

2. Why is either of these important to determining whether God created the earth in seven literal days or seven eras?

3. What are the shortcomings of these measurements?

4. Is measuring the erosion of rock and earth by running water helping to age places like the Grand Canyon, which is said to be carved by the Colorado River and took tens of millions of years? What do places like Mount St. Helens and Burlingame Canyon tell us?

5. Read 2 Peter 3:8. What is Peter telling us in this verse?

6. Now read 2 Peter 3:7-9. What is Peter telling us?

7. Where else in the Bible does it tell us about a day equaling one thousand years? Write down the verses here.

8. Read the following and briefly describe what happens in each one:
 - a. Exodus 4:3-5

 - b. Exodus 16:1-16

 - c. 1 Kings 17:7-16

 - d. Exodus 20:11

 - e. John 2:8-10

9. If God can create anything and everything that is physical in an instant, as though it was either full grown, or mature, or harvested fresh; doesn't that indicate something regarding His ability to create all of this from nothing in an instant? Still not convinced? How about all of the miracles, hundreds—maybe even thousands—done by Him and by Jesus? Instant recovery of sight, the lame healed, the dead raised, the Red Sea split, and so on, miracle after miracle. The impossible becomes the possible with God. Can you think of some things that God did take a thousand or more years to do?

I believe a credible argument can be made that when it comes to God's plan of salvation for mankind, His patience is immeasurable. This is witnessed by the fact that before we were created, Christ knew that he would need to come down as man, suffer and die, and be raised again—a plan that has taken thousands of years to unfold. As Peter tells us, we are not to reckon this as slowness on God's part; but rather, we are to see it as God's great patience and His desire that no one fall into judgment and perish. He desires that all mankind be saved in order for them to spend an eternity with Him in heaven.

In looking at all of the miracles in the Bibles and in looking at other texts within the Bible related to time, including the route word used for "day" in Genesis, I believe that the seven days are all literal. I believe God created man and woman as grown, mature, human beings—not as amoebas that eventually mutated or grew into humans. I also believe that He created all things in the day indicated in the Genesis account, and that on the seventh day He rested (just as He commands us to do). Finally, I believe that if God is capable of all of that, then He is more than capable of saving you and I and preparing for all of us a new heaven and new earth that will last an eternity!

Have a great week everyone and thanks for studying with us.

In Christ,

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