

God's Plan for the Ages - Part 1

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I. Introduction.

- A. Two parts of time: eternity past and eternity future.
- B. Outline: eternity past, the millennium, and the climax of this age.

II. Eternity past.

A. The only way we can represent God in time is that He has existed forever in both directions. It is from “vanishing point to vanishing point” that God exists. (Psalm 90)

B. In this “time” God was creating the heavens and the earth. (Psalm 33; Isaiah 42:12; Psalm 122:2; Genesis 1:1)

C. The question: does Genesis chapter 2 immediately follow chapter 1 or is there a time gap?

D. A possible explanation for the catalogue of earth's unique history:

1. The events of Satan.

a. The earth was created to be inhabited. (Isaiah 45:18)

b. Satan was created sometime in eternity past with beauty and brilliance. (Ezekiel 8)

c. God designated to Satan a part of the responsibility of governing the universe. There was then a major rebellion. (Matthew 25:41, 1 Corinthians 6:3, 2 Peter 2:4, Jude 6)

d. Many scholars say Isaiah 14 recounts the story of Satan. His ambition was to be like God and to exalt himself and his thrown above. (Luke 10:18)

e. There was a lot of activity that occurred before man was created. Ezekiel 28 seems to indicate that Satan's throne was located on this earth.

f. It is speculated that at this time God brought a planet into the orbit and that it forced earth out of sync with the rest of the universe. The earth was the stellar garbage dump of the world. (Jude 14)

g. The earth was in a pretty bad state. It is in darkness and covered with water. It was without form and void. (Jeremiah 4:23-25; Genesis 1:2)

2. The Holy Spirit brooded over the earth—this was a grieving action. God decided to create.

3. God restores the earth and places a new overseer upon it—Adam.

- a. God synchronized the sun and moon so that there would be day and night.
- b. God divided the waters above from the waters below. Scholars speculate that the first part of history the earth was on a vertical axis but was knocked off on a tilt.
- c. It never rained on the earth. All the water came from the earth. (Genesis 2:6)
- d. Lifespan was long in the greenhouse effect that occurred with the upper firmament. It is possible that the population was three times what it is today.
- e. One of the evidences that the whole earth was inhabited is that coal beds with vegetation have been found in the poles.

4. The effects of the Fall upon the earth.

- a. After the fall, the underground water broke through the surface because of a planetary visitor that God brought in and the water canopy broke. For a hundred days the waters went to and fro. Many believe the grand canyon was dug out during these days. (Genesis 7:24, 8)
- b. Noah planted a vineyard and became drunk after the flood. Without fermentation of the rays of the sun, there was no alcohol. It was not Noah's fault and the Bible does not criticize him for it.
- c. In order to get rid of all the water, the oceans floors had to be sunk. In the final stages of the flood the land masses broke apart and an incident recorded in Scripture may describe this. (Genesis 10:25)

III. Caution.

- A. These are theories.
- B. The point is that there are a variety of explanations that do not rely on secular accounts contrary to what Scripture teaches.

Application questions.

1. Give a brief outline of the events that the speaker covered in “eternity past.” What key things stand out?

2. Do you find this theory plausible? How are we to correlate modern scientific theory with the Biblical testimony?

3. While the speaker affirms that this may not have happened, he demonstrates that there are several explanations for natural phenomenon. How does this encourage you in light of the attack of modern scientists on the historical validity of the Bible?
