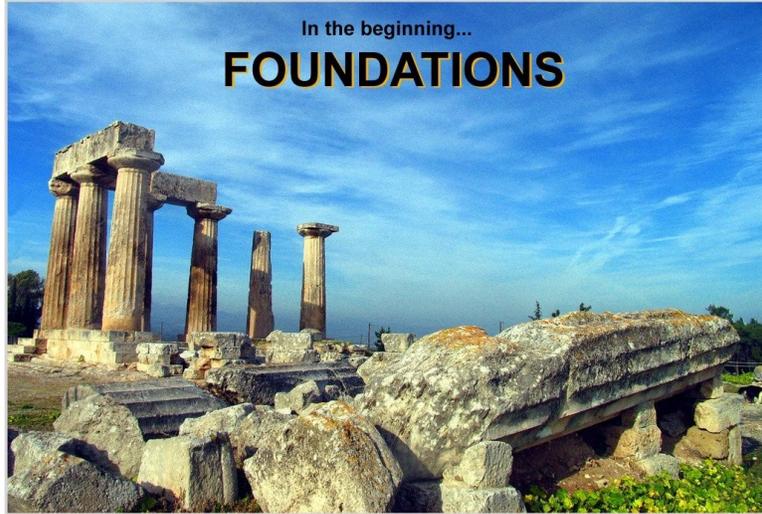




Psalms 78:2-4

I will open my mouth in a parable, I will utter dark sayings of old... We will not conceal them.

Parables Bookshelf - Series 1.16.8



Psalms 11:3

If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?

**Laying a firm foundation for understanding
the beginnings of creation.**

Joseph Herrin

In this edition of the Parables Bookshelf we continue the book *Foundations*. In chapters 10 and 11 the evidence of a divine pattern in the creation based upon numbers is examined, and we also take a look at the calendar and appointed times established by Yahweh.

Scripture Memory

Genesis 1:14

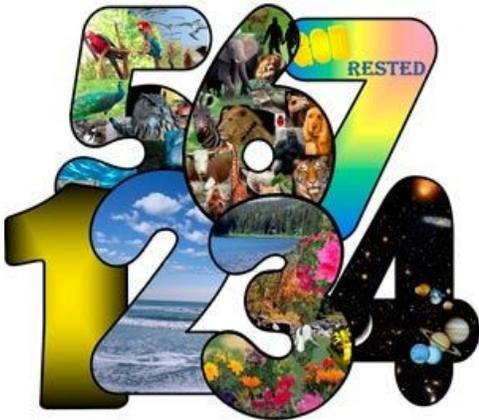
Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years..."

Parables Newsletter

- Series 1.16.8
- *Foundations*
- Chapter 10-11

Foundations

Creation by the Numbers



"Numbers constitute the only universal language."
Nathanael West

"Nature's great book is written in mathematics."
Galileo

"Mathematics is a more powerful instrument of knowledge than any other that has been bequeathed to us by human agency." Descartes

Whatever you think about the quotations above, it is an inescapable fact that the creation was formed with great mathematical precision. Galileo declared that mathematics is the language in which nature's book is written. If anything, the famed astronomer is guilty of understatement. Yahweh not only has fashioned the heavens and the earth with a remarkable degree of mathematical precision and order, He also uses numbers to communicate spiritual truth.

Numbers in the Bible are not random. They are associated with ideas. Numbers in Scripture are utilized consistently to demonstrate a type of coded communication. Those who understand their meaning are able to recognize the divine design that has

chosen certain numbers in specific associations. Patterns that are recognized in this way guide the reader to further insight into the message God is communicating through His word.

An example of a number being associated with a specific idea is observed in the number twelve. Yahweh has chosen this number to communicate an idea of "divine election and perfected government." Jacob had twelve sons who became the fathers of the twelve tribes of Israel. Yahshua chose twelve men to be His disciples and to serve as apostles to establish the first foundations of the church. In the book of Revelation we read of the overcomers who stand with the Savior on Mount Zion. These overcomers will rule and reign with Christ during the millennial period. Their number is given as 144,000 - 12,000 from each of the twelve tribes of Israel. This repetition of the number twelve is not mere coincidence. Yahweh has determined that this number convey the idea of election and government.

Another profoundly significant number invested with divine meaning is seven. In the very first chapter of the Bible we learn that the creation "week" consisted of seven days. The first six days were full of creative activity and on the seventh day God rested. This seven day "week" has remained pervasive throughout man's history as a basic unit of counting time. Whether men are Christian, or non-believers; whether they regard the Bible as divine truth, or nothing more than fable and superstition, the week of seven days is observed by all. The number seven continues to be featured prominently to the last book of the Bible. In Revelation we read of seven churches, seven stars, seven angels, seven lampstands, seven spirits of God, seven seals, seven horns, seven eyes, seven trumpets, seven peals of thunder, seven thousand people who perish in an earthquake, a dragon with seven heads and on his heads seven crowns, seven plagues, seven golden bowls containing the wrath of God, and seven mountains. Only the naive could dismiss the num-

Parables Bookshelf

ber seven as bearing no particular significance to God.

The number seven is intrinsically tied to this present creation of the earth. In the book *Number in Scriptures*, E.W. Bullinger provides insight into the profound significance of numbers throughout the creation. He remarks on the fact that the number seven is linked to a divine chronology of events.

CHRONOLOGY

The first natural division of time is stamped by the Number seven. On the seventh day God rested from His work of Creation.

When He ordained the ritual for Israel which should show forth His work of Redemption, seven is again stamped upon it in all its times and seasons. The seventh day was the holy day; the seventh month was specially hallowed by its number of sacred festivals; the seventh year was the Sabbatic year of rest for the land: while 7 x 7 years marked the year of Jubilee (Lev 25:4,8)...

God's dealings with His people have to do with actual duration of time rather than with specific dates; and we find that His dealings with Israel were measured out into four periods, each consisting of 490 (70 times 7) years. Thus:—

The 1st. From Abraham to the Exodus.

The 2nd. The Exodus to the Dedication of Temple.

The 3rd. From the Temple to Nehemiah's return.

The 4th. From Nehemiah to the Second Advent.

It is clear that these are periods of duration having

regard only to Israel, and to Jehovah's immediate dealings with them. For in each one there is a period of time during which He was not immediately governing them, but in which His hand was removed, and His people were without visible tokens of His presence with them.

You can see how Bullinger arrived at the calculation of these four periods of time in his book. Bullinger continues to demonstrate how the number seven is stamped upon other aspects of this present creation.

NATURE

We see the same law at work in various departments of nature. Sometimes one number is the dominant factor, sometimes another. In nature seven is found to mark the only possible mode of classification of the mass of individuals which constitutes the special department called science. We give the seven divisions, with examples from the animal and vegetable kingdoms. The one specimen of an animal (the dog) and one specimen of a flower (the rose).



Foundations

I.	KINGDOM	Animal	Vegetable
II.	SUB-KINGDOM	Vertebrata	Phanerogamia
III.	CLASS	Mammalia	Dicotyledon
IV.	ORDER	Carnivora	Rosiflorae
V.	FAMILY	Canidae	Rosaciae
VI.	GENUS	Dog	Rosa
VII.	SPECIES	Spaniel	Tea-rose

PHYSIOLOGY

offers a vast field for illustration, but here again the grand impress is seen to be the number seven. The days of man's years are "Three-score years and ten" (7x10). In seven years the whole structure of his body changes: and we are all familiar with "the seven ages of man."

There are seven Greek words used to describe these seven ages, according to Philo:—

- 1. Infancy (paidion, child).*
- 2. Childhood (pais boy).*
- 3. Youth (meirakion, lad, stripling).*
- 4. Adolescence (neaniskos, young man).*
- 5. Manhood (aner, man).*
- 6. Decline (presbutes, old man).*
- 7. Senility (geron, aged man).*

The various periods of gestation also are commonly a multiple of seven, either of days or weeks.

With INSECTS the ova are hatched from seven half-days (as the wasp, bee, etc.); while with others

it is seven whole days. The majority of insects require from 14 (2x7) to 42 (6x7) days; the same applies to the larva state.

With ANIMALS the period of gestation of—

The mouse is 21 (3x7) days.

The hare and rat, 28 (4x7) days.

The cat, 56 (8x7) days.

The dog, 63 (9x7) days.

The lion, 98 (14x7) days.

The sheep, 147 (21x7) days.

With BIRDS, the gestation of—

The common hen is 21 (3x7) days.

The duck, 42 (6x7) days.

With the Human species it is 280 days (or 40x7).

Bullinger remarks on another number that pervades the creation. It is the number 3.

Parables Bookshelf

It is not always seven, however, which is the predominant factor in physiology or natural history.

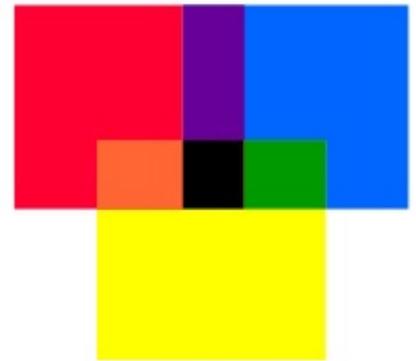
In the case of the BEE, it is the number three which pervades its phenomena—

- *In three days the egg of the queen is hatched.*
- *It is fed for nine days (3x3).*
- *It reaches maturity in 15 days (5x3).*
- *The worker grub reaches maturity in 21 days (7x3).*
- *And is at work three days after leaving its cell.*
- *The drone matures in 24 days (8x3).*
- *The bee is composed of three sections,— head and two stomachs.*
- *The two eyes are made up of about 3,000 small eyes, each (like the cells of the comb) having six sides (2x3).*
- *Underneath the body are six (2x3) wax scales with which the comb is made.*
- *It has six (2x3) legs. Each leg is composed of three sections.*
- *The foot is formed of three triangular sections.*
- *The antennae consist of nine (3x3) sections.*
- *The sting has nine (3x3) barbs on each side.*

Is this design, or is it chance? Why should it be the number three instead of any other number? No one can tell. We can only observe the wondrous working of supernatural laws, and admire the perfection of design...

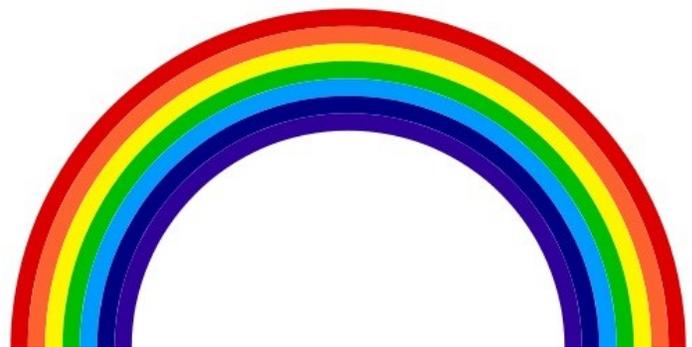
It is most impressive when it is observed that sound and color (light) are marked by both the numbers three and seven. In music we find that all sound is naturally divided into three octaves of seven notes each (Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti). In the realm of

light we find that all colors can be formed from three primary colors (Red, Blue, Yellow)



Primary Colors

The visible spectrum of light that the human eye can see is often observed in the rainbow. The colors of the rainbow appear as seven in number. In school they taught us to remember these colors by imagining the discover of this phenomena as being named ROY G. BIV (Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet).



ROY G. BIV

One might ask why God should choose to stamp the creation with the numbers three and seven? What is the significance of these numbers? The answer leads back to what the Bible reveals of the nature of God. There are three numbers that are peculiarly found in descriptions of God. These numbers are one, three, and seven.

Foundations

One

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

“Hear, O Israel! Yahweh is our God. Yahweh is *one!*”

Three

Matthew 28:19

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of *the Father* and *the Son* and *the Holy Spirit...*”

Seven

Revelation 4:5

And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are *the seven Spirits of God*.

It appears that Yahweh chose to imbue the creation with those same attributes and numbers that are characteristic of His own being. Consider that Christ, the visible manifestation of the invisible God, is called both “the Word of God,” and “the Light of the world.” Since the Son of God is compared to that which is both heard and seen, it is fitting that both sound and light should be marked with the numbers one, three, and seven. When we listen to a song, we may say we heard one song, yet the musical tones of that song can be broken down to its constituent seven notes in three octaves. When we observe the colors of the rainbow displayed across the heavens, we may say that we saw one rainbow, yet the rainbow can be subdivided to seven distinct colors, and all colors visible to the eye of man can be formed of three primary colors. Thus, all that mankind can hear and see is peculiarly stamped with the numbers of God.

Man himself is marked by these same numbers. This is to be expected, for Yahweh Elohim said, “Let us create man in Our Image, after Our like-

ness.” I am one man. Yet I am comprised of three distinct parts.

I Thessalonians 5:23

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your *spirit* and *soul* and *body* be preserved complete...

The spirit, soul, and body of man can be further divided into seven constituent parts.

Spirit:

Conscience
Intuition
Communion

Soul:

Cognition (Mind)
Volition (Will)
Emotion

Body:

Body (Sensory life)

As we look throughout the Scriptures we find that Yahweh has repeated this same pattern in manifold ways. The Temple and the Tabernacle were both divided into three sections. There was the Outer Court (corresponding to man’s body), The Inner Court (corresponding to man’s soul), and the Holy of Holies (corresponding to man’s spirit). These three areas of the Temple and Tabernacle also relate to the three members of the Godhead: Christ/The Outer Court; The Holy Spirit/The Inner Court; God the Father/The Holy of Holies.

Parables Bookshelf

Inside the Temple we also find a remarkable item that reveals further the divine numbers one, three, and seven. This is the Golden Candlestick.



Moses was given a commandment by Yahweh to form the candlestick of a single piece of “beaten gold.” Thus the body of the candlestick was formed all of one piece. The body of the candlestick is representative of the Son of God. His body was also beaten, yet He was pure and holy like refined gold. The candlestick was fashioned into seven individual branching candles. The candlestick did not hold wax candles as we think of them today. Rather, it burned the pure, beaten oil derived from the crushed flesh of the olive. The olive oil was poured into the hollow candlestick and each branch was lit. The oil represents the Holy Spirit. Oil is used to signify anointing throughout the Bible, and John refers to the Holy Spirit as the “anointing” (I John 2: 20, 27). The flames represent the seven spirits of Yahweh.

In the candlestick we clearly see the numbers one, three, and seven. We may say truly that there is only one candlestick. Yet the one candlestick has three distinct parts. It has the body of gold. It has the holy oil. It also has the flame (for our God is a consuming fire). In the book of Revelations we see that Christ is walking among the seven candlesticks representing the seven churches of Asia Minor. It is fitting that the candlestick should serve both as a symbol of God, as well as the people of God. Yah-

weh has determined that His people should be conformed to His image and likeness.

I will give but one more example of how Yahweh has used these three numbers in the Scriptures. The feasts of Yahweh are three in number. They are the Feast of Passover, the Feast of Pentecost, and the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot). Just like these other examples, these three feasts are further divisible into seven, for both Passover and Tabernacles are three part events.

Passover

Feast of Passover

Feast of Unleavened Bread

Feast of Firstfruits

Pentecost

Feast of Pentecost

Tabernacles

Feast of Trumpets

Day of Atonement

Feast of Tabernacles

Observing that Yahweh has established this pattern of numbers in the creation to denote that which is full and complete, is there a similar testimony to be observed in the earth? After all, man’s flesh was formed of the dust of the earth. Should we not then expect to find the numbers one, three, and seven to have as clear an association to the earth as it does to humanity? The answer is a resounding “Yes!”

I first came across this tertiary (three fold) and septenary (seven fold) design of the earth when I was

Foundations

in my early twenties. A sister of mine was attending LeTourneau College (now LeTourneau University) in Texas. This is an engineering school founded by a Christian man. I remember my sister saying, "I don't care if I get a Bachelor of Science, or a Bachelor of Arts, as long as I get a bachelor." My sister was single at the time, and LeTourneau's student body was about 90% male. She was successful in her aim, marrying an engineering student from the College.

More important to this study, however, is that my sister's curriculum included Bible classes. An Old Testament Survey course she took was taught by a man by the name of Kenneth F. McKinney. Mr. McKinney had written a book titled *Scanning the Plan*. My sister showed me the book, and I soon acquired a copy for myself. Mr. McKinney taught the Ruin/Restoration view of Genesis, also known as "the Gap Theory." Inside the cover of the book was a fold out banner showing the seven stages of the earth, and displaying three separate creations of the earth.

If, and only if, one adopts the ruin/restoration doctrine of Genesis do we find that the earth conforms to the divine pattern we have observed where that which Yahweh creates is stamped with the numbers one, three, and seven. Following are the three creations of the earth as set forth in the Scriptures.

The First Earth

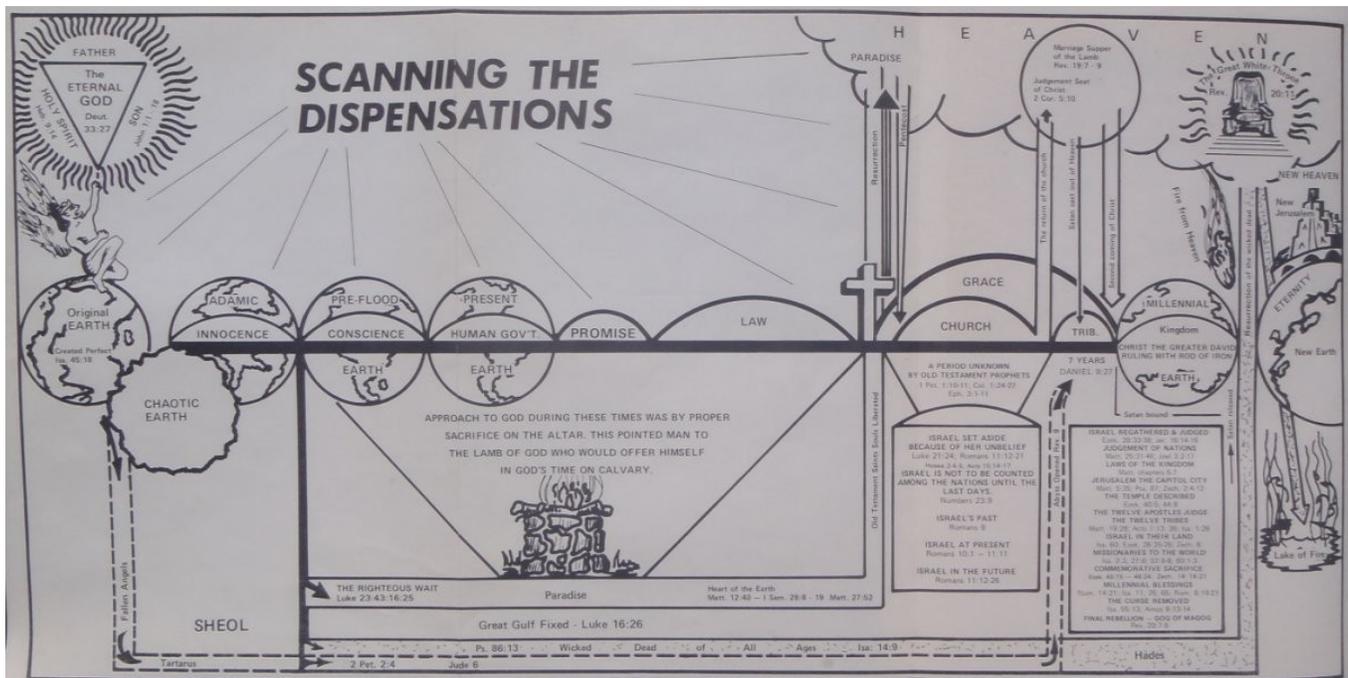
Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

This is the first earth which was created before the fall of Satan. It is the earth of the dinosaurs and other pre-Adamic creatures. This earth was destroyed when Satan rebelled and was cast down. This first earth suffered catastrophic judgment, becoming formless, void, and covered in darkness.

The Second Earth

The second earth is the one we now live on. Its



Parables Bookshelf

creation, or rather “restoration,” began in Genesis 1:3 as Yahweh said “Let there be light.” With this declaration God began to remove the curse upon the original earth and to fashion things anew, culminating in the creation of Adam on day six. This present earth will be destroyed by fire, as the apostle Peter prophesied.

II Peter 3:7, 10

But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men... But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

The Third Earth

Revelation 21:1

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the former heaven and the former earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.

There is a parallel in these three earths to mankind that I would draw the reader’s attention unto. In a sense, the first two earths were a single entity, for the first earth that was judged by God was not annihilated, or done away with. It was merely made formless, void and covered in darkness. Yet, the third earth is a completely new earth, and in a true sense it can also be called the second true earth, and the last earth.

I find in this a remarkable parallel to Adam and his descendants, and to “the last Adam” who is Christ. Like the first earth, Adam was created blameless. However, Adam rebelled against God, fell into sin, and suffered judgment. The condition of the first earth under judgment bears a remarkable likeness to Adam and his descendants under judgment.

Adam was created to bear the likeness and image of God, but this likeness was lost and no longer attainable after Adam sinned. In this regard, Adam became formless, having lost the form of God. There was no man born of Adam who could say, “If you have seen me you have seen God.” The first man to be able to speak these words in truth was Christ. He alone had the form of God.

Adam was also void. That is to say, he was empty. Mankind was created to be a temple of the Holy Spirit. This purpose was left unfulfilled due to the sin of Adam. It would not be until AFTER Christ died on the cross and rose again that the Holy Spirit would be given to indwell humanity. Until Christ, the Holy Spirit had been “with” many men and women, but it would only be after Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended that He would be “in” men and women.

John 14:16-17

“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because *He abides with you, and will be in you.*”

Due to Adam’s sin, mankind also became darkened in their understanding.

Ephesians 4:17-18

This I say therefore, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God...

Thus, man’s condition was that he too was form-

Foundations

less, void, and covered in darkness. There came a time, however, when God began to move to re-create the earth under judgment. The first thing He had to do was to send light upon the earth, for it had been sealed up in darkness.

Genesis 1:3

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

Similarly, in order to redeem mankind Yahweh had to begin by sending him light.

John 12:44, 46

And Yahshua cried out and said, "I have come as light into the world, that everyone who believes in Me may not remain in darkness."

Each of the six days of the re-creation of the earth in Genesis chapter one finds its spiritual correspondence in mankind and is set forth in the Gospels. I have set forth the parallel between the days of the reformation of the earth and the re-birth of man in the book as well as in the teaching titled . I will not repeat that information here, but would point out that the second earth is intended by God to serve as a parable for regenerated man. Those who are born again of the Spirit of Christ are said to be "new creations" even as we consider the earth that was reformed beginning in Genesis 1:3 to be a new creation.

II Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

NKJV

In actuality, however, regenerated man is the Adamic man re-born. We still inhabit the same bodies in which sin is present, but light has now come, and the presence of God is making all things new for us. Similarly, in the second earth we find that light returned, but there was still evil present among the creation, for the serpent was in the Garden, and Satan was actively seeking to lead humanity into sin.

As Christians we live an existence that parallels the second earth. There is warfare present in our members between good and evil, light and darkness. This condition cannot continue forever, even as this present earth, even when it is under the rule of Christ as it will be in the Millennial period, cannot continue in its present form. A complete and final end must be made to sin, darkness, and evil.

Peter tells us that this present heaven and earth are being reserved for fire. They must be consumed. This will be a far more thorough judgment than what occurred in Genesis 1:2 when the earth was made formless, void, and sealed in darkness. This present physical world must be completely done away with. Similarly, these mortal bodies that know sin and death must also be destroyed in order that we might receive new glorified bodies that will no longer know sin or death.

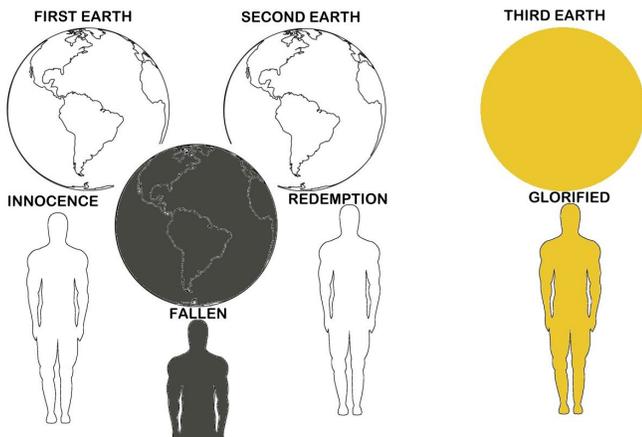
I Corinthians 15:53-54

For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory."

The third and last earth which has no seas and no darkness is symbolic of the final and glorious state of man. Seas represent death throughout the Scripture. When the Israelites crossed through the sea

Parables Bookshelf

after departing Egypt, the apostle Paul states that they were “baptized into Moses” (I Corinthians 10:1-2). Baptism is symbolic of dying and being resurrected to new life. When we go under the water we die. When we come back up out of the water it is symbolic of entering into new life. The last earth cannot have any seas, for there will be no death. Similarly, mankind must lay aside these mortal and corruptible bodies and put on that which is immortal and incorruptible.



The illustration above shows the three creations of the earth and man. There is the first man Adam in his innocence. He corresponds to that first earth that was before the fall of Satan and prior to sin entering the creation.

There is the fallen man. He finds his correspondence to the earth after sin. Everything is formless, void, and covered in darkness.

We then see redeemed man, those who are new creations in Christ. This new creation man finds his correspondence to the earth that has been created anew in Genesis 1:3 and following. It is the earth we now live on, and the condition of this man is observed in those who have been born again of the Spirit of Christ and have become partakers of the divine nature. Nevertheless, these ones find that sin still dwells in their flesh. Death is still at work in the physical body.

Finally, we see the glorified man who has laid aside the body made of dust and has received a new immortal and incorruptible body. This man finds his correspondence in the new earth that will appear after this present earth is consumed in fire. It is an earth without seas, without death, without sin. All is radiant, glorious, righteous and holy.

At this time, there is only one man who has arrived at this final, glorious state. That man is Yahshua the Messiah. He has passed through death into life. Death no longer has any hold over Him. He is never to die again. The apostle Paul refers to Christ as “the last Adam” and the last earth serves as a symbol of His glorious condition. This glorified condition is also the promised future condition of those who have been born again of the Spirit of Christ, and who are putting the flesh to death.

I John 3:2-3

Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

How then do we complete the divine numerical pattern by identifying seven distinct divisions of the earth’s existence? Kenneth F. McKinley, in his book *Scanning the Plan*, breaks down the three creations of the earth into seven subsidiary states.

(1) Original Earth

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). This earth was created prior to sin’s appearance. Satan had not yet fallen, and the heavens and earth were at peace.

Foundations

(2) Chaotic Earth

“But the earth became formless and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep” (Genesis 1:2). This is the earth after the fall of Satan. The length of time which the earth lay under this judgment is not known. Being sealed in darkness, this was likely a period in which the earth was covered in ice, corresponding with evidence of an ancient ice age.

(3) Adamic Earth

“Then God said, ‘Let there be light’” (Genesis 1:3). This is the re-created earth as described in Genesis chapters one and two, before the fall of man. The earth is a paradise. There is no rain, but a mist arose from the ground to water the earth (Genesis 2:6). Mankind has not sinned, but Satan is present upon the earth.

(4) Pre-Flood Earth

“Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; And you shall eat the plants of the field by the sweat of your face...” (Genesis 3:17-19). This is the earth after Adam sinned. Sin and death have now entered the creation. The earth no longer gives forth abundantly.

(5) Present Earth

This is the earth after the flood of Noah. It is an earth under human government. After the flood Yahweh shortened man's life span from a thousand years to one hundred-twenty years (Genesis 6:3). This present state of the earth will continue until the millennial reign of Christ.

(6) Millennial Earth

“Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has

no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years” (Revelation 20:6). During this period Satan will be bound. Christ will reign upon the earth with His overcoming saints. Sin and death will still be present, but greatly mitigated.

Isaiah 65:20

There shall no more be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who dies prematurely; for the child shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner who dies when only a hundred years old shall be [thought only a child, cut off because he is] accursed.

(Amplified Bible)

After a thousand years Satan will be loosed and war and judgment will result once more. The present earth will be consumed with fire. Then will come the third and final creation of the earth, which will also be the seventh state of the earth.

(7) New Earth

There will be no sea on the new earth. Seas represent death, and death will be no more. These seven states of the earth conform to the septenary (seven fold) design which God has imprinted upon the creation.

It is apparent that in each of these seven stages of the earth that a significant change has occurred. The creation cannot be complete until it fulfills the divine numerical design. Even as the Creator has revealed Himself in the numbers one, three, and seven, so too must the earth, and the man who was formed from the dust of the earth, bear this same imprint. All that is full and complete is marked by these numbers.

Parables Bookshelf

Consider how this divine pattern is broken when one rejects the ruin/restoration doctrine of Genesis chapter one. We are left with only two distinct creations of the earth, and there are only five distinct states of the earth. The numbers two and five are not used by Yahweh to denote the perfection and completeness of the creation.

By itself, the evidence I have presented here of the mathematical pattern Yahweh has designed into His creation is insufficient to establish, or prove doctrine. Yet, when such a profound pattern is observed as one studies the Scriptures, it can serve as one more affirmation of the truth.

Yahweh's Calendar

SPRING Luni-solar Calendar with Feast Days																							
First Month NM 1				Second Month NM 1				Third Month NM 1															
1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		2	3	4	5	6	7	8									
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								
30* 16th = Day of First Fruits				30				30															
* Please note: Not all months will have 30 days. Some months will only have 29 days.																							
SUMMER																							
Fourth Month NM 1				Fifth Month NM 1				Sixth Month NM 1															
1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		2	3	4	5	6	7	8									
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								
30				30				30															
* The 28th OR the 29th; NOT Both. Dependent on days in the Third Month.																							
FALL																							
Seventh Month NM 1				Eighth Month NM 1				Ninth Month NM 1															
1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		2	3	4	5	6	7	8									
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								
30				30				30															
WINTER																							
Tenth Month NM 1				Eleventh Month NM 1				Twelfth Month NM 1															
1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		2	3	4	5	6	7	8									
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								
30				30				30															
<p>Color Key: New Moon Day Seventh-day Sabbath Feast of Passover Day of Atonement Interim Days of Unleavened Bread Last day of U.L. Bread Feast Sabbath Feast of Pentecost Feast of Trumpets Interim feast days of Feast of Tabernacles High Sabbath - First day of Feast of Unleavened Bread & Feast of Tabernacles The 30th day is called Translation Day and is a lunar cycle completion day * Please note: Not all months will have 30 days. Some months will only have 29 days.</p>																							

if it did not include an examination of the celestial testimony that Yahweh wrote upon the immense canvas of the heavens. It is a message placed where all mankind and the angels can read it. In this present age the heavenly constellations are viewed with great disdain by the church. Christians have been taught to associate the constellations of the zodiac with pagan astrology. To many believers, looking to the stars to discern a divine message is considered as great of an evil as consulting a medium, or participating in a seance. The majority of Christians today have been taught that the practice of star-gazing to receive a divine message has its origins in idolatrous religions.

The rejection of Yahweh's heavenly message provides evidence of how little most Christians study the Scriptures to discern truth for themselves. Many, having heard their pastor, or some Christian teacher, warn against paying heed to occult astrology and horoscopes, have been all too willing to relegate the entire field of celestial signs and messages to Satan's domain. This constitutes an imprudent overreaction to Satan's corruption of a mode of communication that Yahweh originated. Rejecting celestial signs and messages is an untenable position to adopt from a purely Biblical perspective.

Christians exhibit a mental contradiction when they annually recount the story of the magi who were informed of the birth of the King of the Jews by their observations of the heavens, while at the same time condemning the practice of receiving divine messages from the stars. In the Gospels we read of the wise men seeing the Messiah's star announcing His birth. Acting upon the celestial revelation, these wise men traveled to Jerusalem, ultimately arriving at the home where Joseph and Mary dwelt with the young Messiah in Bethlehem.

The study of the early foundations of human history and this present creation would be incomplete

Foundations

Matthew 2:1-2, 10-12

Now after Yahshua was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east, and have come to worship Him...” And when they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And they came into the house and saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell down and worshiped Him; and opening their treasures they presented to Him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned by God in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their own country by another way.

Here we have worshipers of the Son of God bowing prostrate before Him and presenting gifts of great value and significance. Not only are we informed that these wise men from the East rightly discerned the heavenly message announcing the birth of God’s Son, but they afterward received further communication from God in a dream, informing them of the treachery of King Herod, and advising them to take another route on their return journey. It is readily apparent that Yahweh spoke to these learned men of the East through the stars even as He did through a dream. There is NOTHING in this account that would condemn the practice of looking to the heavens for divine messages.



Star of Bethlehem, 1890, Sir Edward Burne-Jones

If this passage were an isolated account, and there were no more Scriptural references to Yahweh speaking through celestial signs, it might be viewed as an anomaly, with no endorsement of the practice implied. However, it is not an anomaly. There are many passages that speak of the role of the stars and constellations being used as a divine message board by Yahweh. Not only was the first coming of the Messiah announced by signs in the heavens, but Yahshua has informed His disciples that His second coming to the earth will be preceded by a similar testimony in the heavens.

Luke 21:25-28

“And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars and upon the earth, dismay among nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Even as there were signs in the heavens announcing the birth of the King of the Jews, there will be heavenly signs announcing the time of His return. The sun and moon and stars serve as Yahweh’s appointed messengers. The wise men from the East understood this and accurately read the divine message while King Herod and the Jewish religious leaders were ignorant of the fact that the birth of their long awaited Messiah, the most anticipated event in all of Jewish history, was occurring in their day.

It should not seem strange that Yahweh would use the stars to speak to mankind. There is a profound correlation made between stars and messengers in the Bible. We begin to see this as we observe that the angels of God are often associated with the stars

Parables Bookshelf

of the heaven.

Job 38:6-7

“On what were [the earth’s] bases sunk? Or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”

“The sons of God” (bene ha elohim) is a reference to the angelic hosts. They were present at the creation of the earth. These sons of God are also called “morning stars.” In this passage from the book of Job we read of the stars “singing” and “shouting for joy.” Both “singing” and “shouting for joy” are forms of communication, something most people do not associate with stars.

In the New Testament, the Greek word used to describe these heavenly messengers is “angelos.” This Greek word that is rendered into English as “angel,” literally means “a messenger.” We see this meaning affirmed in the word “evangelist” which is defined as “a messenger of good news.” In the New Testament angelos is oftentimes translated as “messenger,” whether heavenly or terrestrial.

Matthew 11:9-10

“But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of whom it is written: ‘Behold, I send My **messenger** (angelos) before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.’”

In these words, Yahshua describes John the Baptist as an “angelos,” a messenger. The correlation between an “angelos” and a star is further revealed in the book of Revelation as the Son of God is figured as holding seven stars in His right hand.

Revelation 1:20

“As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: **the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches**, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.”



Star of Bethlehem - Close Up, Sir Edward Burne-Jones

Some translations render the word “angels” here as “messengers.”

Revelation 1:20

As to the hidden meaning (the mystery) of the seven stars which you saw on My right hand and the seven lampstands of gold: **the seven stars are the seven angels (messengers)** of the seven assemblies (churches) and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

[Amplified Bible]

Revelation 1:20

The seven stars are the messengers of the seven assemblies, and the seven lampstands are the seven assemblies.

[The New Testament: An Expanded Translation by Kenneth S. Wuest]

Revelation 1:20

The secret of the seven stars that thou hast seen

Foundations

upon my right hand, and the seven golden lamp-stands: *the seven stars are messengers of the seven assemblies*, and the seven lamp-stands that thou hast seen are seven assemblies.

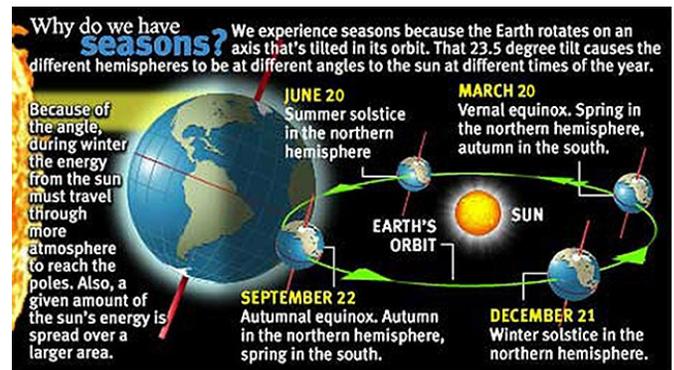
[Young's Literal Translation]

It is demonstrably proven by the Scriptures that stars are intended to be viewed as divine messengers. The utilization of stars and other heavenly bodies as divine messengers is established from the very first chapter of the Bible.

Genesis 1:14-18

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; and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so. And 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. And God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

There is a mystery contained in these words whose depths need to be plumbed. Many Bible teachers when discoursing on this passage from Genesis, comment on the divine role the heavenly bodies serve as they mark the annual seasons and passage of months and years. Although much more is indicated by this passage, it is certainly true that Yahweh determined that the lights in the heavens should serve as a sort of divine calendar. The passage above states that the lights in the heavens are "for seasons." We recognize that the angle at which the earth faces the Sun changes over the course of a year. This results in distinct seasons being observed on the earth.



The Hebrew word translated as "seasons" in the passage above is "moed." A common mistake is made due to the fact that we are reading an English translation of a book originally written in ancient Hebrew. The mistake is in assuming that the Hebrew word translated as "seasons" is referring to the four seasons of the year that we know as winter, spring, summer and fall. The Hebrew word "moed" actually means an "appointed time."

The feasts of God are collectively called "moedim." Three times a year, on dates prescribed by God, all Israel was required to gather at the place appointed to observe the feasts. The dates were based upon Yahweh's divine calendar. We can see the relationship between the moon and Yahweh's calendar and appointed times in the following verses.

Psalms 104:19

You made the moon to mark the [moedim], and the sun knows when to set.

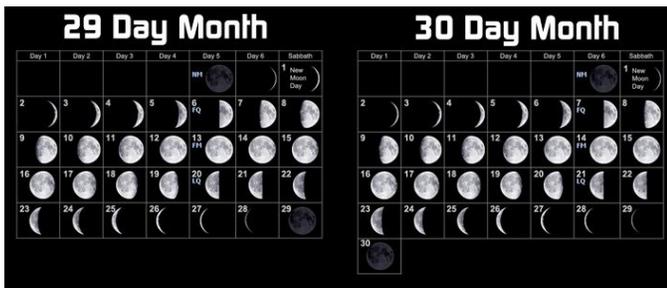
Isaiah 66:23

"And it shall be from new moon to new moon and from sabbath to sabbath, all mankind will come to bow down before Me," says Yahweh.

If we were to state the verse above in modern vernacular we might say, "from month to month and from week to week, all mankind will come to bow

Parables Bookshelf

down before Me.” The new moon marked the beginning of the month for the Jews. This was Yahweh’s design for a calendar. The English word month is derived from an ancient Germanic word meaning “moon.” The time it takes for the moon to go through all of its phases and return to the same point is 29.53 days. Because the lunar cycle does not perfectly match the solar day, the month prescribed by Yahweh may be either 29 or 30 days in length.



The first day of every month is referred to in Hebrew as Rosh Chodesh. Rosh Chodesh means “head of the month” and it occurs on the first sighting of the new moon over Israel. You can note on the calendar above that the days of the week are numbered, rather than named. Yahweh did not assign names to the days of the week such as Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, etc.. These names are pagan in origin, the days of the week being named after a specific god that was honored during each consecutive 24 hour period. The beginning of this practice was ancient Babylon. The Babylonians recognized five planetary bodies, as well as the sun and moon. Each one of these planetary bodies were named after gods.

It is easy to recognize the name of the moon in Monday, and the Sun in Sunday. The other five days of the week which correlate to planets and their associated gods bear different names depending upon the nation, language and century in which the calendar was in use. Four of the five names for the days of the week have come down to us in English through Norse or Teutonic mythology. The fifth bears a Roman name.

- Tuesday - Tiws’ Day, Tyr - God of War. One of the sons of Woden. (Corresponds to the Roman god **Mars**.)
- Wednesday - Woden’s Day - The chief Teutonic deity. (Corresponds to the Roman god **Mercury**.)
- Thursday - Thor’s Day - Hammer wielding god of thunder and lightning. (Corresponds to the Roman god **Jupiter**.)
- Friday - Frige’s Day, Freya - Wife of Woden, and goddess of beauty and love (Corresponds to the Roman goddess **Venus**.)
- Saturday - Saturn’s Day - The Roman God **Saturn**.

For obvious reasons, Yahweh eschewed the use of such names, referring to each day of the week solely by its numeric value. This is true even of the Sabbath, for the word Sabbath (shabbat) in Hebrew means “seventh.”

Yahweh’s appointed calendar for His people has always been a Lunar calendar. It seems significant that Yahweh would force men to look up toward the heavens to determine what time it is. Yahweh desires mankind to remember that the creation runs according to a divine calendar of events. Yahweh has appointed times and seasons for mankind. Every event upon this earth is running according to a heavenly timetable, a divine plan of the ages. It is important for Christians to recognize this truth. Nothing can hinder God’s calendar, or speed it up. There is a time appointed for all things under the Sun.

Isaiah 46:9-10

“Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, 'My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure.'”

Foundations

Isaiah 48:3

“I declared the former things long ago and they went forth from My mouth, and I proclaimed them. Suddenly I acted, and they came to pass.”

Before Adam was formed, even before the stars were set in their courses, Yahweh established by His own counsel a divine plan of the ages. He saw the end from the beginning and appointed times for every event, culminating in the reconciliation of the entire creation back to Himself through His Son Yahshua.

Ephesians 3:8-11

Unto me—the less than least of all saints, was given this favour, unto the nations, to announce the glad-message of the untraceable riches of the Christ, and to bring to light—what is the administration of the sacred secret which had been hidden away from the AGES in God, who did all things create: In order that now, unto the principalities and the authorities in the heavenlies, might be made known, through means of the assembly, the manifold wisdom of God,— *According to a plan of the ages* which He made in the anointed Jesus our Lord.

(Rotherham's Emphasized Bible)

There is a profound precision to the calendar of God. The exactness of events that occur on Yahweh's timetable is observed everywhere throughout the Scriptures. The Israelites wandered for forty years in the wilderness, and Yahshua was tested for forty days in the wilderness at the beginning of His ministry. The Israelites came up from Egypt at the appointed time, on the night of the first Passover. This occurred 430 years to the day from the time they first entered Egypt.

Exodus 12:40-41

Now the time that the sons of Israel lived in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. And it came about at the end of four hundred and thirty years, to the very day, that all the hosts of Yahweh went out from the land of Egypt.

The first three kings of Israel, and the only three to rule over the entire twelve tribes, each in turn ruled for forty years and then died.

Acts 13:21

And then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years.

I Kings 2:11

And the days that David reigned over Israel were forty years...

II Chronicles 9:30

And Solomon reigned forty years in Jerusalem over all Israel.

Similarly, we see that Joseph, David and Yahshua were all 30 years of age when they began their ministry.

Genesis 41:46

Now Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt.

II Samuel 5:4

David was thirty years old when he became king...

Luke 3:23

And when He began His ministry, Yahshua Himself was about thirty years of age...

The design of God's plan bears a greater precision than a Swiss made watch. The stars serve as the jewels in Yahweh's heavenly chronometer, marking the precise moment of every event established by divine fiat. It was Yahweh who determined that there should be 14 generations to divide each of His great works among His chosen people.

Parables Bookshelf



Matthew 1:17

Therefore all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the time of Christ fourteen generations.

Before Adam was formed of the dust of the earth, Yahweh had already set a star in motion that would appear at a precise moment to announce the birth of the Seed of the woman who would redeem mankind from their sins.

Galatians 4:4

But when the fulness of the time came, God sent forth His Son...

Truly the stars and heavenly bodies are given for much more than to mark seasons as most men understand seasons. They were established to declare the “appointed times” of Yahweh. Only One with all power, Who has a will that cannot be resisted, could establish the course of the stars of the heavens to mark events that would not occur until thousands of years later. This knowledge should give great confidence to the faithful servants of God. No matter how much Satan boasts and wicked men prosper, Yahweh has set a limit to their activity. The day has been established when Yahshua will return to rule upon the earth. The minute has been established when every knee will bow, and every tongue confess that

Yahshua the Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

Despite the great pride and swelling words of Satan, he recognizes that he is operating on borrowed time. The book of Revelation announces the following.

Revelation 12:12

"For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."

Before Satan ever rebelled, Yahweh had established a limit to the time of his insurrection. The day of Satan’s judgment was determined from the beginning of Yahweh’s plan of the ages. It will not delay. Christ announced during His time on earth that the very hour and day of His return are known to the Father, yet disclosed to no one. That hour hastens forward, and will not delay.

Hebrews 10:37

For yet in a very little while, He who is coming will come, and will not delay.

The remarkable characteristic of Yahweh’s creation that sets it apart from the works of men and angels, is its irresistible character. There is an appointed time for everything. The clock of God, just like the starry heavens above, never loses a second, nor does it run fast. It is always right on time.

We have observed that the calendar Yahweh delivered to His people to mark the time of events established by His will follows the template of a lunar calendar. Each month begins with a new moon and goes through one complete lunar cycle. God has pegged His moedim, His appointed times, to precise dates on this calendar.

Foundations

Exodus 12:2

“This month shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year to you.”

Numbers 9:2-3

Now, let the sons of Israel observe the Passover at its **appointed time** (moed). On the fourteenth day of this month, at twilight, you shall observe it at its **appointed time** (moed); you shall observe it according to all its statutes and according to all its ordinances.

There is a great preciseness to the times established by God. Note that for the Passover Yahweh identified the month, the day, and even the hour of day (at twilight) in which the Passover is to be observed. The hour and day and year in which the Son of God was offered up as the Passover Lamb to secure the life of mankind was similarly set to occur at the precise time determined by Yahweh from the very creation of the earth.

Revelation 13:7

And they shall worship him, all who dwell upon the earth, [everyone] whose name does not stand written in the scroll of the life [the scroll] belonging to the Lamb who has been slain [in the mind and purpose of God] since the time when the foundations of the universe were laid...

[The New Testament: An Expanded Translation by Kenneth S. Wuest]

Because Yahweh established a plan of the ages, and His good will shall prosper with no one to turn it back, He is able to show forth by signs and parables the length of time between the formation of the first Adam and the appearing of the Last Adam who will come to establish His kingdom upon the earth. The time between these two events is revealed in the seven days of creation. A key to understanding Yahweh's prophetic timetable is declared in the following Scripture verses.

Psalms 90:4

For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it passes by...

II Peter 3:8

But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

It should be obvious to any reasoning child of God that Yahweh did not need six days to create the earth as it is described in the opening chapter of Genesis. Yahweh did not need as much as six minutes. He could have created all things as they exist today in no time at all. He is omnipotent. There is no limit to His power and wisdom. He chose six days because it conformed to a specific pattern established in His own mind that He devised to show forth His mighty works among the creation.

Exodus 20:11

For in six days Yahweh made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day...

The Scriptures declare that when Christ returns He will set up His kingdom upon the earth. In that day the earth will know rest.



Isaiah 65:25

"The wolf and the lamb shall graze together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox; and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall do no evil or harm in all My holy mountain," says Yahweh.

Parables Bookshelf

The rule of Christ is described as “the millennial kingdom,” for it shall last for a thousand years.

Revelation 20:6

Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

Peter has told us that one day with God is as a thousand years. The seventh day is holy in the sight of God. It is a day of rest. This seventh day corresponds to the millennial rule of Yahshua. It comes after six days of humanity’s existence on the earth. Six thousand years from the creation of Adam the Lord must return and establish His rule upon the earth. That hour is near at hand, for Yahshua appeared the first time, born of a virgin, 4,000 years after Adam was created. It has now been 2,000

years since Yahshua ascended to the Father. We stand at the end of 6,000 years of human history. The 6th day of mankind is coming to a close, and the 7th day is about to begin.

It is an important matter in the sight of God for His people to recognize the times in which they live. Yahshua chided the Jews for failing to recognize the time of their visitation by the Son of God.

Matthew 16:2-4

He answered and said to them, “When it is evening, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.’ And in the morning, ‘There will be a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot discern the signs of the times?”

Luke 19:41-44

And when He approached, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, “If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. For the days shall come upon you when your enemies will throw up a bank be-

fore you, and surround you, and hem you in on every side, and will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.”

Brothers and sisters, if we would live in readiness as wise men and women, knowing that the return of the Lord is near at hand, we must look to that heavenly calendar that Yahweh set before us to give us knowledge of His appointed times. Providing a detailed discussion on the heavenly signs being observed at this hour is beyond the scope of this book. The intent of this chapter is to declare that the heavenly luminaries were established by Yahweh for this purpose. Wise men will continue to look to the heavens to discern the days in which they live and the acts of God that must be accomplished during their lives.

Parables Bookshelf

P.O. Box 804

Montezuma, GA 31063

Websites:

Parables

www.heart4god.ws

Parables Blog

www.parablesblog.blogspot.com

Heart4God/Parables
P.O. Box 804
Montezuma, GA 31063

«AddressBlock»

Parables Bookshelf — Series 1.16.8

PARABLES PRECEPT— The Significance of Numbers



Continued...

Bullinger provides two significant lists of 17 items that occur in Scripture. Each list is divided into a group of 7 and a group of 10. Following is the first list which is found in Romans 8:35-39.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall

1. Tribulation,
2. Or distress,
3. Or persecution,
4. Or famine,
5. Or nakedness,
6. Or peril,
7. Or sword?

as it is written, For Thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved

us. For I am persuaded, that,

1. Neither death ,
2. Nor life,
3. Nor angels,
4. Nor principalities,
5. Nor things present,
6. Nor things to come,
7. Nor powers,
8. Nor height,
9. Nor depth,
10. Nor any other creature ,

shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."