

**The True History**  
**in the Holy Scriptures**

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## INTRODUCTION

The study of history is fascinating, especially when you can correlate world events with your own life. Bible History is even more fascinating since we are trying to fully understand God's Word. But to help us in our studies, we often like to "set dates," such as our famous date "July 4, 1776." Nothing is really wrong with trying to fix dates to events. As a matter of fact, dates are often the only and best way to correlate facts together into a coherent whole.

But, there is a small danger here! Consider "B.C." dates. We can be pretty sure of dates back to Julius Caesar and his Roman calendar. But before that, it's "chancy." We often don't have enough evidence to substantiate the dating of an event. This is universally true when we go back into ancient history. When it comes to "dating," there is one key scripture we must never forget: Matt 24:31-36. Nobody, but nobody, knows precisely when Jesus Christ is returning to this earth, except God the Father or possibly Christ Himself if the Father has revealed that date to Him! And if there is any speculation surrounding the dating of some event that is tied to an imaginative date of the return of Christ, beware!

With this in mind, then, what is the best way to date ancient history? Not B.C. or B.C.E. (Before Christian Era). With this introduction I think we can understand how Dr. Herman L. Hoeh set dates in his *Compendium of World History*.

What I am proposing, and will be using in future chapters of my "True History," is a new standard I am naming "A.C."—which means "After Creation" or it could be "P.C." which means the same thing: "Post Creation"—but we all know this refers today to a computer age term—"personal computer." In the Bible all events which can be dated will always be dated A.C. "Creation" in Gen 1:2 begins the time clock. The Genesis creation started in 0 A.C. and lasted for the first seven days of year 0 A.C. We totally avoid any "guestimation" of Christ's return which we feel is at the end of 6,000 years of man's world.

## THE FIRST 1600+ YEARS OF MAN

The generations of Adam are given in Gen. 5. Of course, we firmly believe that the Bible has been inspired by God and is absolutely true. We read in Gen. 4 of the birth of Adam and Eve's first two sons: Cain and Abel. No dating is given. Cain murdered Abel, then Cain's progeny is listed—all without any dating. We will have to return to this Chapter after we have discovered and established the dating for the good line of Adam & Eve's son Seth.

Gen 5:3-5 Paraphrased, it states that Adam was 130 when Seth was born. Adam lived another 800 years and died at 930. Josephus records the "tradition" that Eve had 33 sons and 23 daughters. Later, Lamech of the Cain line had two wives and 77 children!

The attached chart is designed around 40 years per line of approximately 0.2 inch per line.

## GENESIS 5

V. 3-5 When Adam had lived 130 years, he became the father of a son in his own likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth.

4 Then the days of Adam after he became the father of Seth were 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters.

5 So all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died.

V. 6-8 And Seth lived 105 years, and became the father of Enosh.

7 Then Seth lived 807 years after he became the father of Enosh, and he had other sons and daughters.

8 So all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died.

V. 9-11 And Enosh lived 90 years, and became the father of Kenan.

10 Then Enosh lived 815 years after he became the father of Kenan, and he had other sons and daughters.

11 So all the days of Enosh were 905 years, and he died.

V. 12-14 And Kenan lived 70 years, and became the father of Mahalalel.

13 Then Kenan lived 840 years after he became the father of Mahalalel, and he had other sons and daughters.

14 So all the days of Kenan were 910 years, and he died.

V. 15-17 And Mahalalel lived 65 years, and became the father of Jared.

16 Then Mahalalel lived 830 years after he became the father of Jared, and he had other sons and daughters.

17 So all the days of Mahalalel were 895 years, and he died.

V. 18-20 And Jared lived 162 years, and became the father of Enoch.

19 Then Jared lived 800 years after he became the father of Enoch, and he had other sons and daughters.

20 So all the days of Jared were 962 years, and he died.

V. 21-24 And Enoch lived 65 years, and became the father of Methuselah.

22 Then Enoch walked with God 300 years after he became the father of Methuselah, and he had other sons and daughters.

23 So all the days of Enoch were 365 years.

24 And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

V. 25-27 And Methuselah lived 187 years, and he became the father of Lamech.

26 The Methuselah lived 782 years after he became the father of Lamech, and he had other sons and daughters.

27 So all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died.

V. 28-31 And Lamech lived 182 years, and he became the father of a son.

29 And he called his name Noah, saying, "This one shall give us rest from our work and from the toil of our hands arising from the ground which the Lord God has cursed."

30 Then Lamech lived 595 years after he became the father of Noah, and he had other sons and daughters.

31 So all the days of Lamech were 777 years, and he died.

V. 32 And Noah was 500 years old, and Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

[Japheth was the elder, according to Bullinger's Bible and the footnote in Gen. 10:21. Shem was born when Noah was 502 (Gen. 5:32; 7:6; 11:10), probably the youngest (Gen 10).]

## Chapter 6

V 3. Then the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he is also flesh; nevertheless his days shall be 120 years."

[Ark constructed over 120 years, from Noah's 480<sup>th</sup> year until his 600<sup>th</sup> when the flood began. His first son was not born until he was 500, some 20 years later after construction began.]

## Chapter 7

V. 6 Now Noah was 600 years old when the flood of water came upon the earth.

V.11 In the 600<sup>th</sup> year of Noah's life, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> month, on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and floodgates of the sky were opened.

## Chapter 8

V. 13 Now it came about in the 601<sup>st</sup> year, in the 1<sup>st</sup> month, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month, the water was dried up from the earth. Then Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and behold, the surface of the ground was dried up.

## Chapter 9

V. 28-29 And Noah lived 350 years after the flood.

29 So all the days of Noah were 950 years, and he died.

[This implies that dating of events concerning the flood, are dated from the beginning of the flood, not the end.]



## "Problems" with Dr. Hoeh's dating

The common belief among the ministry of the Worldwide Church of God at the time of Dr. Hoeh's doctoral thesis writing (published in 1962), was that the end of the 6000 years of man's rule and the return of Jesus Christ to set up His Father's Government was thought to be 1975. Hence, the writing of "1975 in prophecy" by Herbert Armstrong. With this belief going back 6000 years in history to the creation would bring one to 4026 B.C. ( $1975-6000=4025$  B.C. but no year 0 so corrected to 4026 B.C.).

From the above analysis of pre-Noachian history, there were 1656 years from Adam to the flood. Simple arithmetic puts the Flood at 2370 B.C. ( $4026-1656=2370$ ).

But we know today that Christ did not come in 1975! So, when was the Flood?

Next, we must consider the reign of Dynasty I of Thinis in upper Egypt. Dr. Hoeh dates the beginning of civilization with the confounding of languages at the Tower of Babel in 2254 B.C.E. There is an undefined amount of time from the Flood to Babel. We know from Gen. 10:25 that Babel occurred in the life time of Peleg who lived from 1757 A.C. until 1996 A.C. How can we correlate these dates? According to Dr. Hoeh's Flood dates of 2370 to 2369, there were some 116 years after the Flood until Babel's construction ended in 2254 B.C.E with the beginning of Cush's reign for 60 years.

According to Dr. Hoeh's *Compendium*, page 46-47, we read:

Certainly the most spectacular confirmation of this date may be found in the history of China. For the Chinese begin their authentic history also 2254 years before the present era. This is no coincidence. China's first king was "black." His eyes shown with "double brightness." That is, theologically, "demon possessed." They called him Shun, and his father's name is spelled variously Chusou or Kusou – that is, Cush. In his days lived a very famous woman whose name may be translated as either "the mother of the king of the west," or the "queen mother of the west." (See the "Annals of the Bamboo Books," The Chinese Classics, by James Legge, vol. III, part I, pages 114-115.)

If this is the case, Cush's son Nimrod, know as Shun, was the first ruler of China.

Such is the case from the Compendium , p. 348-349:

The first man of whom Chinese sources speak is Yao, or Yaou. The traditional information about Yao is nebulous. When referring to the Mongols, the Arabian historians speak of Magog and Yagog. It is likely that the Yagog or Arabic tradition is the personage whom the Chinese tradition know as Yao.

The results of a catastrophic flood were still apparent in Yao's day. "The deluge assailed

the heavens, and in its vast expanse encompassed the mountains, and overtopped the hills..." (Canon of Yao).

In the lifetime of Yao a stranger name Shun came to power. The meaning of his name is obscure. Later legends found in the Shoo king attempt to create Shun a native Chinese hero. But the earliest records (some found in the Bamboo Annals) make it clear he was a black foreigner, His mother was "Queen of the West land;" his father was Kusou, or Chusou – Cush. From Babylonian traditions we learn that Cush and Nimrod shared jointly in the government together until Nimrod displaced his father. In Chinese records, as in Genesis, only Shun (Nimrod) appears – for he was certainly the mainspring of the rebellion.

Shun reigned but 50 years after Babel over the Chinese people 2254-2204. Thereafter, through migration, the Chinese appear to have gained independence. A native Chinese family came to power in 2204, known in modern parlance as the Hsia Dynasty. It governed 439 years – 2204-1765....

This implies that the dating of the Egyptian and Chinese dynasties (and most of the rest of Dr. Hoeh's *Compendium*) are accurate! Then where did he arrive at this dating for Babel?

See the *Compendium* page 45-46:

With the reign of Cush and of Nimrod the history of civilization begins. At this point commences also the chronology of Egypt, of Assyria, of Babylonia and of the whole Near East.

The exact date of this event was preserved down to Roman times. For Velleius Paterculus cites from Aemilius Sura, in his Roman History, Book I, section VI, the following: "between this time (when Rome conquered Philip, King of Macedonia) and the beginning of the reign of Ninus (Nimrod) king of the Assyrians, who was the first to hold world power, lies an interval of 1995 years." Philip was conquered in 197. (All dates in this compendium which are not otherwise designated are understood to be before the present era, commonly, though mistakenly, written "B.C.") Nimrod, therefore, began his sole reign in 2192. It followed a joint reign with his father Cush for 62 years, according to Julius Africanus. That places the overthrow of Babel 2254 years before the present era. The two previous years, according to the Epic of Creation, had been spent in erecting Babel. The building of the Tower may therefore be dated 2256-2254. The Bible does not specifically date this event. But it does confirm the general period: "And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided..." (Genesis 10:25).

But, how accurate is the B.C. dating of Philip's conquering in 197? Further investigations are needed.

Now, if the fixed date of 2254 B.C.E. as revealed in secular history is accurate and the Flood date

of 2370 B.C.E. chosen because of the 1975 controversy is inaccurate, what are we to conclude? The "computed" period between the Flood and Babel is 116 years. Not much about this period is known other than the Generations of Shem that show that Peleg was alive during this period. But today, 2002, it seems that Dr. Hoeh's Flood dating is already in error by 27 years (2002-1975=27) which would make the period between the Flood and Babel (not defined in Scriptures) at less than 116 years, even less than 89 years, in 2002. Peleg lived 239 years and sometime during his lifetime, Babel occurred. Using Dr. Hoeh's B.C.E. dating for Peleg, I computed him at age approximately 15. But even considering the 27 year error, Peleg was still a relatively young 42. He died at age 239, so we have almost another 197 (maximum) years to figure in the return of Christ! Because of the conditions in the world today, few feel that Christ's return will be that far in the future!

Remember our first rule in the introduction. Nobody knows (except perhaps the Son to whom the Father has revealed this date) when Jesus is returning to this Earth. So we can never really know when Creation occurred nor when the Flood occurred, even if Babel is correctly dated at 2254!

Can we reliably attach the A.C. dates to Dr. Hoeh's B.C.E. dates? Let's look at Abraham's life for a clue. Gen. 12:4 states that Abraham was 75 years old when he left Haran, probably just after his father Terah died. He journeyed to Egypt for a period then returned to the Negev region with his wife and Lot. When Lot chose the cities of the valley, Abram chose the hill country of Canaan (Gen.13:12). Amraphel, king of Shinar, captured Lot, but Abram formed an army from his own household and rescued Lot. In the process, he defeated and killed Amraphel (Gen. 14:17). According to Dr. Hoeh's *Compendium*, Amraphel's reign ended in 1938 B.C.E. Abram then fathered Ishmael through Hagar when he was 86 (Gen.16:16). So, it appears that sometime between Abram's age of 75 and 86, his battle with Amraphel occurred.

In the *Compendium*, page 249, Dr. Hoeh lists the first great dynasty of Uruk (Mesopotamia) which began with Cush (Lugal-banda). The fourth king is Amraphel who died in Abram's 79<sup>th</sup> year (1938 B.C.E.). Abram was born in 2008 A.C., so his 79<sup>th</sup> year would have been 2087 A.C. Combining these two dating schemes, we come back to our (incorrect) creation date of 4025! We have a problem which will take much more study to solve!

A lot more research can't really help us know when creation occurred because of our cardinal rule about the return of Christ but might help us narrow the time range of Christ's Second Advent. Of course, until He returns our main job is to ready ourselves spiritually and do His Work!