

**The way of
the moon
and the way
of the sun**

The timekeepers

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Introduction

It is clearly stated in Genesis chapter 1 verse 14 that the both the sun and the moon were given by the Lord God to divide day from night and to be for signs and seasons and to account for days and years.

When we consider the purposes of God, it is apparent that in making man in His image, He intends to favour mankind with His abundant blessing – be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it.

We are all aware of the fall of man as Adam disobeyed God's only and simple rule for man to follow. 'Don't eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.' The result was the entry of death into both man and creation. *'In the day you eat of it dying you will die.'* (Genesis 2:17 literal translation.)

So a new dimension had entered into the world. It became necessary for God to provide and bring in a way by which man could be redeemed from death so that His favour could continue to be enjoyed.

God's plan of favour and redemption is governed by the calendar of the moon - that is cycles of 354 days. In the first part of this study we will trace this chronology of God's favour and redemption – the way of the moon.

Then in the second part we will trace God's timing using the solar calendar of 365.25 days which we use every day - the way of the sun.

In so doing we will discover the most amazing fact - that is that both the sun and the moon complete 6,000 years on exactly the same day - even though they have very different ways of counting.

We have the privilege of 'standing on the shoulders' of those who have gone before. Many theologians and commentators have sought to date the creation of the world. The most famous being Bishop Ussher. Around 1650 he published his date for creation - 23rd October 4004BC. Many others have similarly tried to calculate the date. Their calculations ranged from around 3800BC to around 5500BC.

They all suffered from the fact that they did not know that the dates given in the bible follow more than one chronology as indicated in the title of this study. It seems that the prophet Daniel, who was given the outline of the world's government in visions and dreams, knew God's timing but was told to *'shut up the words and seal the book until the time of the end.'* Daniel 12:4

Now we are at the time of the end the chronology, which had really been a mystery, has been revealed. God used a number of people to bring degrees of revelation until finally a small group of bible believers were, over many years of dedicated study, shown by the Holy Spirit the exact chronology which was 'hidden' in the scripture.

The work of our small group was not purely academic, for many times they came upon things they could not resolve until, after prayer and waiting on the Lord, the understanding was granted from heaven.

They were able to confirm many of their findings by the position of the moon – that is when they dated an event and the date of that event was said in the bible to be on the 15th of the month, then the moon on that date, in that year, had to be at the half way point through its lunation. When it was that confirmed their dating, if not they discarded that date and continued their study. Therefore we can place a lot of reliance on their conclusions.

Many bible commentators, a number of early church fathers and writers and the apostle Peter all hold to the concept that each day of creation represented 1,000 years for man to live on earth – a total of 7,000 years all together.

'Beloved do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.'
2 Peter 3:8

The truth of this expectation is found to be fully and completely confirmed in the chronologies – both the way of the moon and the way of the sun.

Part 1 The way of the moon

Lunar years of 354 days in length. The time it takes the moon to circle the earth.

Mankind did not need redemption until after death entered the scene when he ate the forbidden fruit. So the chronology of favour and redemption starts at the fall of man which was found to be 47 days after creation. However we need have some understanding of how to go forward in our reckoning of time.

Favour and forgiveness

We have already stated that the earth was prepared by God to favour mankind. But man fell from grace. So a way of redemption was needed so that favour could be restored. The underlying reason being God's love for man whom He created in His image.

An essential ingredient in understanding how God counts time was hidden in Matthew chapter 18:

'Then Peter came to Him and said, 'Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?'

Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.' (Verse 21-22)

It isn't higher mathematics to work out that 70×7 is 490. That number 'rang a bell' with Sir Edward Denny. He had been reading Leviticus 25 which describes the year of jubilee – that is the year of forgiveness and restoration, the hallmarks of favour.

He found the scripture describing a 50th year (called the year of Jubilee) stating that it started half way through the 49th year and ended half way through year 1 of the next cycle.

'You shall count seven sabbaths of years for yourselves; and the time of seven sabbaths shall be to you 49 years. Then you shall cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement you shall make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee (year) for you.' Leviticus 25:8-10

Jesus reply to Peter of 490 in terms of years was ten Jubilee periods While mankind was living and experiencing 49 years God was also counting the 50th jubilee year in His chronology of favour and redemption. 10 times 49 - 490 years becomes 500 years when we add the 10 50th, jubilee years in the way the Lord God is counting. A major building block of the chronology of favour and redemption was discovered.

Four of our building blocks makes 2,000 years and as we will see 3 such 2,000 year periods make up the 6,000 years of man's existence before the final 1,000 years when Jesus Himself rules on earth, as clearly stated in Revelation 20. This is in keeping with the early church beliefs as mentioned in the introduction.

Because we are following the way of the moon each of these years in 354 days long.

God counts years of favour not judgement and not years of man's own efforts.

To follow the way of the moon, the way of favour and redemption we are going to need to count the same way as God counts.

He does not count times when His chosen people are suffering judgement - that translates mainly into times when Israel was under the rulership of foreign nations and He does not count times when man was relying on his own efforts.

Following the way of the moon

We are now ready to proceed. We are going to examine the three periods each of 2,000 years of favour and redemption as set out above. In the process we remember years of favour and redemption are 354 days long and we count adding in Jubilee years and discounting periods of judgement and years of self effort.

First 2,000 year period - Adam to Abraham

The first period takes us from day 48 of creation through to the birth of Abraham. In this period man was left to his own conscience - the law wasn't given until much later, during the next 2,000 year cycle that starts with Abraham and goes to the crucifixion of Christ.

The scripture gives details of the birth of each generation. So it is easy to calculate how many years have elapsed from creation. When the calculation is done we find the flood in year 1656 from creation, which is commonly accepted amongst bible students. Moving on we find Abraham was born in year 2008 from creation. (See Genesis chapters 1 to 12)

We are looking for a period of 2000 years so we need to see how that is worked out in favour and redemption chronology. First step is to take away the 40 Jubilee years that God counts but man does not experience so we can the actual number of years. That takes us to 1960 years – now we are 48 years adrift.

The chronology of redemption and favour follows the line from Adam. But we find that the line is broken, because the chosen seed, Abel was murdered. So the period from his death until the birth of Seth is removed in redemption chronology as there was no seed carrying the promise.

With the 48 years from Abel's death to the birth of Seth removed we have our first period of 1960 actual years. The putting back the 40 Jubilee years that God counts makes the total 2.000 in God's sight.

Eve shows that she knew – *'God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel whom Cain killed.'* Genesis 4:25

(When working to the actual day another period is ignored in redemption and favour chronology because it was a time of judgement. The day the rains of the flood started and the period until the ark rested on Ararat – 147 days. Genesis 4:25, 7:11 and 8:4)

Redemption chronology 2,000 years have elapsed.
Solar chronology it is now 2129 BC

(In the process the small group found that Abel, who was the first seed, lived for the same length of time as Jesus.)

Second 2,000 year period – Abram to the crucifixion of Jesus.

This period is more complex than our first period so we are going to break it down into four 500 year sections.

Section 1 – 500 years Abraham to the Exodus from Egypt

Abraham was 75 years old when the sojourn of the Israelites in Egypt commenced. Exodus 12:40-41 tells us that they left Egypt after 430 years. So we have a total of 505 years from the birth of Abraham to the exodus.

In redemption and favour chronology the time when Abram married Hagar and sought to provide a seed by his own efforts is excluded – Ishmael could not be in the line of redemption. That had to wait for Isaac!. So this period of 15 years is to be removed leaving 490 years. Now add the 10 jubilee years and we arrive at our first 500 year period.

(In calculating to the day there is a 4 day period excluded. This is the 4 days the lambs were set aside at the first Passover. The four days represent the 4,000 years when Jesus is 'set aside' waiting for the crucifixion.)

Section 2 – 500 years Exodus to Solomon’s temple.

After the Exodus from Egypt we have the time in the wilderness and then the division of the land which account for 47 years before entering the period of the Judges of Israel.

This ‘500’ year period from the exodus takes us through to the dedication of Solomon’s temple. This was a turbulent time in Israel’s history during which they spent 131 years under the rule of foreign kings. In bible years the period starts in year 2513 from creation and ends in year 3134 - a period of 621 years. There were 131 years under servitude to foreign powers which are years of judgement not favour so are excluded. 621 deduct 131 and we have 490 years. Add 10 jubilee years and we arrive at our second 500 year period.

Section 3 – 500 years Solomon’s temple to Nehemiah

We are now well into the time of the Kings. Some were good and many were not. Eventually God’s judgement took the Israelites into captivity in Babylon for 70 years. The proclamation of Cyrus (Ezra 1:1) led to the decree of Artaxerxes to restore and rebuild Jerusalem (Nehemiah 2:1-8). This period started 3134 years from creation and ended 3694 years from creation - a period of 560 years. The 70 years in captivity were judgement not favour and are excluded. 560 less 70 is 490. Add 10 jubilee years and we have our third 500 year period.

Section 4 - 500 years Nehemiah to the crucifixion of Jesus

The period starts 3694 years from creation and ends 4184 years from creation - period of 490 years. The well known prophecy of 70 sevens in Daniel 9 covers this period 70×7 being 490 years.

For the chronology of favour and redemption add 10 jubilee years and we have our fourth period of 500 years.

Summary of our second 2,000 year period

This 2,000 year period is commonly known as the age of Law - as Israel were given the Law during it.

Abraham to the exodus	500 years
Exodus to Solomon's temple	500 years
Solomon's temple to Nehemiah	500 years
Nehemiah to the crucifixion	500 years

Total	2000 years

Now add:

Adam to Abraham	2000 years

Total period Creation to Christ 4000 years
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The chronology of favour and redemption has run for 4,000 years. We will appreciate that the solar chronology at this point will have run for a different number of years due to the way the Lord God counts what we are calling the 'way of the moon.'

(Actually the solar chronology has run for 4,184 years. We will see the amazing miracle of time when the two chronologies both record 6,000 years as ending on the same day.)

Third 2,000 year period – crucifixion to the World Economic Conference

We are still following the way of the moon.

The World Economic Conference was held on the 12th of June 1933 – an immensely significant date. This is the exact date when 6,000 years by the way of the moon, that is in the chronology of favour and redemption was completed.

6,000 years by the way of the moon are over. The chronology of favour and redemption is complete.

(To check the figures to our solar date of 12th June: Take 2,000 bible years of 354 days each. Remove the 40 jubilees that God counts but we don't experience leaving 1960 years of 354 days each. Convert lunar years of 354 days in length to solar years of 365.25 days and we get 1900 solar years. From the solar date of AD 33 add 1900 solar years and we are at 1933.)

At the time of the flood the Lord God made this statement recorded in Genesis 6:3 *'My Spirit will not strive with man forever in their erring for he is indeed flesh: yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years (Hebrew - revolutions.)'*

When we take this to mean 120 jubilees (being a revolution of time) we see 6,000 years being 120×50 .

Part 2 - The way of the sun.

Solar years of 365.25 days – the time it takes for the earth to circle the sun.

What I am calling the solar calendar, for simplicity's sake, is actually calculated in Julien years after Julius Caesar and then in Gregorian years after Pope Gregory. Both are 365.25 days in length – it is not quite the same as an exact solar years which is 365 days, 3 hours and 49 minutes long.

(To make it work for us in practical life every cycle of 4 year includes 3 years of 365 days and 1 year of 366 days - the leap year.

For completeness sake, we drop 3 leap year days in every 400 years to align to the exact solar measurement.)

The bible study group established that creation was in the year 4075BC.

If we take 4075 BC and add 4075 years you would think we came to year naught – but there is no year naught. We come to year 1. Now add 1932 year to get to 1933 and we have a time period of 6007 years. (4075 plus 1932)

In the way of the moon we found a number of periods that the Lord God did not count. Here in the way of the sun we have just one period the Lord God does not count.

The prophet Daniel refers to 'Messiah the Prince.' It seems a bit of a mystery but we find that it refers to the overall ministry Jesus. But Daniel tells us He is cut off but not for Himself. (Daniel 9:25-26)

The overall ministry of Jesus, under the title Messiah the Prince, starts with the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight'

When we take the ministry time of John the Baptist and the ministry time of Jesus we find 7 years.

Jesus came for the Jews and they would not have Him - they rejected and crucified Him. The Lord God cancels this 7 years in His calculation of time. Israel will face a replacement 7 year period of judgement and wrath called the tribulation or the great tribulation. This is a devastating period of time. Some will survive through to the end when they call out, 'blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.' Jesus comes to put an end to the tribulation and to start His personal rule for 1,000 years.

So now our 'way of the sun' becomes 6007 less 7, that is 6000 years, which complete on exactly the same day 12th June 1933. This day is exactly 2,000 years of redemption and favour (the way of the moon) and exactly 2,000 solar years (the way of the sun).

It is also 1900 solar years after His resurrection on the 13th June AD 33.

The significance of 12th June 1933

We have established that the statement in Genesis – *'My Spirit shall not strive with man in their erring forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty revolutions,'* referred to 6000 years and we have seen that 6,000 years has been completed – so what now?

We have also noted that 1900 solar years have passed since the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. There remain another 100 solar years to complete the type expressed in Hosea 6:2 – *'after two days He will revive us. On the third day He will raise us up.'* These two days represent 2,000 solar years being times of favour for the gentiles. This is the time when Jesus gathers the sheep who are not of the Jewish fold as expressed in John 10:16.

We have to turn to the gospel of Matthew. In chapter 24 the disciples are asking *'what will be the sign of you coming and of the end of the age?'* Here 'end' is *suntelia* meaning the gathering together of that which needs to be done so that the end *telios* can come.

Jesus replies warning them of great tribulation – the seven year period of judgement and wrath referred to above. His warning has the word 'end' twice, once in verse 6 where 'end' is *telios* meaning the termination, and again in verse 14, 'end' (*telios*) again meaning termination. So we see a gathering together of things which must pass (the *suntelia*) so that we arrive at the termination of the age. (the *telios*)

When we read the full passage we find Jesus warning of many troubles - wars, famines, pestilences, earthquakes etc - all these are said to be the beginnings of sorrows. This is during the time of gathering together those things which must take place before the end.

Then after that comes this great tribulation - Matthew is telling Israel, when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the Holy Place - then it is time to flee. (24:15-16)

This whole period which started on 13th June 1933 is known as the consummation of the age. The period ends with the 'termination' that will be at the coming of Jesus Christ to end the tribulation and to establish His rule on the earth.

The disciples asked 'what will be sign?' Jesus gave 2 signs - the parable of the fig tree and the sign of Noah.

The fig tree is fulfilled in the restoration of Israel as a nation. *'Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is near. So you also when you see these things happening know that the kingdom of God is near. Assuredly I say to you this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place.'* Luke 21:29-32

Israel, the fig tree, was planted in 1948, since then many other nations have also been planted. (In 1933 there were 66 nations - now there are around 200).

The sign of Noah will be fulfilled – just as Noah was taken up by the ark before and above the judgement that flooded the earth, so the believers will be taken up away from and before the judgement of the great tribulation on the earth - at the rapture of the church.

The World Economic Conference.

A small group of bible believers and teachers were given warning by the Holy Spirit that the 12th June 1933 was a critical date. This was before the chronology was known and before the World Economic Conference was announced.

The conference, held in London, was attended by representatives of every nation – 66 nations. The world was in a desperate economic state with worldwide recession. Here was a wonderful opportunity to call on the goodness and favour of God – but it was completely missed. Indeed it was worse than just being missed, any mention of the Lord or calling on the Lord was not permitted.

Paul warned the gentile nations that unbelief would result in them being cut off from the root of favour in Romans chapter 11:22.

Exactly on the day 12th June 1933, when 6,000 years are complete, the gentile nations through unbelief are cut off from the root of God's blessing . Just a few years later they are at war with one another.

From that day to this the world has steadily become more and more ungodly, and will continue to do so, until it is ripe for the judgement of the Great Tribulation.

The born again believers have been judged already, found guilty, forgiven and washed clean by the blood of Jesus. Now the temple of the Holy Spirit, who will never leave nor forsake us, and now destined to be the bride of Christ, we born again believers will be removed before the great tribulation at the rapture of the church.

Our journey by the way of the moon and the way of the sun is nearly complete.

There is just this to consider. From the date of the crucifixion and the birth of the church, in order to complete type, there will be 2,000 solar years which will complete in 2033. The Tribulation takes up the last seven years so the rapture takes place some time in or before 2026.

To fulfil biblical type the rapture will take place on the last great day of the Feast of Tabernacles - this being part of the feast's fulfilment. (Jesus fulfills all the seven commanded feasts of Israel starting with Passover - He is our Passover Lamb.) Tabernacles was the last of the seven feasts in the calendar.

Our Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead and presented himself to the Father on Monday morning* - so the day of the rapture will also be a Monday.

October 13th 2025 fits the bill.

*** Jesus was crucified on Friday - so to complete three nights in the belly of the earth and to rise on the third day one counts from Friday evening - night 1, Saturday day one and night 2, Sunday day 2 and night 3 - rise on the third day - Monday.**

So this is my expectation of the date of the rapture. We must always remember there may be things we don't understand at this point in time. However, from what we do know this date certainly fits the bill.

Notes.

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