

Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do - 1 Chronicles 12:32

Issachar B7D Fellowship

Bible through the 7 Days of Creation (B7D) **IN BRIEF** (Single-Session Version)

Understanding the times and what God is saying to us today from His Word through the Seven Days of Creation

SINGLE-SESSION VERSION

*Click words in **RED** to advance through the slides*

*Kairos -
appointed/
sacred
time*

Rhema - utterance

God has an urgent word for His people today so that, like the men of Issachar, we understand the times and know what we should do.

What He wants to speak to us is apparent in the Bible when we consider it through the perspective of the 7 Days of Creation.

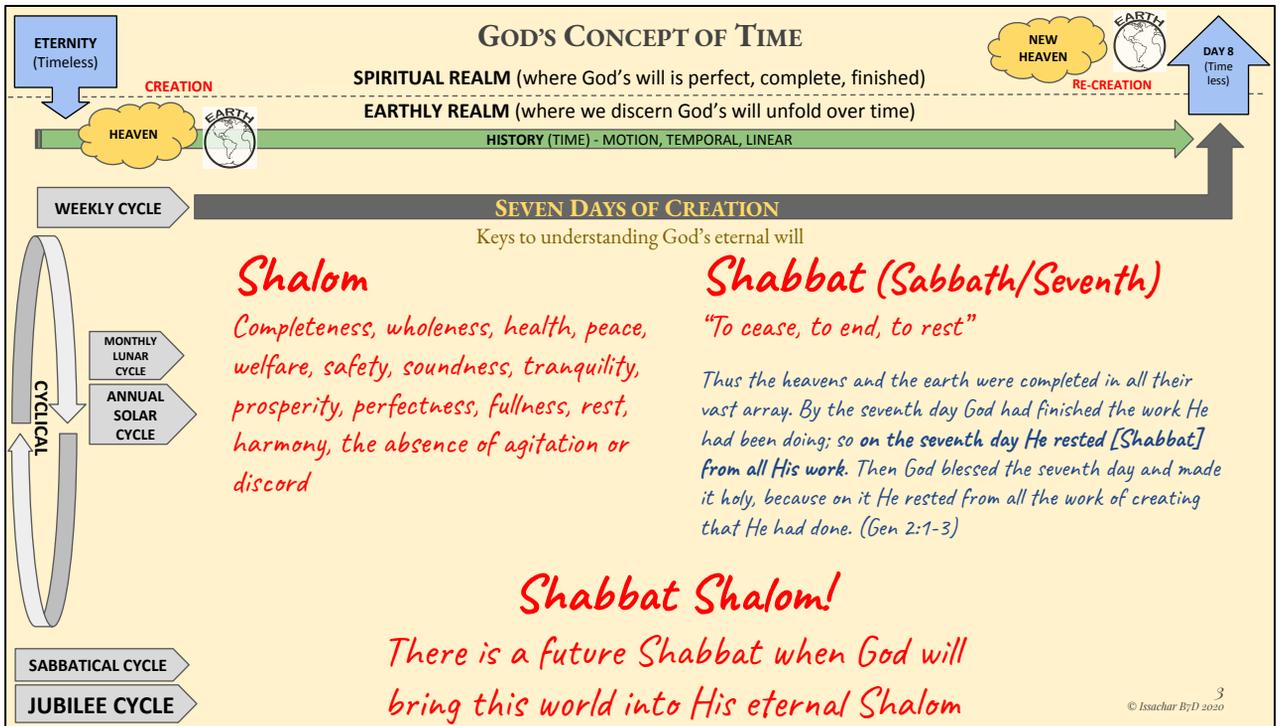
Reveals what God wants to say to us at different points in history

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God has an urgent **word** - or *Rhema* - for His people **today** - in this *Kairos* moment - so that, like the men of Issachar, we understand the times and know what we should do. *Rhema* literally means an "utterance", God *speaking* to us in a very specific way, while *Kairos* refers to this specially *appointed* or even *sacred* (set apart) time when God chooses to speak to us. It is different from God's *Logos* word, which is always true and relevant at all times. *Rhema* and *Kairos* go hand-in-hand and refer to what God wants to say to us at a particular point in time - in our case, in this generation.

Next, what God wants to speak to us is apparent in the Bible when we consider it through the perspective of the **7** Days of Creation. In other words, the 7 Days of Creation **reveals** God's *Rhema* in His *Kairos*, what He wants to say to us at different points in history from the time of Creation until today.

To understand this, we first need to know **how** God sees time.



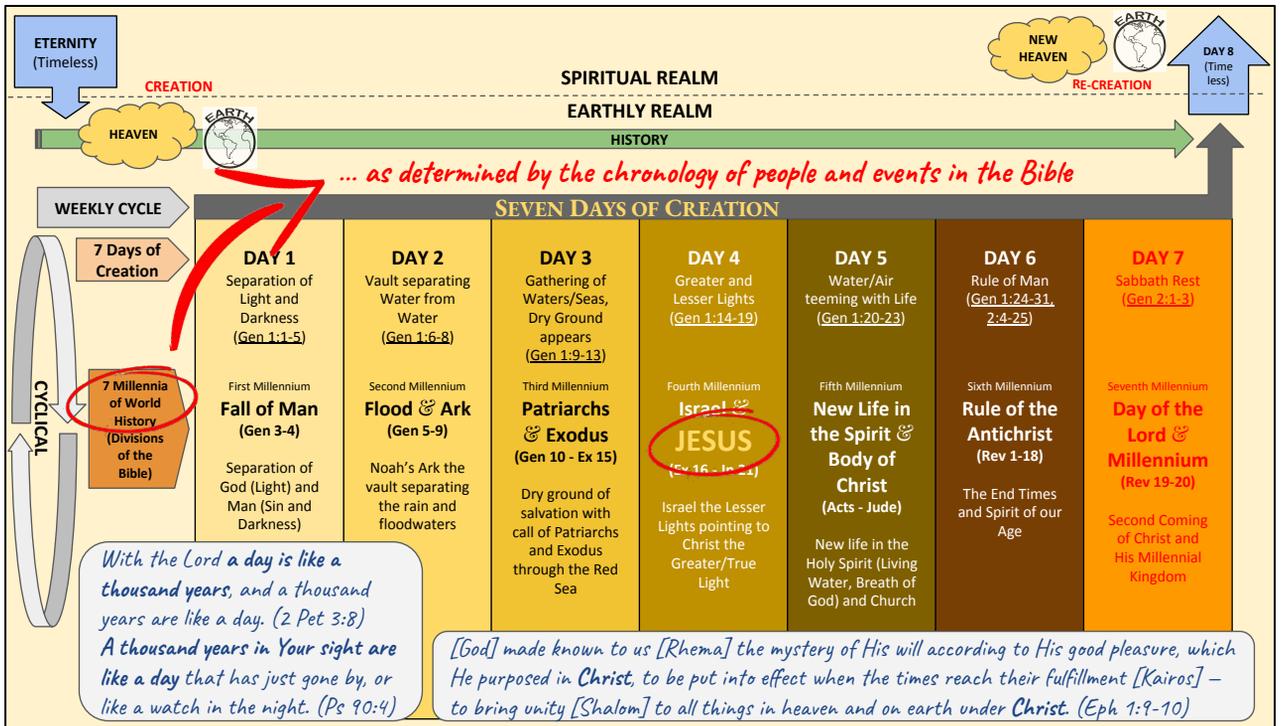
In the spiritual realm, there is *no* time. What we see happening on earth - whether in the past, present or future - has already taken place and is at rest according to God's perfect, complete and finished will.

The Hebrew word that describes this is *Shalom*. Many of us think that *Shalom* simply means "peace," but it actually means much more as seen above. In a way, *Shalom* sums up what it means to be in heaven.

God gave us **Time** when He created the Heavens and the Earth. Time is always moving forwards and never stops. It is also temporary - we "run out of time" when we die, and time itself will finally run out when the world ends.

Now, because we live *in* time, we tend to see eternity as an endless straight line. In actual fact, eternity is more like a **circle** or **cycle** where there is no beginning and no end, where everything is one and done in God and at rest.

This was why God gave us the **weekly** cycle of the 7 Days of Creation, as well as the **monthly** and annual cycles, and what we call the **Sabbatical** and Jubilee year cycles - to help us understand eternity and His eternal will. These cycles follow a pattern of **7** that ends with the Sabbath (*Shabbat* in Hebrew, which means "to cease, to end, to rest"). God wants us to know that just as He rested (*Shabbat*) and entered into His *Shalom* on the Seventh or Sabbath Day in the original Creation Account as seen in Gen 2:1-3, **there** is a future *Shabbat* when He will bring this world into His eternal *Shalom*.



But until then, each day of Creation reveals how history will unfold from the time of Creation until the end of time itself.

Here, each Day of Creation refers to each *Millennia* (or 1,000 years) of world history **as determined by the chronology of people and events in the Bible**. There is a strong biblical basis for this as **seen** in the verses above (2 Pet 3:8, Ps 90:4). Most importantly, it explains Christ's Millennial or 1,000-year rule and how the Seventh Day of Creation, when God rested in the original Creation account, points to this period when Creation will finally receive its earthly rest.

Ultimately though, the Creation Account tell us about **Jesus Christ**. It reveals how, when God created the world, He had already **planned** how it would progress and eventually end by bringing all things to perfect completion and rest, forever set apart for Him, in Jesus Christ (Eph 1:9-10).

All have
sinned and
fall short of
the glory
[light] of
God.
(Rom 3:23)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Jesus is the True Light

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the *first day*.

Genesis 1:1-5

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Let us now look at the **First Day** of Creation. It tells us that God **created** light. In fact, **Jesus** is the *True Light*. **Light** is good and cannot co-exist with darkness.

The First Day also tells us about the **Fall of Man**. Because of sin, our starting point - like that of Creation - is **darkness**. The Apostle Paul tells us that “*all have sinned and fall short of the glory (or light) of God*” (Rom 3:23). Separated from God as darkness is from light, we are left **formless** and **empty**. Now, the most wonderful part here is that God already knew all this from the very beginning. And only He can reconcile us back to Him - in Jesus.

In [Noah's Ark] only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also ... by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Pet 3:20-21)

Noah's Ark → Jesus our true Spiritual Ark

And God said, Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. God called the vault "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the *second day*.

Genesis 1:6-8

*For the wages of sin is death ...
(Rom 6:23)*

FLOOD

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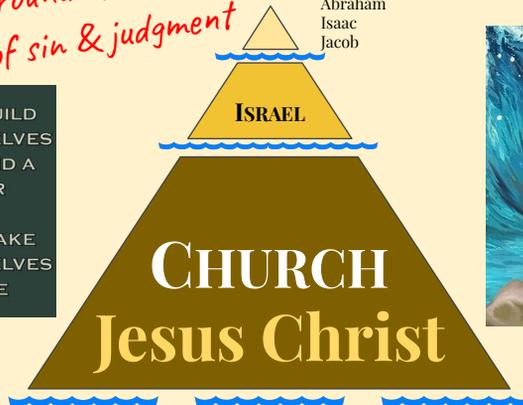
Turning now to the **Second Day** of Creation, it reveals firstly how we stand under judgment by a holy and righteous God. Sin demands a price, which must be paid, and this **price** is death (Rom 6:23). We see this fulfilled in the **Great Flood**, the first worldwide judgment.

However, the Second Day also reveals God's plan of salvation through **Noah's Ark** - this vault as it were that separated the flood water below it from the rain water above during the first judgment. This first ark ultimately points to **Jesus**, our **Spiritual Ark** of salvation, who saves us from the final judgment through the waters of baptism (1 Pet 3:20-21).

And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.”

*Dry ground of salvation
Sea of sin & judgment*

PATRIARCHS
Abraham
Isaac
Jacob



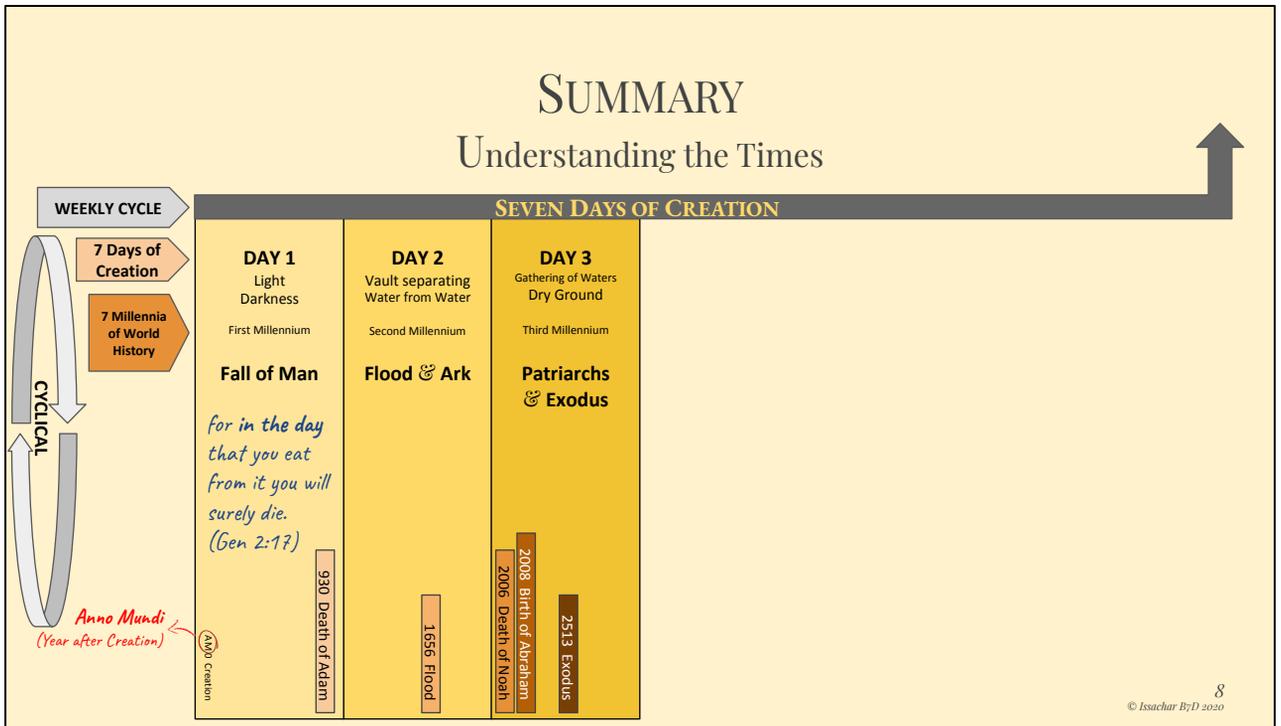
The **Third Day** of Creation concerns the **emergence** of dry ground and the life that came along with it. It points to how, following the Flood, God literally gathered the waters so that life can once again be revived on the dry ground of a new world.

But mankind continued to **drown** in the sea of sin and judgment due to their fallen nature. Beginning with the **Tower** of Babel, Man created a kingdom for himself in opposition to God, a kingdom that would eventually be used by Satan in his final confrontation with God in the end times. So, symbolically, God brought forth “**dry ground**” as it were, which is His plan to rescue us. God chose **one man**, Abraham, and from Abraham and his descendants, He birthed a **nation**, Israel, And it is through Israel that the **world** will be blessed, because out of this nation God gave us **Jesus Christ** our Saviour.

But there was one more *Kairos* event that took place on this Day - the supernatural gathering of the waters and appearing of dry ground during the **Exodus** of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The exodus is a picture of our deliverance from bondage to sin when we accept Jesus as our personal Saviour and Lord.

SUMMARY

Understanding the Times



At this point, I want to show how the first three days of Creation fit into our Biblical perspective of world history, where **each** day refers to one *Millennia* (1,000 years) of world history, as determined by the chronology of people and events in the Bible.

First, we saw how **DAY 1** foreshadowed sin and its consequences - in the **Fall of Man**. In **Gen 2:17**, God warned Adam not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, *for in the day* he ate from it he would surely die. If a day is indeed like a thousand years, then Adam truly **died** within the day at age 930. In fact, none lived beyond a thousand years (one day). By the way, the dates shown here are based on **AM** or *Anno Mundi* which is the year after the creation of the world.

Then we saw how **DAY 2** foreshadowed impending judgment and salvation - through the **Flood and Noah's Ark**. The **Flood** happened during the Second Millennium - in AM 1656 or the 1656th year after the creation of the world. Noah lived another 350 years after the Flood and **passed** away in AM 2006 - marking the end of Day 2.

Finally, we saw how **DAY 3** foreshadowed God's dry ground of salvation - beginning with the **Patriarchs** and followed by the **Exodus**. **Abraham**, the first of the Patriarchs, was born at the start of the Third Millennium in AM 2008, two years after Noah died. The **Exodus** of the Israelites from bondage in Egypt also took place on Day 3 - in AM 2513.

JESUS THE RISEN SON OF GOD - because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven ... who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. (Lk 1:78, 1 Pet 2:9)

And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

Genesis 1:14-19

ISRAEL - I will also make you a light for the Gentiles. (Isa 49:3-6)

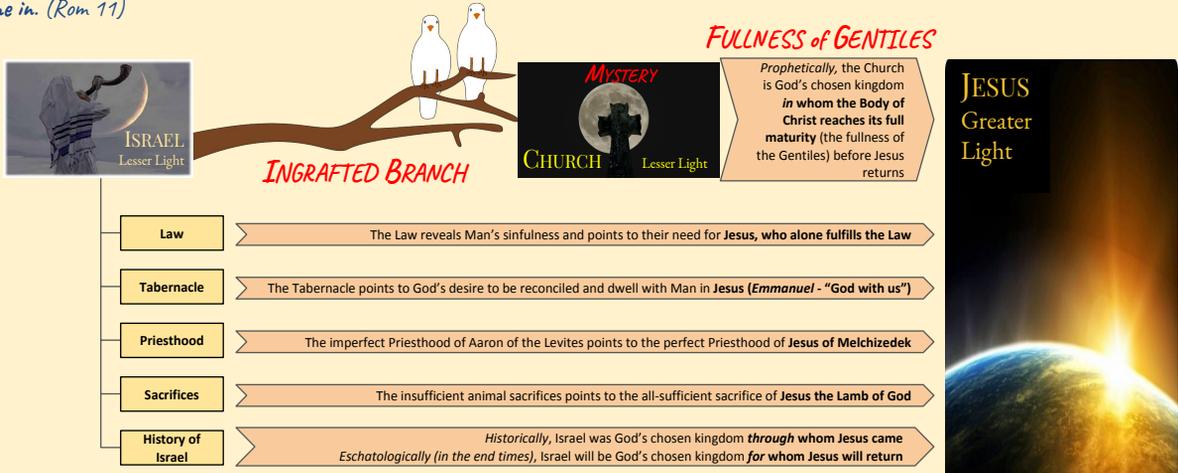
CHURCH - You are the light of the world. (Mt 5:14-16)

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The Fourth Day of Creation concerns the creation of two great lights. The **greater** light - the sun - points to **Jesus** the Risen Son of God, who has called and separated us out of darkness into His wonderful light. The **lesser** light - the moon - meanwhile, points to God’s chosen people, **Israel** and the Church, who are called by God to reflect the light and life of Jesus to the world, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun.

PAUL - This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel... [God's] intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known. (Eph 3:6,10)

You [Gentiles], though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in[to God's Kingdom through the Church]... I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. (Rom 11)



ABRAHAM - I will make you into a great nation ... and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. (Gen 12:1-3)

JACOB - [Ephraim's] descendants will become a multitude [fullness] of [Gentile] nations. (Gen 48:19)

We see this in the **Law** given to Israel - God knows that Israel and mankind cannot live up to its requirements. God's purpose in giving the Law is to **reveal** Man's sinfulness and point them to their need for Jesus, who alone fulfills the Law.

In the **Tabernacle** - the Tabernacle, which was later replaced by the **Temple** in Jerusalem, **points** to God's love and desire to be reconciled and dwell with us. He did this by overcoming our sinfulness through Jesus - **Emmanuel** ("God with us").

In Israel's system of **Priesthood** and **Sacrifices** - the **imperfection** and insufficiency of these earthly models point to Jesus our perfect Priest and Sacrifice for our sins.

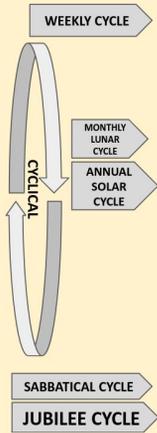
And in Israel's **history** - despite its imperfections, weaknesses and outright disobedience and unfaithfulness, Israel was God's **chosen** kingdom through whom Jesus came 2,000 years ago and for whom Jesus will return in the very near future.

We also see the **Church** reflecting the light and life of Jesus, especially for the past 2,000 years from the time of Israel's destruction in 70 AD until its rebirth about 70 years ago in 1948. That the Church should shine during this period when Israel's light had been put out for the time being is no coincidence but was part of God's plan of salvation from the very beginning:

When God first called **Abraham**, He had already planned to bless **all peoples on earth** through Abraham and Israel. God later revealed to **Jacob** through a prophecy to the tribe of Ephraim that Israel would become **a multitude (fullness) of (Gentile) nations**. **Paul** would later explain this **mystery** whereby **Gentiles are heirs together with Israel** as referring to the **Church**. Through the Church, Gentiles are **grafted into** God's Kingdom - something which was only possible because God allowed Israel to be cut off for a period of time. However, this **hardening in part** would only last **until the full**

number of Gentiles has come in. God's purpose was for the Church to be His light to the world **until the Body of Christ reaches its full maturity** once those who belong to Him among the nations have entered into His Kingdom. When that happens, God will turn His attention back to Israel even as the Church falls into deception and apostasy, as we will see later.

JESUS THE RISEN SON OF GOD - because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven ... who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. (Lk 1:78, 1 Pet 2:9)



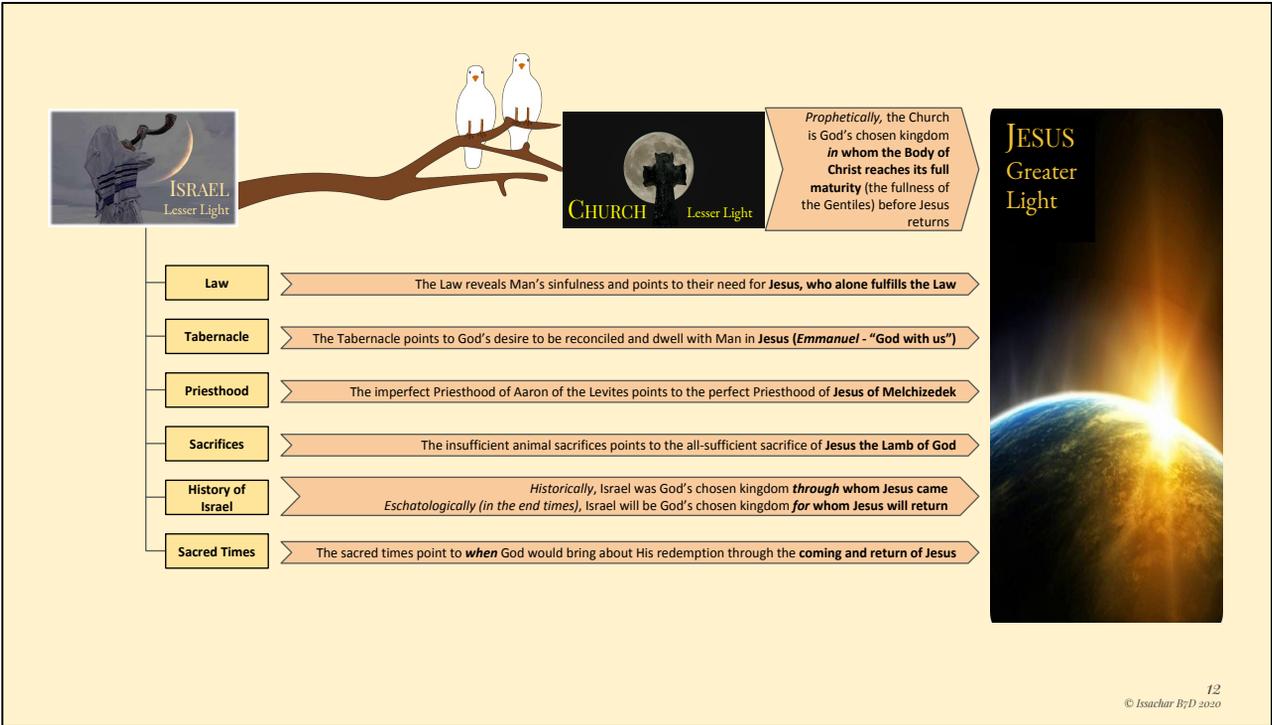
And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

Genesis 1:14-19

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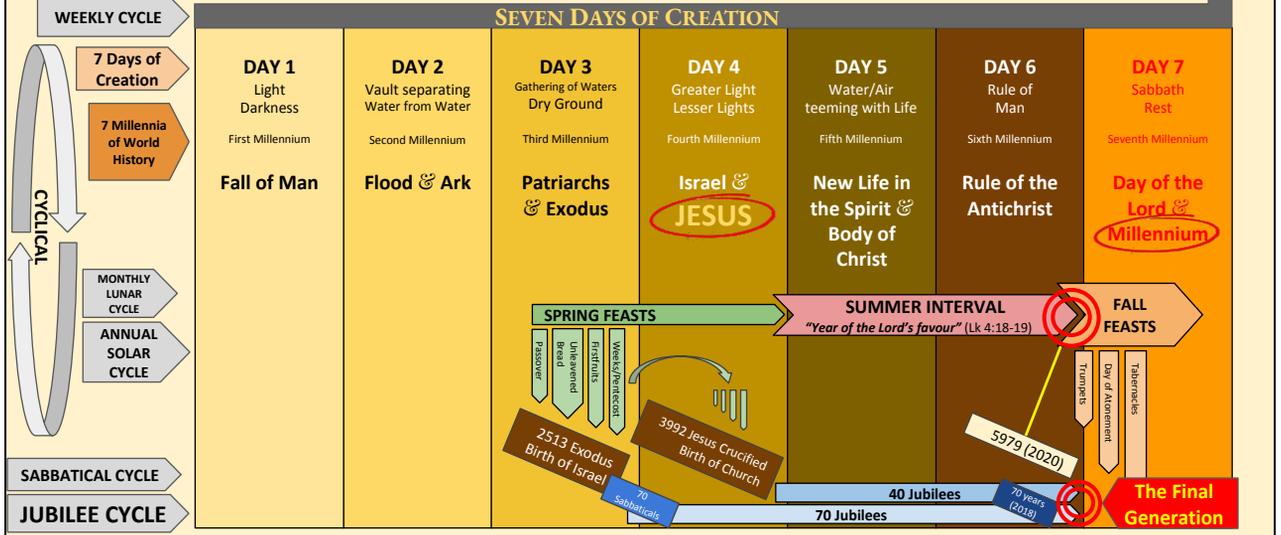
If you recall, we said that God gave us a series of **cycles** in patterns of 7s as a way for us, who live in earthly time, to understand His eternal will. These were given in the form of festivals, laws and regulations that Israel was to observe on specific dates to **mark sacred times**.



God's purpose was for Israel, His lesser light, to draw the world's attention to His *Kairos* events - His plan of redemption through the **coming and return of Jesus**.

SACRED TIMES

Understanding the Times



The first of these sacred times that Israel was to observe was the **weekly Sabbath**, first seen in the **Seven Days of Creation**. As we had briefly mentioned earlier, it points to the **7 millennia** or 7,000 years of world history, revolving around the coming and return of Jesus to inaugurate the Millennial Sabbath rest.

If we understand time as being measured according to the chronology of events and people in the Bible, then we are reaching the **end** of the sixth millennium in our day.

Besides the weekly Sabbaths, there are **7 Special or High Sabbaths**, which can fall on any day of the week, that Israel was to celebrate in the form of 7 Festivals or Feasts of God over 7 months every year.

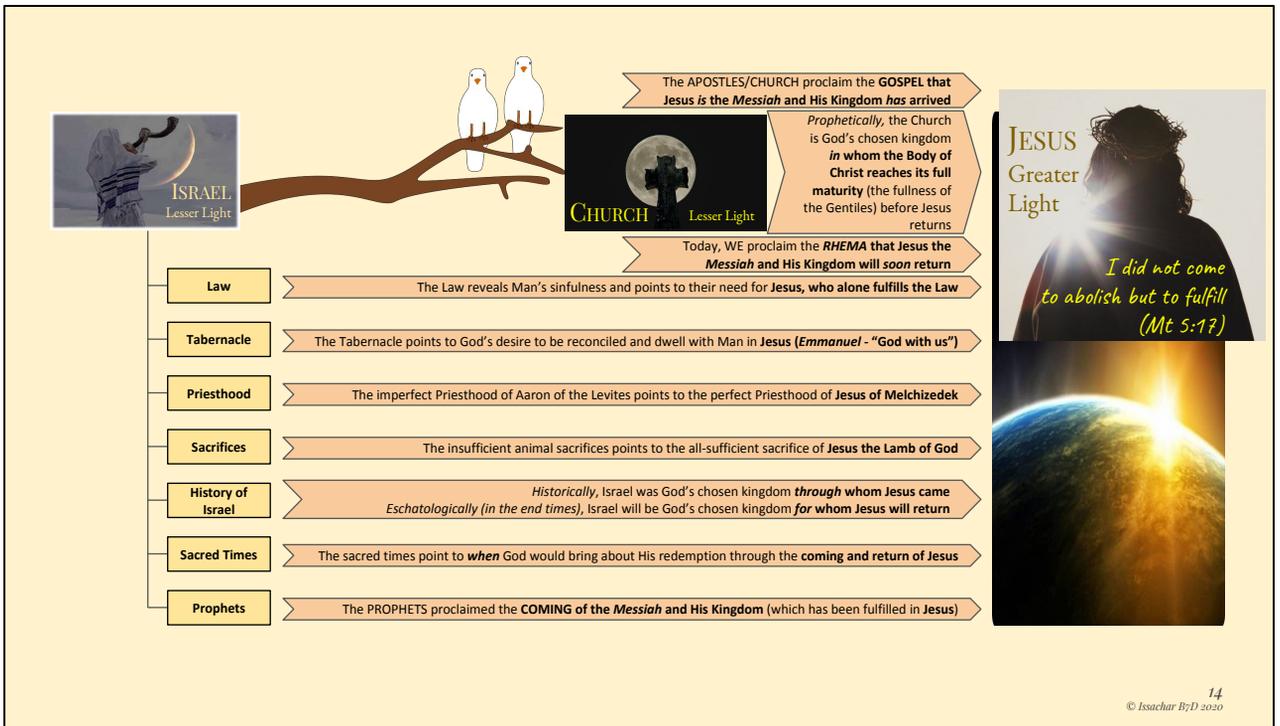
These High Sabbaths, which can be grouped into the **Spring** and **Fall** Feasts according to Israel's agricultural calendar, point to 7 *Kairos* events during these 7 millennia of world history.

Now, we know that the Spring Feasts have already been fulfilled 2,000 years ago with **Jesus'** death on the Cross and the birth of the Church.

Today, we are reaching the **end** of the **Summer** interval - the **"year of the Lord's favour"** (Lk 4:18-19) or more commonly known as the Church Age - before the Fall Feasts arrive to mark Jesus' return.

Lastly, God commanded Israel to let the land rest every **Sabbatical** or seventh year and to further proclaim freedom for the people during the year of **Jubilee**, which takes place every 50th year - that is, after 7 by 7 or 49 years. The Sabbatical and Jubilee years point to the spiritual rest and freedom that the world and mankind would finally experience during the Millennial Sabbath after 6,000 years of human sin and struggle.

We know that, historically, the Promised Land only got its rest after **70 Sabbatical cycles**. Today, we are in the **70th Jubilee cycle**, which is also the **40th Jubilee cycle** since Christ's first coming. Incidentally in 2018, Israel also celebrated **70 years** since its rebirth as a nation in 1948. All these indicators point to us as being **the final** generation in God's *Kairos* who will witness Jesus' return.



Finally, God did not just indirectly point to Jesus through Israel's Law, Tabernacle, Priesthood and Sacrifices, history and sacred times. God spoke plainly to Israel through His **Prophets** that a **Messiah or Anointed One would come to establish His Kingdom on earth**. And in His *Kairos*, God's Word literally came to life in **Jesus**, who died for our sins to fulfill His *Rhema* as spoken through these Prophets. Since then, God has been telling the world about Jesus through the **Gospel** or Good News given to the **Apostles** and the **Church** - that **Jesus is the promised Messiah**. Now, as we near the end of all things in our generation, we are called to **proclaim** the final chapter of God's *Rhema* - that **Jesus will soon return**.

THE PROPHETIC MESSAGE

God's discipline and exile of His people
God's sovereignty over and judgment of His enemies
Day of the Lord
Even as God's judgment unfolded, there is comfort, hope and restoration
Central to these, prophecy of the *Messiah* and His Kingdom rule

LAW & PROPHETS

THE MESSIANIC MESSAGE

Arrival of the *Messiah* as the Lamb of God
His Kingdom is NOT of this world
Need to receive, repent and be reborn in the Spirit to enter the Kingdom
Prayer for unity of the Body of Christ

GOSPELS

THE APOSTOLIC MESSAGE

New life in the Spirit and Body of Christ
in Faith, Hope and Love

LETTERS

GOD'S *RHEMA*
for us in this
KAIROS



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As we conclude our look at the Fourth Day of Creation, let us have a better understanding of God's *Rhema* as progressively revealed to us in His *Kairos*, beginning with the Old Testament Prophets.

Although these prophets brought God's *Rhema* to Israel and various nations over a period of four centuries, they shared a common **Prophetic Message** that would only be partially fulfilled during their time, nor was it completely fulfilled at the first coming of Jesus, but pointed to a distant future - a future which is now upon us - when God will bring about its eventual and complete fulfilment. Here, **God** would discipline and even exile His people for their unfaithfulness, disobedience and injustice, often by using their very enemies to punish them. But **God** is in control and would eventually judge these enemies for their wickedness. This pattern of discipline and judgment would culminate on the **Day** of the Lord - here, **even** as God's judgment unfolded on His enemies, there is the promise of comfort, hope and restoration for God's people **centred** on the *Messiah* and His Kingdom rule.

As mentioned, Jesus came 2,000 years ago to *partially* fulfill these Old Testament prophecies. Jesus was God's Word made flesh, and in His **Messianic Message**, Jesus explained that He **came** as the Lamb of God and that **His** Kingdom was NOT of this world - it would be like a hidden treasure, a narrow door, where the last would be first and the least would be greatest. While the Kingdom would experience extraordinary growth, Jesus warned that it would comprise those who truly belonged to Him and those who didn't. The Kingdom would only be made perfect when Jesus returned on the Day of the Lord which, though a long time in coming, would suddenly appear at God's appointed time. Until then, believers were **called** to *receive* His word, *repent* and be *reborn* in the Holy Spirit in order to enter this Kingdom. Jesus also **prayed** for his disciples to be united in His Spirit as *one* Body of Christ.

The Apostles built upon this progressive revelation of God's *Rhema* found in the Old Testament prophecies and Jesus' words. If we could summarise their **Apostolic message**, it was about **living** in the Spirit and Body of Christ in Faith, Hope and Love until Jesus returned - Faith in Christ, which is the

foundation of the Gospel and our Christian faith; Hope in the Holy Spirit, apart from whom our faith and works are both dead; and finally Love for the Body, God's people in Israel and the Church. Jesus prayed for our unity for a reason, which will become clear when we consider what I believe is **God's *Rhema*** for us in this *Kairos* that we are looking at now.

Living waters (baptism/cleansing/pouring out of the Spirit)

Wine (infilling of the Spirit)

Oil (anointing of the Spirit)

And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.”

Dove



*Wind/
Breath
(40% of all OT
references to
the Holy Spirit;
born again
from above;
wind in
Pentecost)
Tongues of
fire*

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The **Fifth Day** of Creation concerns new life in the *water* and *sky*. It is a picture of our **new life in the Spirit and Body of Christ** with the giving of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church on the day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit not only baptises and infills us with God’s transforming power, but also joins us with the larger Church body to bring it to maturity with the fullness of the Gentiles. I want to stress this very important point - our new life in Jesus’ *Spirit* cannot be separated from our new life in His *Body* the Church, regardless of its imperfections, challenges and failures, especially as Christ’s return draws nearer.

Now, there is a reason for associating the Holy Spirit with the Fifth Day of Creation. Throughout the Bible, we see the Holy Spirit described in relation to these two elements of water and sky - as **living waters/wine/oil**, and as **wind or breath/tongues of fire/dove**. The term “Holy Spirit” itself comes from the **Hebrew** and Greek words meaning breath/wind/spirit.

DIVINE RULE OF THE SPIRIT

And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures ... Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground ... God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground” ... God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the *sixth day*.

FORMED FROM DUST
WORLDLY IN NATURE

EARTHLY RULE OF MAN

Genesis 1:24-31

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It is only on the **Sixth Day** of Creation that we speak about life on *land* - the **earthly rule of Man** (being literally formed from the dust of the ground, and symbolic of our worldly ways) in contrast to the **divine** rule of the Spirit.

Now, when God first created man to rule the earth, it was intended to be “**very** good.” Man, having been formed in God’s image, was to be God’s caretaker over the earth as an act of service and worship to Him. However, what was originally very good became **very** bad with the Fall of Man.

KINGDOM OF MAN SPIRIT/RULE OF THE ANTICHRIST

TOWER OF BABEL CHURCH - ~~NOT~~ OF THIS WORLD

BABYLON & ROME GREAT SCHISM RISE OF PAPACY, 1054 AD/AM5013 - START OF DAY 6



*Pope Innocent III
(1198-1216 AD)*

“No king can reign rightly unless he devoutly serves Christ’s Vicar ... **The priesthood is the Sun, the kingdom the Moon.**”

END-TIME ROMAN
-BABYLONIAN EMPIRE &
BABYLON THE PROSTITUTE

AGE OF EMPIRES

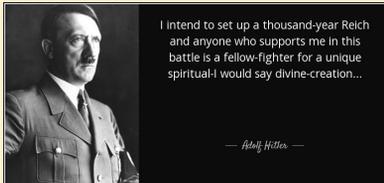
CHRISTIAN ROMAN EMPIRE 312-476 AD

BYZANTINE EMPIRE 312-1453 AD

HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE 800-1804 AD

NAPOLEON 1804-14 AD

HITLER 1933-45 AD



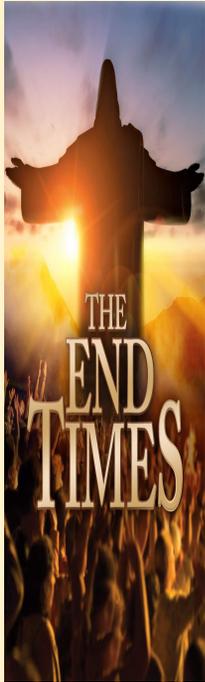
We saw earlier how mankind sought to build a kingdom for themselves beginning with the **Tower** of Babel. This Satan-inspired kingdom, in the form of the ancient empires of **Babylon** and Rome, destroyed God’s Holy City Jerusalem and exiled His people twice. In the end times, Satan will raise up an evil world power - a revived **Roman-Babylonian** empire - to destroy Israel. He will also seduce the Church, luring her away from God to run after the things of this world. This apostate Church - Babylon the Prostitute as revealed to John in **Revelations** - will turn against those who remain faithful to God in the Body of Christ.

Now, that there should emerge an end-time demonic kingdom that brings together the State and Church under the **spirit and rule of the Antichrist** is not something new or that should surprise us. Throughout Church history, the divine life brought about by the Holy Spirit reflected in the Fifth Day of Creation has often been quickly robbed away by the opposing spirit of the Antichrist characteristic of the Sixth Day.

Following the death of the Apostles, the hope for Christ’s soon return faded over time. With Christianity becoming the official religion of the Roman Empire, the **Church** became more and more “of this world”. Earthly power and politics became the focus and ambition of the Church as man started to justify their own authority and rule in the name of God. This eventually led to the **Great Schism** or division that marked the beginning of the Sixth Day of Creation, when the Bishop or Pope of Rome declared himself above all the other key bishops as head of the Church. **Pope** Innocent III went as far as to say that the Emperor was the moon to the Pope’s sun, meaning that the Pope ruled not only the Church but the earth’s kingdoms and nations. The Kingdom of God has now become the kingdom of this world!

This “**Age** of Empires” joining together the State and Church, which began with the **Christian Roman Empire** in the West and the **Byzantine Empire** in the East, continued through the ages with the **Holy**

Roman Empire, followed by **Napoleon Bonaparte** and ultimately **Adolf Hitler**. In Hitler's **Third Reich** ("Third Empire"), which he declared would last a thousand years; the **Jewish Holocaust** where 6 million Jews were slaughtered on this Sixth Day of Creation (incidentally, there are about 6 million Jews in Israel today); and the **German Church** during that period comprising the apostate Nazi national church and the true "confessing church"; we were given the clearest glimpse into how the future kingdom of the Antichrist may look like.



*We have been living in the **LAST DAYS** since the time of Christ*

*literally the **Fifth and Sixth Days** of Creation*

*This was only the **BEGINNING OF BIRTH PAINS ... until NOW***

*many had sounded alarm prematurely so we are now **numbed to its urgency** at this **Kairos** moment*

*The **FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES** marks the start of the **TRIBULATION***

*the **70th** week of Daniel's prophecy will start once the summer interval (Church Age) ends*

*The Church will **RUPTURE** (not **RAPTURE**)*

*there will be **widespread persecution** of the saints "**until the full number ... were killed**" (Rev 6:9-11)*

*Three "**FULLNESS**" that must be met before Jesus returns*

*that only God knows - fullness of the **Gentiles**, fullness of the **persecuted**, fullness of the **Gospel***

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This brings us to the events of the end times. You can refer to my blog sessions for a detailed study but here, I just want to highlight a few important points:

1. We have been living in the **Last Days** since the time of Christ, as the past 2,000 years are literally **2 days** - the Fifth and Sixth Days of Creation - before Jesus returns to usher in the Seventh or *Sabbath* Day Millennium.
2. Jesus warned us that there would be wars, famines, disasters, plagues and persecution during this period but this was only the **beginning of birth pains ... until Now** that is - unfortunately, many had prematurely sounded the alarm the past 2,000 years so Christians today are numbed to its urgency at this *Kairos* moment.
3. The **Fullness of the Gentiles** marks the start of the 7-year **Tribulation** period - we know that the first 69 weeks of Daniel's prophecy of the seventy weeks was fulfilled at Christ's first coming, and that the final 70th week refers to the Tribulation period. The gap of time between the 69th and 70th weeks are what we know as the summer interval, the year of the Lord's favour or the Church Age. This interval will end with the Fullness of the Gentiles as the Body of Christ reaches its full maturity. When this happens, the 70th week or Tribulation will start.
4. The Church will **rupture** (rather than **rapture**) - we saw how Satan will seduce the Church into prostituting herself to the world and how the State and Church will therefore come together under the rule of the Antichrist in the end times. Instead of being raptured to safety, the Bible has already warned us that there will be **widespread persecution** of the saints "**until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers and sisters, were killed just as they had been**" (Rev 6:9-11).

1. There are 3 conditions - **3 “fullness”** known only to God - that must be met before Jesus returns on the Day of the Lord - **fullness of the Gentiles**, of those to be saved among the nations; **fullness of the persecuted**, of those to die for their faith; and **fullness of the Gospel**, when the Gospel is proclaimed to all the world. This last fullness will not be accomplished by the Church to *evangelize* the world but supernaturally by God to *judge* the wicked who remain unrepentant although confronted with the Gospel.

Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

By the *seventh* day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the *seventh* day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the *seventh* day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

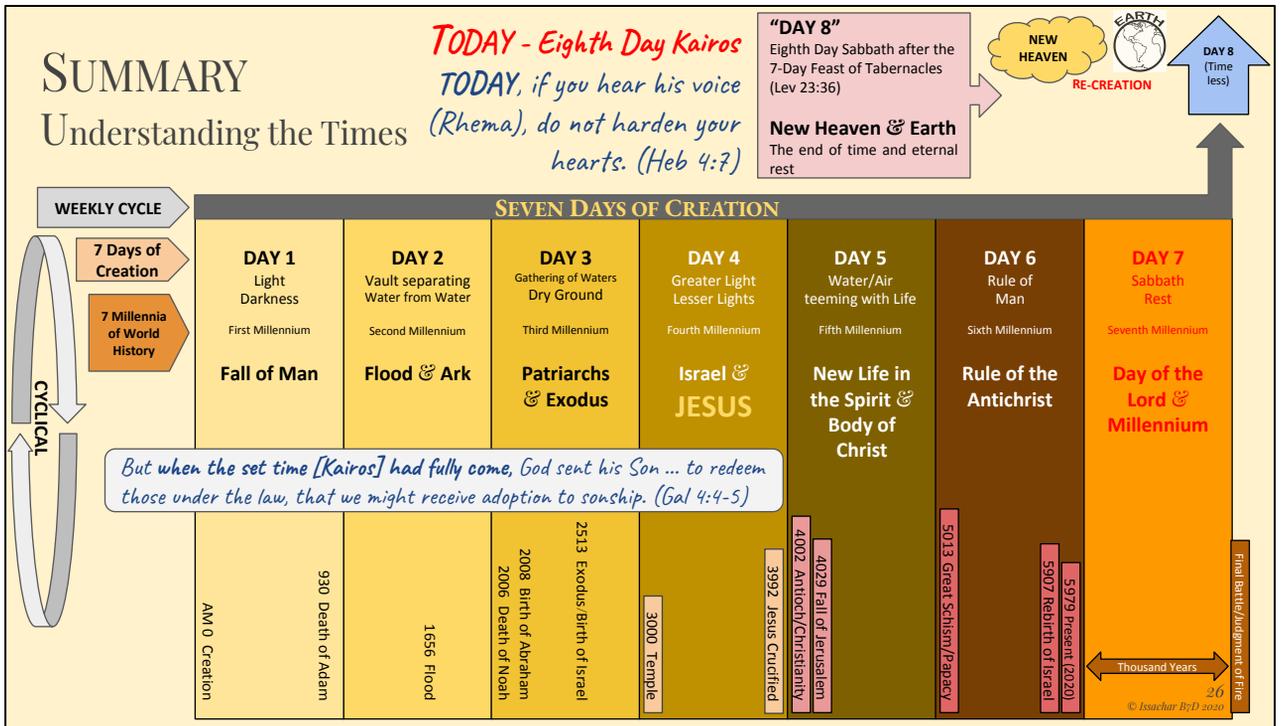
Genesis 2:1-3



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With this, we reach the **Seventh Day** of Creation. Just as the Jewish day begins at sunset, this final Day of Creation starts at sundown with the coming of the **Day of the Lord**. It is the end of the world as we know it, a dreadful day where God's discipline of His people and judgment of His enemies reach their climax with the return of Jesus, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. But for God's people, God's discipline will also give way to comfort, hope and restoration as the dawn of a new day ushers in **Christ's Millennial (one thousand-year) Rule** and with it, the earthly *Shalom* of God.

In terms of the seven Feasts of God, the Day of the Lord begins with the **Feast of Trumpets** - with the Final Trumpet announcing Christ's return. This is followed by the **Day of Atonement**, the holiest and most solemn of all the feasts. It is the one day when the sins committed by God's people the entire year are atoned for or covered - except that now, with Jesus' coming, our sins are forgiven not for the year but for all eternity. However, for the wicked, they face the inevitable wrath of God's judgment once this Day - this Millennium - is over. The Fall Feasts end with the **Feast of Tabernacles**, symbolic of the Millennium itself when God will tabernacle or live among His people for a thousand years.



We saw earlier how the first three Days of Creation gave us a unique Biblical perspective of the first 3,000 years of world history. Turning now to the last four Days of Creation:

DAY 4 foreshadowed **Israel & Jesus** - with the completion of **Solomon's** Temple in AM 3000, the beginning of the Fourth Millennium, Israel was now fully equipped to act as God's Lesser Light. **But** when the set time or *Kairos* had fully come, a thousand years later in AM 3992, God sent His Son Jesus the Greater Light to redeem His people by dying for us on the Cross.

Next, **DAY 5** foreshadowed the **New Life in the Spirit & Body of Christ** - although the Church was birthed at Pentecost, it was only with the emergence of the **first** Gentile church in Antioch in AM 4002, the beginning of the Fifth Millennium, that Christianity became a distinct faith. The Gentile Church would soon become God's means bringing His new life to the world for the next 2,000 years following the **fall** of Jerusalem and destruction of Israel in 70 AD.

Then comes **DAY 6**, which foreshadowed the coming **Rule of the Antichrist** - beginning with the **Great** Schism and rise of the Papacy in AM 5013, the beginning of the Sixth Millennium, Satan's attempt to rally the world against God will climax in the coming together of the State and Church in the end-time Roman-Babylonian Empire and Babylon the Prostitute.

With the **rebirth** of Israel in 1948 (AM 5907) seventy two years ago, the stage is now set for the coming Tribulation as **we** (in AM 5979) approach the end of the Sixth Millennium in our generation, before giving way to **DAY 7**, which foreshadowed the **Day of the Lord and the Millennium**.

The last three chapters of the Bible tell us that the **thousand** years will end with a final battle and the Final Judgment of all mankind before the heavens, earth and time itself give way to the **New Heaven and Earth and the New Jerusalem** in eternity. Here, Jews celebrate an **"Eighth Day"** Sabbath after the

end of the seven-day Feast of Tabernacles where, according to Jewish tradition, God invites His people to stay on for another day/Sabbath - which is none other than eternity! - for a more intimate celebration. It also points to an **Eighth Day Kairos** - that split second moment that separates us from God's very presence in eternity just before we die - which is called "**Today**." And His *Rhema* for us in this *Kairos* Now is, "*Today, if you hear his voice (Rhema), do not harden your hearts*" (Heb 4:7). If God is speaking to you now, I pray that you hear His voice because tomorrow may be too late.

WRAP-UP

- 1** *We are fast approaching the end*
we are the final generation
- 2** *We will be tested in unprecedented ways*
the true Church will suffer with Israel as one Body
- 3** *We need to equip ourselves & others*
to keep the Faith, persevere in Hope & Love the Body

Issachar B7D Fellowship

from Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do.

1 Chronicles 12:32

As we conclude, I want to leave you with these 3 key messages:

ONE, we are fast approaching the end - we are in the twilight of the Sixth Day of Creation before the Seventh Day arrives at sunset, the end of the summer harvest before the Fall Feasts begin, the 70th Jubilee from the time Israel possessed the Promised Land and 40th Jubilee from the time of Jesus' first coming and birth of the Church, and the final generation that will witness His return.

TWO, we will be tested in unprecedented ways - Israel and the Church share a common destiny according to God's eternal will. Israel's rejection of Jesus at His first coming was part of the mystery of God's will opening the way for the salvation of the Gentile nations through the Body of Christ. However, once the fullness of the Gentiles have come in, the keys of the Kingdom will be handed back to the Jews as the Church falls into deception and apostasy and this apostate Church ultimately rejects Christ in favour of the Antichrist. We who are the true Gentile children of God will join in the sufferings of our Jewish brethren as God refines both them and us as one Body in Him in preparation for His coming.

THREE, we need to equip ourselves and others in the Body of Christ - in view of the coming flood and fire of apostasy and persecution, we need to uphold one another within our own fellowship groups and beyond to (1) keep the **Faith**, (2) persevere in **Hope**, and (3) **Love** the Body. I mentioned earlier that Jesus prayed for His disciples to be united as one Body. This is because we can only stand (and withstand) individually when we stand together with fellow saints of God, being one in Spirit as we look past our local church, denomination and the Church as a whole to embrace our Jewish brothers and sisters in ushering in God's Kingdom.

In closing, **1 Chron 12:32** tells us that, when David was rallying for support from the people to bring Israel under his rule following the death of King Saul, the men of the tribe of Issachar acted decisively

to join him because they understood the times - meaning, God's will for the nation then - and knew what Israel should do. They looked past the interests of their own tribe to join together with the other tribes of Israel to usher in God's Kingdom rule through David. In this *Kairos* Now, we believe that God is again speaking and releasing a similar message to His people. We need to hear and respond to God's *Rhema* so that, like the men of Issachar, we understand the times and know what we should do. We need to look past our own narrow interests and concerns to see the bigger picture of God's will for His people today and stand together with other like-minded saints and especially our Jewish brothers and sisters in Christ to rally behind and usher in the Kingdom of the Son of David, Jesus Christ. The **Issachar B7D Fellowship** is our response in obedience to His word. Through it, God equips us by His people, Word and Spirit. As you study God's *Logos* together in your own fellowship groups, may His *Rhema* and Spirit transform you into such future and Christ-ready fellowships in His *Kairos*. Amen!

END OF STUDY