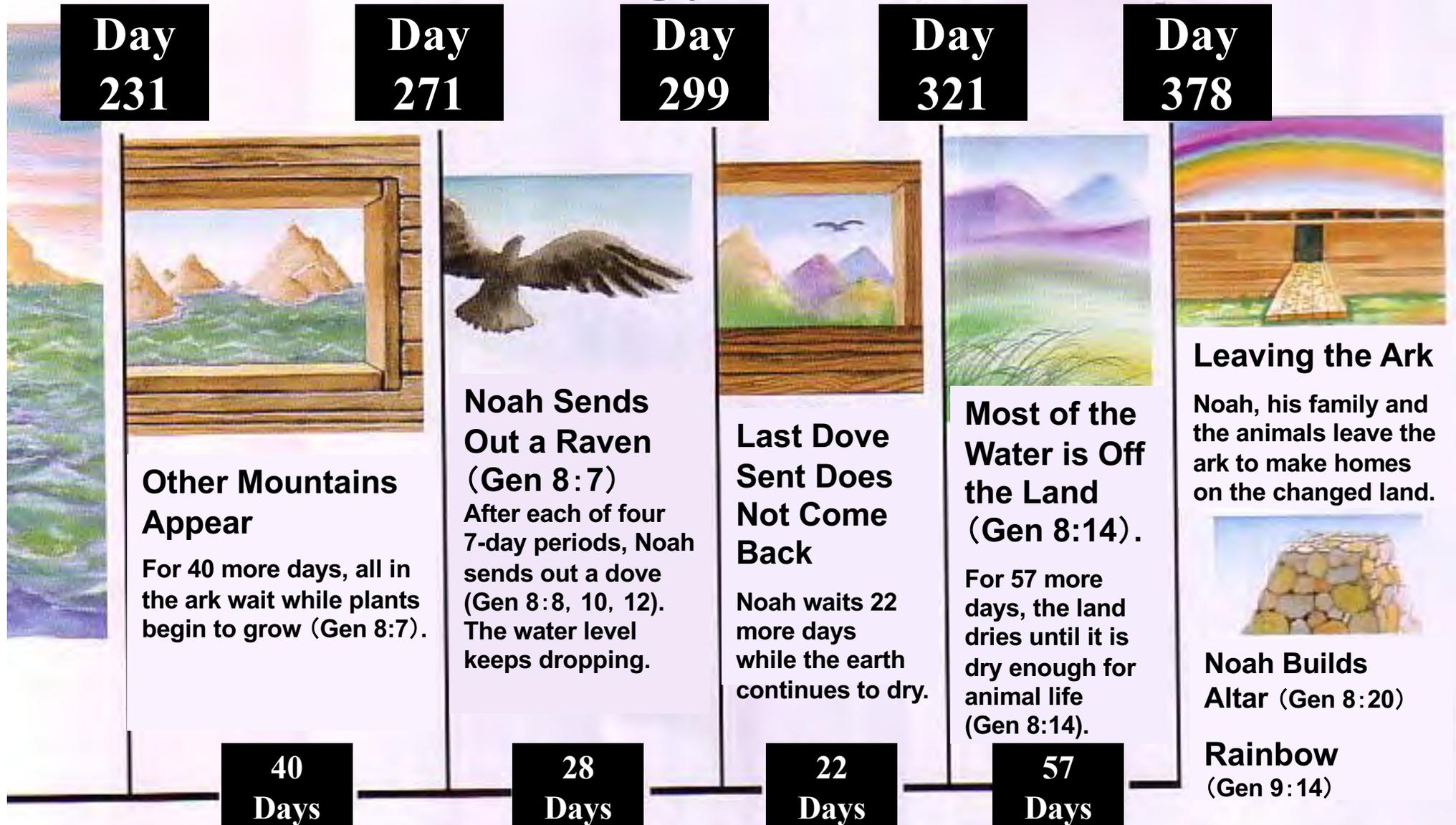
40
Days

110
Days

74
Days

So why can't a "year" mean a "year" in the genealogies?

Flood Chronology



Ages of people when they died



Adam  930 Years



Methuselah  969 Years



Noah  950 Years



Shem  600 Years



Abraham  175 Years

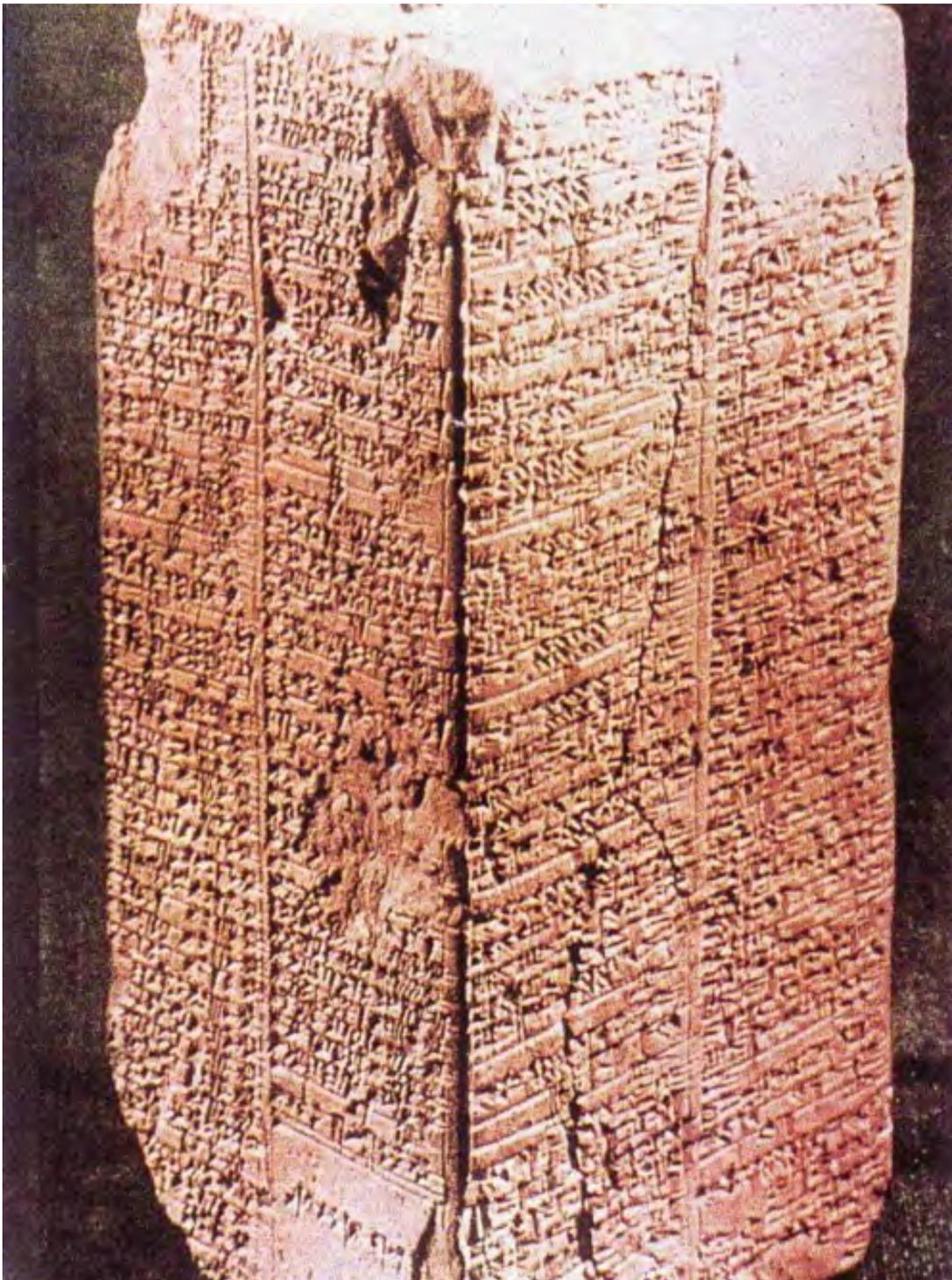


Moses  120 Years



David  70 Years

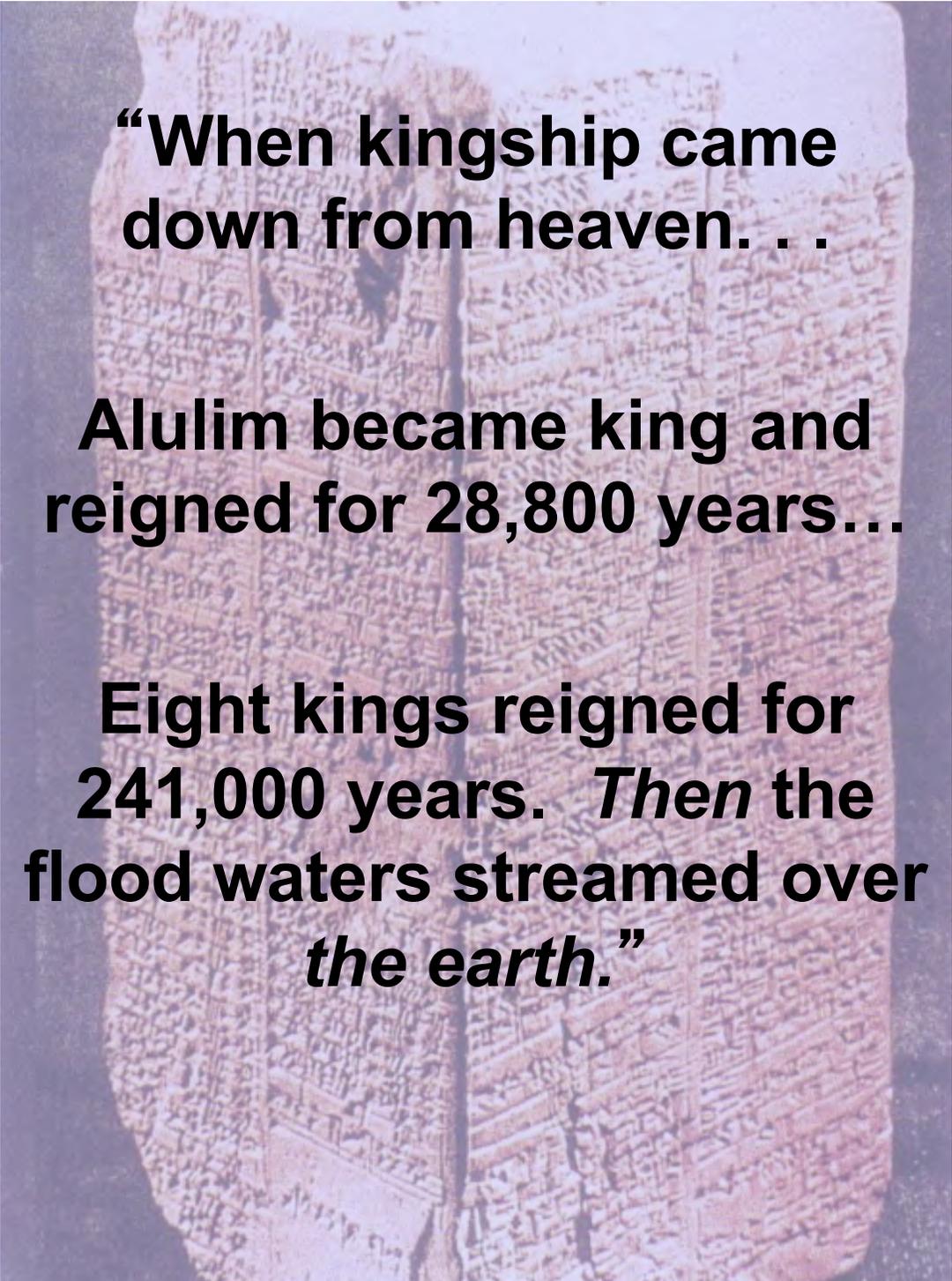
**The Flood
explains why
life spans
shortened**



Sumerian King List

**Inscribed about 1800
BC (about 600 years
after the Flood)**

**Ten of these kings
before the Flood are
said to have lived
between 21,000 to
43,200 years each
(cf. Gen. 5)**



“When kingship came
down from heaven. . .

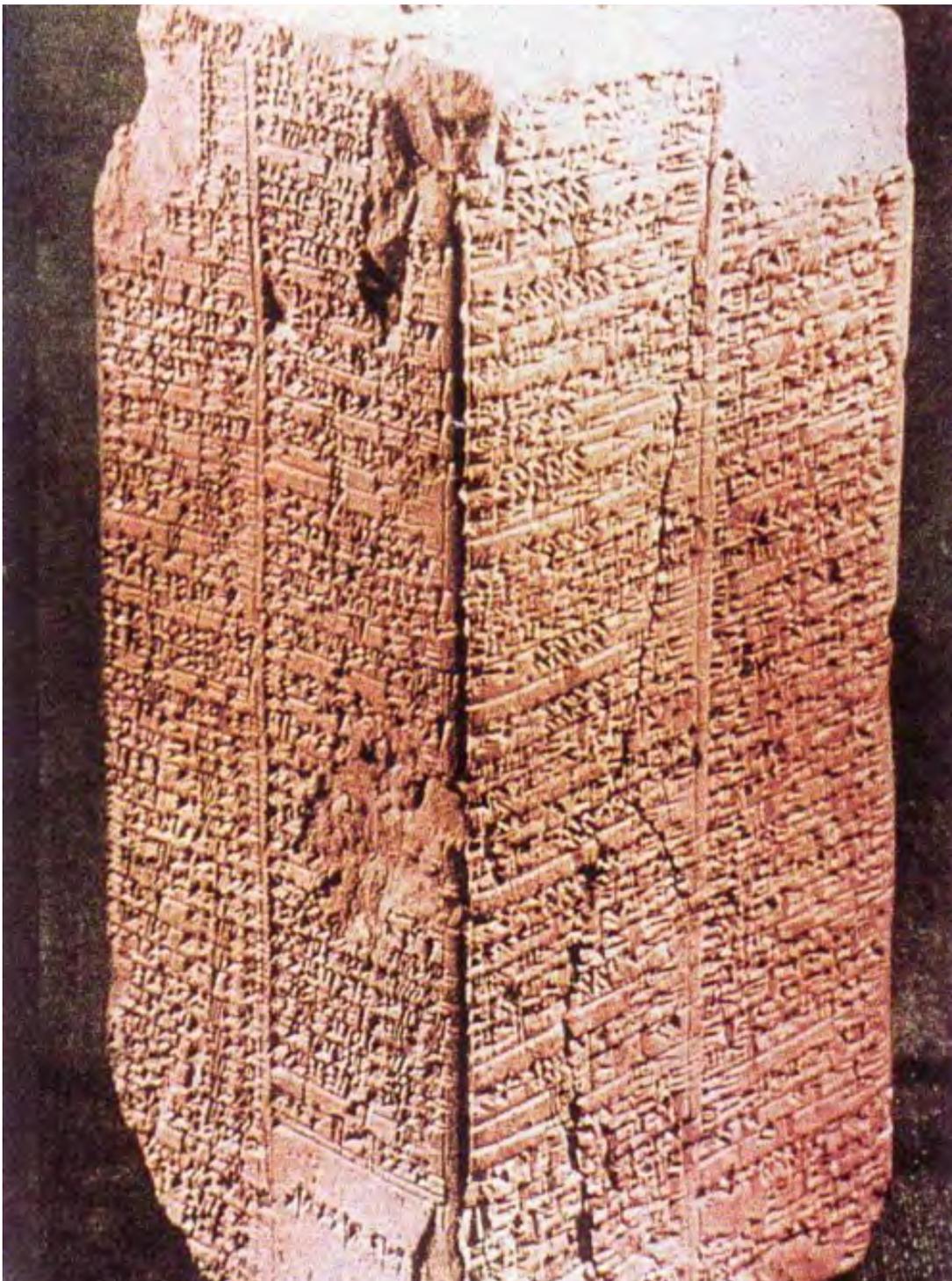
Alulim became king and
reigned for 28,800 years...

Eight kings reigned for
241,000 years. *Then the
flood waters streamed over
the earth.*”

Sumerian King List

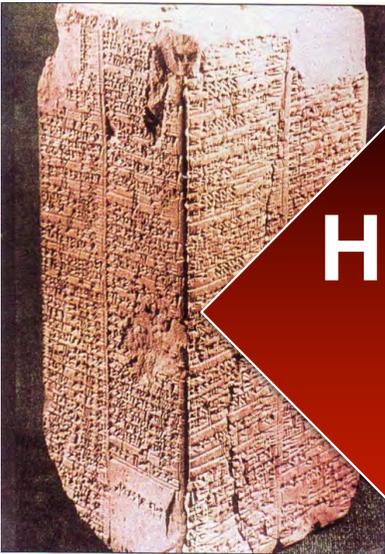
King & Years of Reign

Alulim	28,800
Alalgar	36,000
Enmenluanna	43,200
Enmengalanna	28,800
Dumuzi	36,000
Ensipazianna	28,800
Enmeduranna	21,000
Urbatutu	18,600
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	241,000



Sumerian King List

**None of us
believe in kings
who reigned
28,800 years, but
it does show a
belief in long ages
and a worldwide
flood.**



Kitchen, *Reliability of the OT*

How long did they
really reign?

Sumerian King List

<u>King & Years of Reign</u>	<u>The Math</u>	<u>Kitchen</u>
Alulim 28,800	÷ 600	48
Alalgar 36,000	÷ 600	60
Enmenluanna 43,200	÷ 600	72
Enmengalanna 28,800	÷ 600	48
Dumuzi 36,000	÷ 600	60
Ensipazianna 28,800	÷ 600	48
Enmeduranna 21,000	÷ 600	35
<u>Urbatutu 18,600</u>	<u>÷ 600</u>	<u>31</u>
Total 241,000	Total	402

Genesis 5 Age at Son's Birth

Adam-130

Seth-105

Enosh-90

Kenan-70

Mahalalel-65

Jared-162

Enoch-65

Methuselah-187

Lamech-122

Noah-500

Kitchen on Age at Son's Birth

Adam **130** \div **5** = **26**

Seth **105** \div **5** = **21**

Enosh **90** \div **5** = **18**

Kenan **70** \div **5** = **14**

Mahalalel **65** \div **5** = **13**

Jared **162** \div **5** = **32**

Enoch **65** \div **5** = **13**

Methuselah **187** \div **5** = **37**

Lamech **122** \div **5** = **24**

Noah **500** \div **5** = **100**

Kitchen on Age at Death

Adam **930** \div **5** = **186**

Seth **912** \div **5** = **182**

Enosh **905** \div **5** = **181**

Kenan **910** \div **5** = **182**

Mahalalel **895** \div **5** = **179**

Jared **962** \div **5** = **192**

Enoch **365** \div **5** = **73**

Methuselah **969** \div **5** = **193**

Lamech **777** \div **5** = **155**

Noah **950** \div **5** = **190**

Alternate Kitchen View

Adam	930
Seth	912
Enosh	905
Kenan	910
Mahalalel	895
Jared	962
Enoch	365
Methuselah	969
Lamech	777
Noah	950



**Years Later
When Clan
Died Out**

AFTER EDEN

by Dan Lietha

90

I JUST TURNED 969
YEARS OLD AND PEOPLE
KEEP TELLING ME HOW
OLD I AM. I TELL THEM
I'M NOT OLD! THE
EARTH IS OLD! IT'S
ALMOST 700 YEARS
OLDER THAN
I AM!

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256

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Methuselah

Methuselah believed in an "Old Earth."

The Meaning of Each Patriarch's Name in the 10 Generations

Genealogy of Genesis 5

(with their Hebrew meaning.)

אָדָם	Adam	=	“Man” (is)
שֵׁת	Seth	=	“Appointed”
אֵנוֹשׁ	Enosh	=	“Mortal”
קֵינָן	Kenan	=	“Sorrow” (but)
מַהֲלֵאֵל	Mahalael	=	“The Blessed God”
יָרֵד	Jared	=	“Shall Come Down”
חֵנוֹךְ	Enoch	=	“Teaching”
מֵתוּשֶׁלַח	Methuselah	=	“His Death Shall Bring”
לָמֶךְ	Lamech	=	(the) “Despairing”
נֹחַ	Noah	=	“Comfort, Rest”

The Meaning of Each Patriarch's Name in the 10 Generations

GENEALOGY OF GENESIS 5 - ADAM TO NOAH

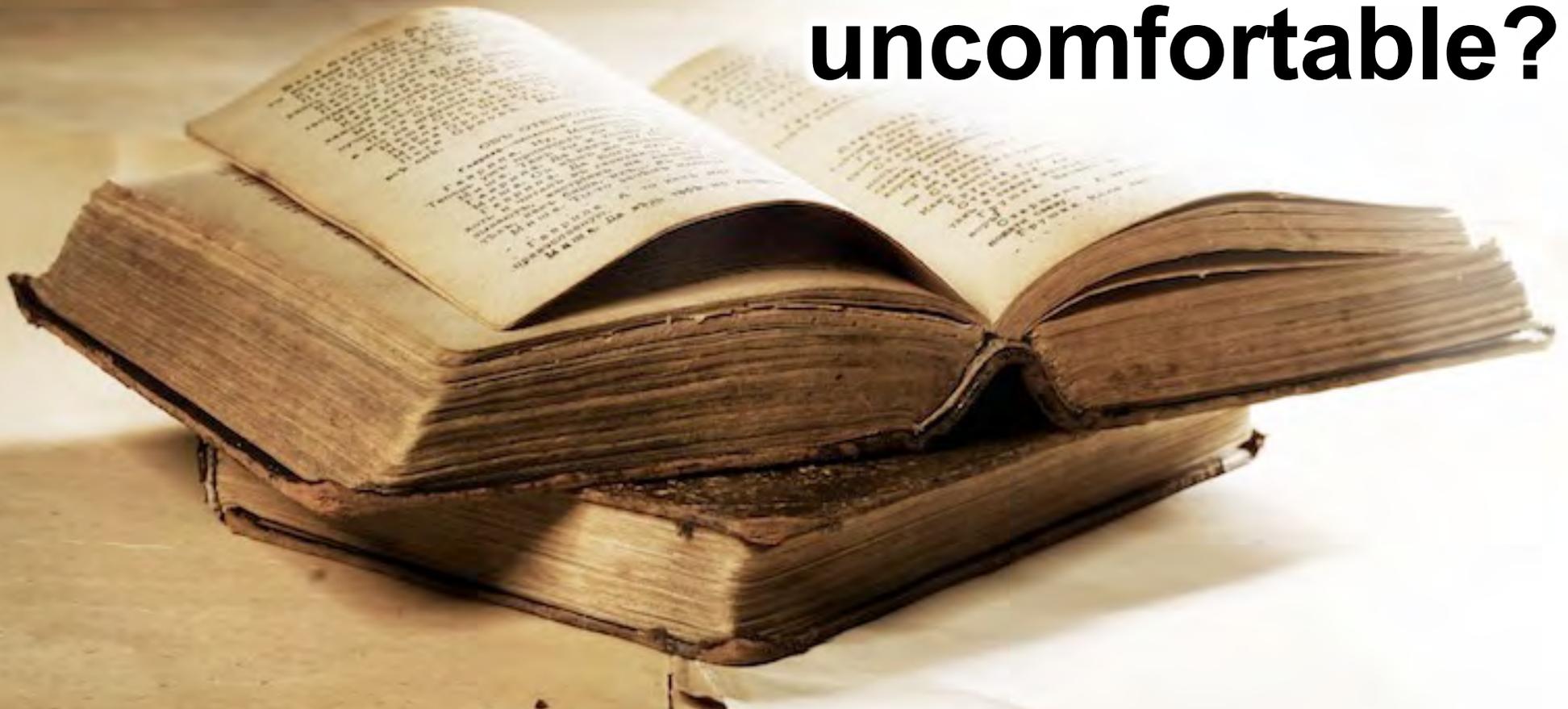
NAME	HEBREW MEANING
Adam (אָדָם)	- "man"
Seth (שֵׁת)	- "appointed"
Enosh (אֱנוֹשׁ)	- "mortal/frail"
Cainan (קַיִן)	- "sorrow"
Mahalalel (מְהַלְלֵלֵאל)	- "blessed God"
Jared (יָרֵד)	- "shall come down"
Enoch (חֲנוֹךְ)	- "teaching"
Methuselah (מֶתוּשֶׁלַח)	- "his death shall bring"
Lamech (לָמֶךְ)	- "despairing"
Noah (נֹחַ)	- "comfort/rest"

"[For] man [was] appointed mortal sorrow. [But the] blessed God shall come down teaching, His death shall bring [the] despairing comfort/rest!"



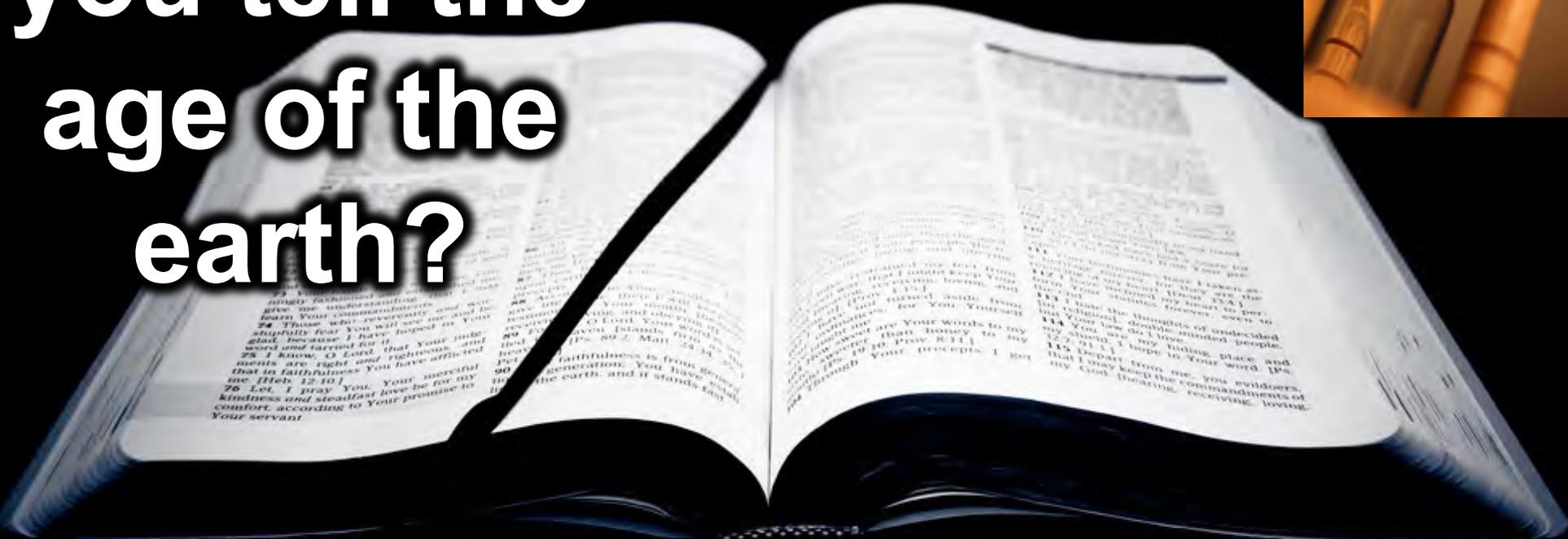
**OK, so what's
the point?**

**Will you take
God's Word at
face value—
even when it is
uncomfortable?**





**How can
you tell the
age of the
earth?**



**Trust the Book
written by the
Eyewitness**

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FOREWORD BY STEVE FULLER

THEISTIC EVOLUTION

A Scientific, Philosophical, and Theological Critique



Edited by

J. P. Moreland, Stephen C. Meyer,
Christopher Shaw, Ann K. Gauger,
and Wayne Grudem

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Theistic Evolution: A Scientific, Philosophical, and Theological Critique

**J P Moreland,
Wayne Grudem, editors
Nov 2017**

**—Argues against theistic
evolution but still
maintains millions of
years theory**

**—Includes NO articles by
Biblical Creationists who
hold to a Young Earth**

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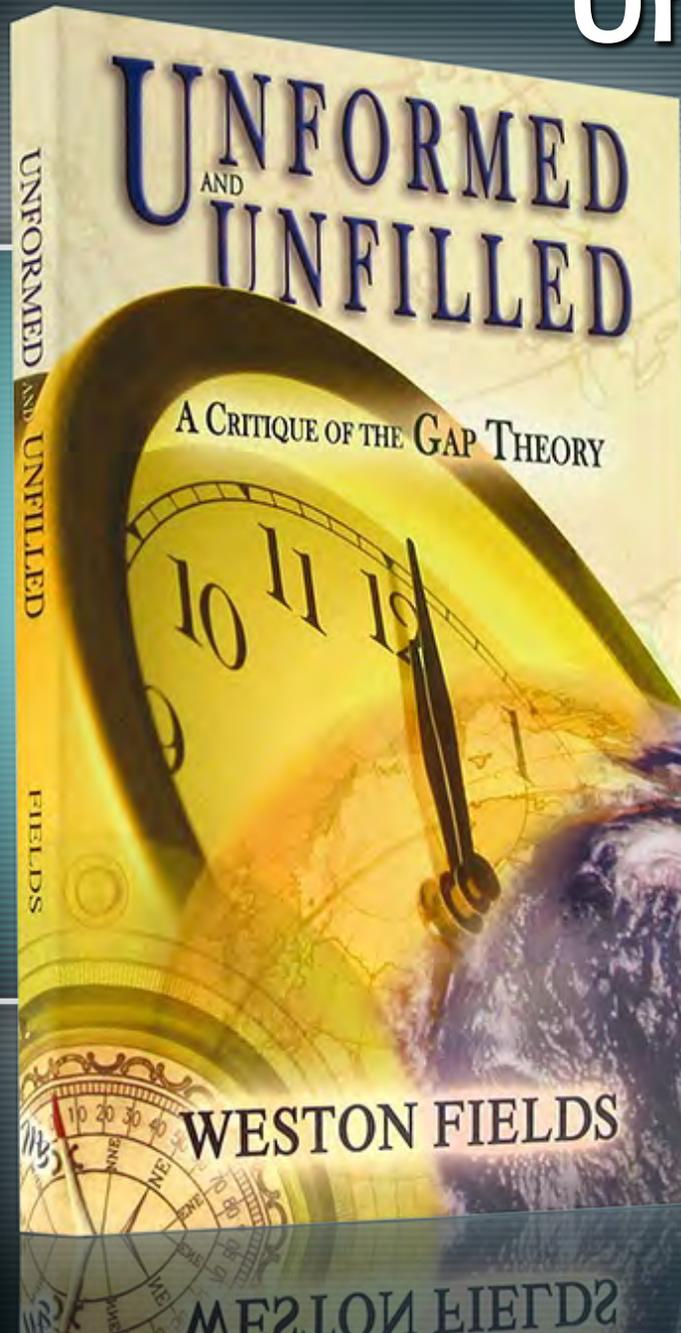
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general books

Unformed and Unfilled

by Weston Fields



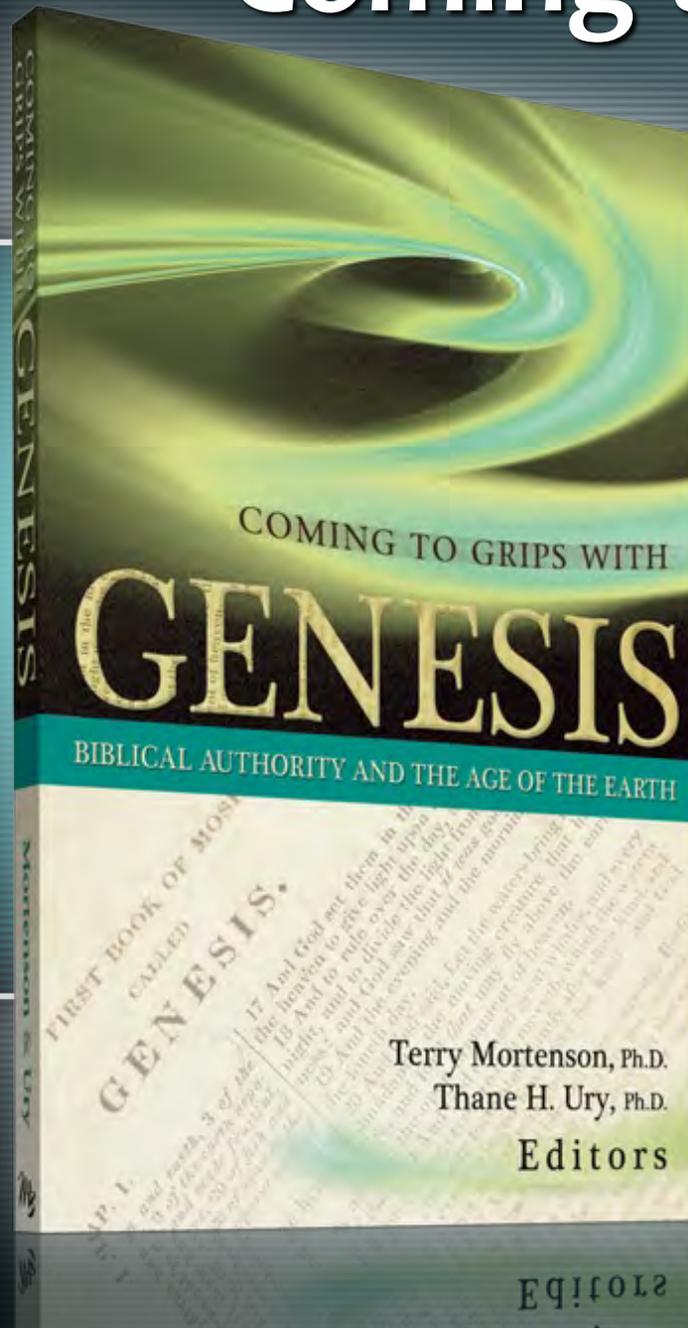
**A thorough
refutation of
the gap theory
(2005)**

1:1

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general books Coming to Grips with Genesis

*edited by Dr. Terry Mortenson
and Dr. Thane Ury*



**14 scholars give a
careful biblical &
historical defense of
young-earth
creationism (2008)**

1:1

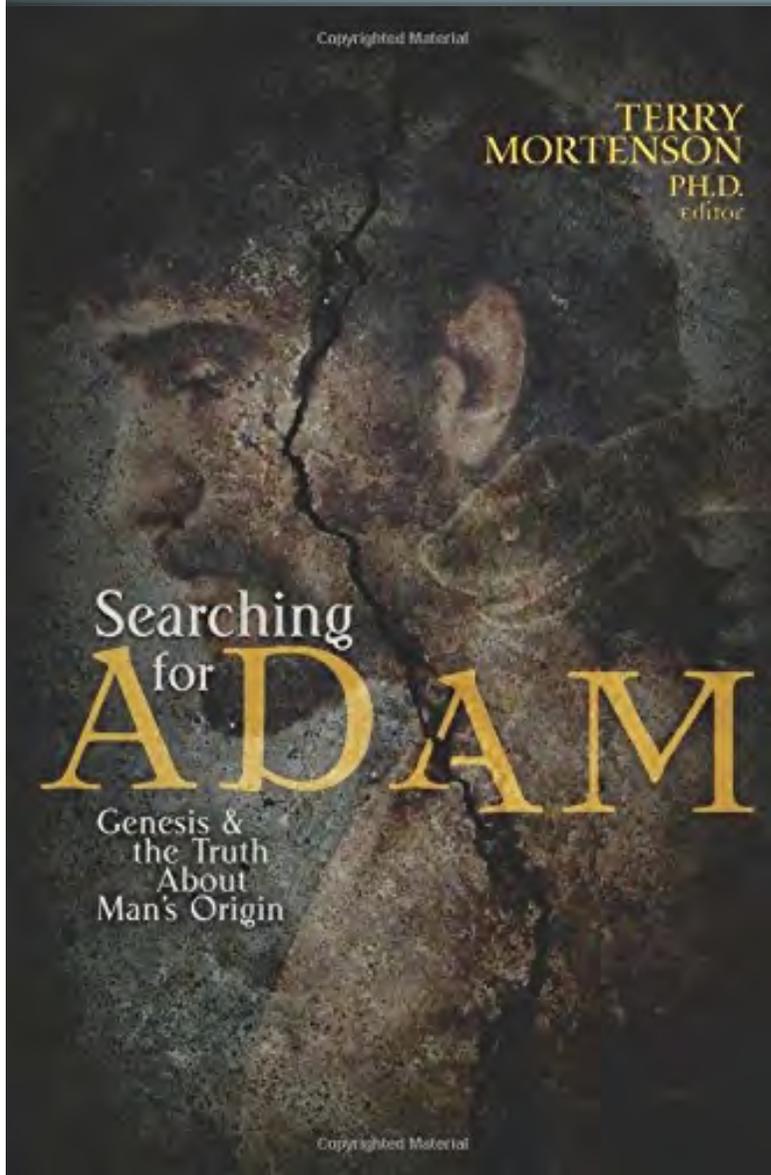
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general books

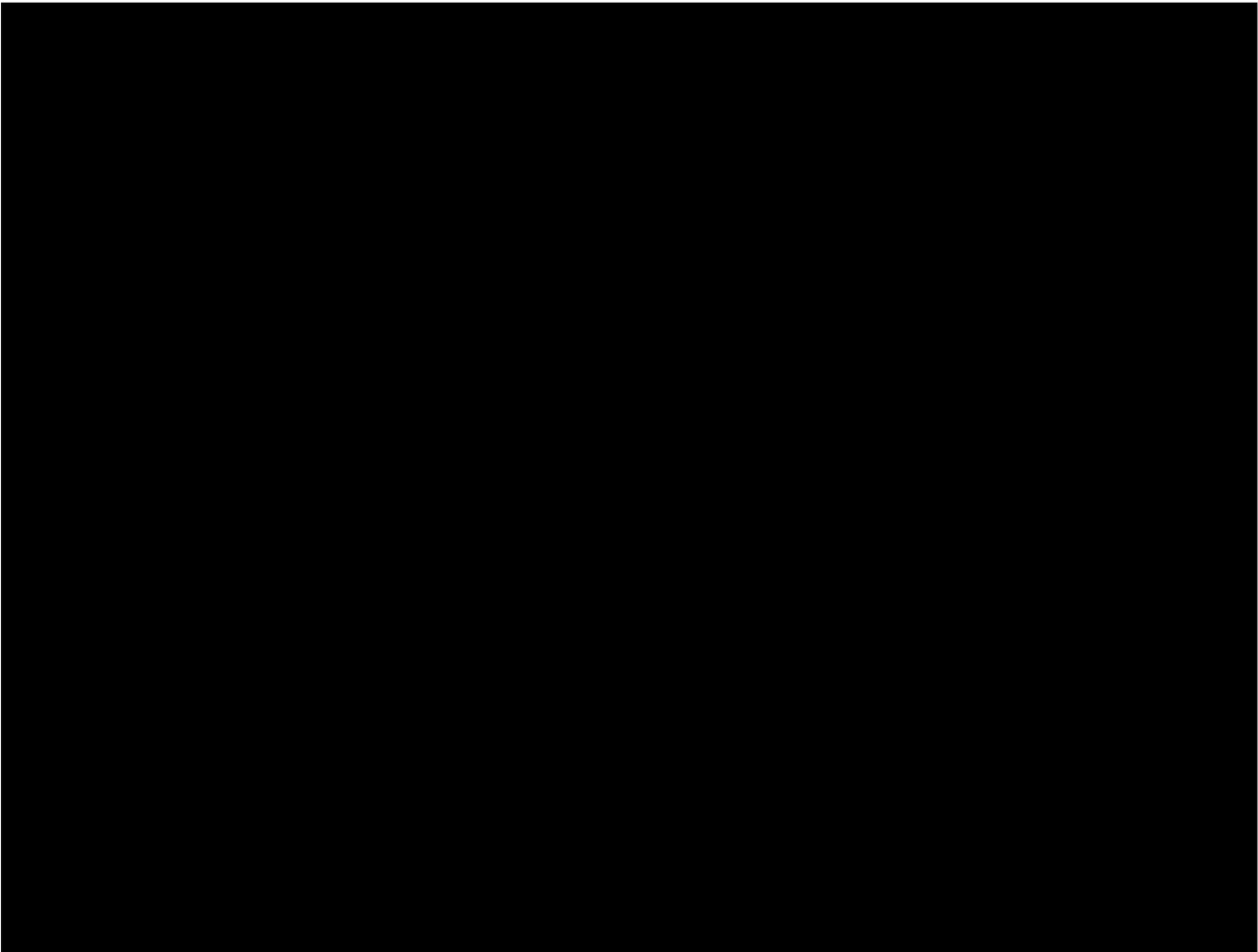
Searching for Adam: Genesis & the Truth About Man's Origin

edited by Dr. Terry Mortenson

**16 chapters by
scholars upholding
the literal Adam and
Eve (2016)**



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