

Ages of the World

Talmud

There is a [kabbalistic](#) tradition^[4] that maintains that the seven days of creation in Genesis 1 correspond to seven millennia of the existence of natural creation. The tradition teaches that the seventh day of the week, [Shabbat](#) or the day of rest, corresponds to the seventh millennium (Hebrew years 6000–7000), the age of universal "rest" – the Messianic Era.

The [Talmud](#) comments:

R. Katina said, "Six thousand years the world will exist and one [thousand, the seventh], it shall be desolate (haruv), as it is written, 'And the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day' (Isa. 2:11)" ... R. Katina also taught, "Just as the seventh year is the [Shmita](#) year, so too does the world have one thousand years out of seven that are fallow (mushmat), as it is written, 'And the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day' (Isa. 2:11); and further it is written, 'A psalm and song for the Shabbat day' (Ps. 92:1) – meaning the day that is altogether Shabbat – and also it is said, 'For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past' (Ps.90:4) (Sanhedrin 97a)."

The Talmud tells us that this world, as we know it, will last for six thousand years, with the seventh millennium ushering in the cosmic Shabbat, the Messianic Era. Six days a week we work, and on the Shabbat we rest and enjoy the fruits of our labor; the same is true with millennia. [What is the significance of the year 6000 in the Jewish calendar? - Chabad.org](#)

Midrash

The [Midrash](#) comments:

Six eons for going in and coming out, for war and peace. The seventh eon is entirely [Shabbat](#) and rest for life everlasting.^[5]

Zohar

The [Zohar](#) explains:

The redemption of [Israel](#) will come about through the mystic force of the letter "Vav" [which has the numerical value of six], namely, in the sixth millennium. ... Happy are those who will be left alive at the end of the sixth millennium to enter the [Shabbat](#), which is the seventh millennium; for that is a day set apart for the Holy One on which to effect the union of new souls with old souls in the world (Zohar, Vayera 119a).

Jewish Scholars

Elaborating on this theme are numerous early and late Jewish scholars, including the [Ramban](#),^[6] [Isaac Abrabanel](#),^[7] [Abraham Ibn Ezra](#),^[8] Rabbeinu [Bachya](#),^[9] the [Vilna Gaon](#),^[10] the [Lubavitcher Rebbe](#),^[11] the [Ramchal](#),^[12] [Aryeh Kaplan](#),^[13] and Rebbetzin [Esther Jungreis](#).^[14]

An ancient tradition recorded in a Jewish text called *Tanna Devei Eliyahu* is thought to have been written between the third and tenth centuries AD. When reading through this work, it is clear that revisions have been added throughout the centuries; however, it seems to preserve a tradition of the general understanding of ages. It reads:

It was taught in the school of Elijah: The world will endure six thousand years: two thousand desolation, two thousand Torah, two thousand the messianic age, but because of our many sins some of [those final two thousand years] have already passed.^[iii]

Of course, this being a Jewish source and not a Christian one that would recognize that the Messiah has already come (teaching instead that, because of the sins of Israel, God decided not to allow the Messiah to come when He was expected), we need help from the Dead Sea Scrolls and Church Fathers to recognize what these ages are and what happened during them.

Essenes

The Essenes also had an understanding of the total number of years of human history, from Creation to the time of the establishment of the new heavens and new earth, and how this long period is to be divided.

- The totality of human history, according to the Essenes, is to be seven thousand years from the creation of Adam.
- The seven thousand years of human history were split into three periods of two thousand years and one final period of one thousand years called “ages.”
- This final one thousand years was seen as the ultimate Sabbath.

Each age was split into periods of five hundred years called *Onahs*, each of which was split into ten periods of fifty years called “jubilees.” Each jubilee was split into seven periods of seven years, called *shemitahs*, and one additional “jubilee” year. Therefore, according to the Essenes, all time is understood as subsets:

- A year is 364 days.
- A *shemitah* is seven years.
- A jubilee is seven *shemitahs* plus one year, or fifty years.
- An *onah* is ten jubilees, or five hundred years.
- A millennium is two *onahs*, or twenty jubilees, or one thousand years
- An age is two millennia, or four *onahs*, or forty jubilees, or two thousand years.
- The last age is a half-length Sabbath, or one millennium, or two *onahs*, or twenty jubilees, or one thousand years.
- All of human history is four ages (technically three and one-half ages, or three ages and one millennium), or seven millennia, or fourteen *onahs*, or 140 jubilees, or one thousand *shemitahs*, or seven thousand years.

The first age was called the Age of Confusion or the Age of Chaos, and lasted from Creation to the call of Abraham (the first set of two thousand years, or 1 AM–2000 AM). The second age was the Age of Torah, lasting from the time of Abraham to the end of the sacrificial system (2000 AM–4000 AM). The third age is called the Age of Grace (4000 AM–6000 AM). Finally, the last age is the Messianic Kingdom, or Kingdom Age (6000 AM–7000 AM).

The beginning of the age of Grace is mentioned in a document called 11QMelchizedek found among the Dead Sea Scroll in the Qumran caves, which is believed to have been written around a century before the birth of Jesus Christ, at the latest.^[viii] :

And as for what he said: (Lev 25:13—In [this] year of jubilee, [you shall return, each one, to his respective property], concerning it he said: (Deut 15:2—Th]is is [the manner of the release:] every creditor shall release what he lent [to his neighbor. He shall not coerce his neighbor or his brother, for it has been proclaimed] a release for G[od])

Its interpretation] for the last days refers to the captives, who...and whose teachers have been hidden and kept secret, and from the inheritance of Melchizedek, fo[r...]...and they are the inherita[nce of Melchize]dek, who will make them return. And liberty will be proclaimed for them, to free them from [the debt of] all their iniquities.

And this [wil]l [happen] in the first week of the jubilee which follows the nine jubilees. And the d[ay of aton]ement is the e[nd of] the tenth [ju]bilee in which atonement shall be made for all the sons of [light and] for the men [of] the lord of Mel[chi]zedek.

over [the]m... accor[ding to] a[ll] their [wor]ks, for it is the time for the (year of grace) of Melchizedek, and of [his] arm[ies, the nat]ion of the holy ones of God, of the rule of judgment, as is written about him in the songs of David, who said: (Ps 82:1—Elohim will [st]and in the assem[bly of God,] in the midst of the gods he

judges). And about him he sai[d: (Ps 82:2—How long will you] judge unjustly and show part[lity] to the wicked? [Se]lah).^[viii] (11QMelchizedek, Col. 2, 2–11)

So atonement was expected at the end of the 10th jubilee of the Onah in which the writer lived – this would be 4000 years after Creation – the birth of Christ.

[11QMelchizedek.pdf \(marquette.edu\)](#)

[TSR 247: Apocalypse of the ESSENES! Dead Sea Scrolls 2025, 2032, 2068 PREDICTIONS | Dr. Ken Johnson \(youtube.com\)](#)

John the Baptist

The Essenes saw their role as to prepare the Way for the Messiah.

Trinity

The Essenes believed in a Trinity

Predicted the Rejection of the Messiah

The Priests will reject the Messiah and have him killed – when this happens God will reject the priests and the veil of the Temple will be ripped in half

Sign of Jonah

They predicted that there would be 40 years between the death of the Unique Teacher and the destruction of those who follow the Lie.

Church of the Gentiles

There will be a new synagogue for the Gentiles, and a Benjaminite will be the teacher of them. He will have all the answers – Paul the Apostle.

Essenes became Christians

The Essenes disappear from history in the first century A.D. They provide the reason for this themselves. They saw themselves as “preparing the Way for the Messiah” – just like John the Baptist. So when Jesus appeared, they began to follow Him and became the first Christians. The Essenes didn’t disappear. Just as James and John switched from following the Baptist to following Christ, so did they.

Church Fathers

The Church Fathers continued this tradition in their writings. The Epistle of Barnabas, written between AD 70 and AD 132, says:

Give heed, children, what this meaneth; He ended in six days. He meaneth this, that in six thousand years the Lord shall bring all things to an end; for the day with Him signifyeth a thousand years; and this He himself beareth me witness, saying; Behold, the day of the Lord shall be as a thousand years. Therefore, children, in six days, that is in six thousand years, everything shall come to an end. And He rested on the seventh day. this He meaneth; when His Son shall come, and shall abolish the time of the Lawless One, and shall judge the ungodly, and shall change the sun and the moon and the stars, then shall he truly rest on the seventh day. (Barnabas 15:4–5)^[iv]

Irenaeus, a Greek bishop who studied under Polycarp, the last living connection to the Apostles,^[v] wrote:

For in as many days as this world was made, in so many thousand years shall it be concluded. And for this reason the Scripture says: "Thus the heaven and the earth were finished, and all their adornment. And God brought to a conclusion upon the sixth day the works that He had made; and God rested upon the seventh day from all His works." Genesis 2:2 This is an account of the things formerly created, as also it is a prophecy of what is to come. For the day of the Lord is as a thousand years; 2 Peter 3:8 and in six days created things were completed: it is evident, therefore, that they will come to an end at the sixth thousand year. (Against Heresies, Book 5, 28:3)

Victorinus of Pettau, who wrote the oldest known commentary on the book of Revelation around AD 260, wrote:

He says, the thousand years should be completed, that is, what is left of the sixth day...which subsists for a thousand years [thousand years](#). (Commentary on Revelation, 20:1–3)

Apostles

Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" (Matthew 24:3)

But, 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 enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. (Matthew 13:39–40)

So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just. (Matthew 13:49)

Go, therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen. (Matthew 28:19–20)

He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. (Hebrews 9:26)

These passages show that Christ and the apostles believed in world ages, and that the end of the current age would occur in their generation. These passages suggest that the end of their age was in 70 A.D. when the previous system of temple sacrifice came to an end.

It is interesting to read through these with the question in mind: Are they talking about the end of their age, the end of our age, or the end of all ages? One passage that talks about the transition from the previous Age of Torah to our Age of Grace can be found in the letters of Paul:

Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. (1 Corinthians 10:6–11)

In his letter, Paul states that what happened to those who didn't obey God was an example and a warning to those for who are alive when the end of ages has come. Paul was writing from his own perspective; he was a convert to Christianity who was originally from the end of the Age of Torah and who was about to enter into the Age of Grace. We, as Christians today, find ourselves in a position similar to that of Paul. If the Essene calendar is correct, we are Christians living in the end of the Age of Grace, and we are getting ready to see the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will usher in the final Kingdom Age.

Modern Fulfilment

1. **The Age of Creation** began 4004 B.C. and lasted 2000 years until 2004 B.C.
2. **The Age of Torah** began in 2004 B.C. and lasted 2000 years until 4 B.C.
Abraham was 75 years old when he received the covenant so he was born 1996 B.C., so his birth marked the beginning of the Age of Torah.
3. **The Age of Grace** began in 4 B.C. and lasted 2000 years until 1996 A.D.
Jesus was born in 4 B.C., so His birth marked the beginning of the Age of Grace.
4. **The Age of Kingdom** began in 1996 A.D. and will last 1000 years until 2996 A.D.

The early years of this millennium began with preparations of all governments for the Tribulation. The evidence can be viewed here – <https://howbad.info/aboutgod.html>

This included the formation of a one-world government, the use of CBDC to control all financial transactions, mass surveillance using a digital ID, lawlessness (total disregard for human rights, freedoms or laws), coercion and deception to entice the global population into taking a toxin.