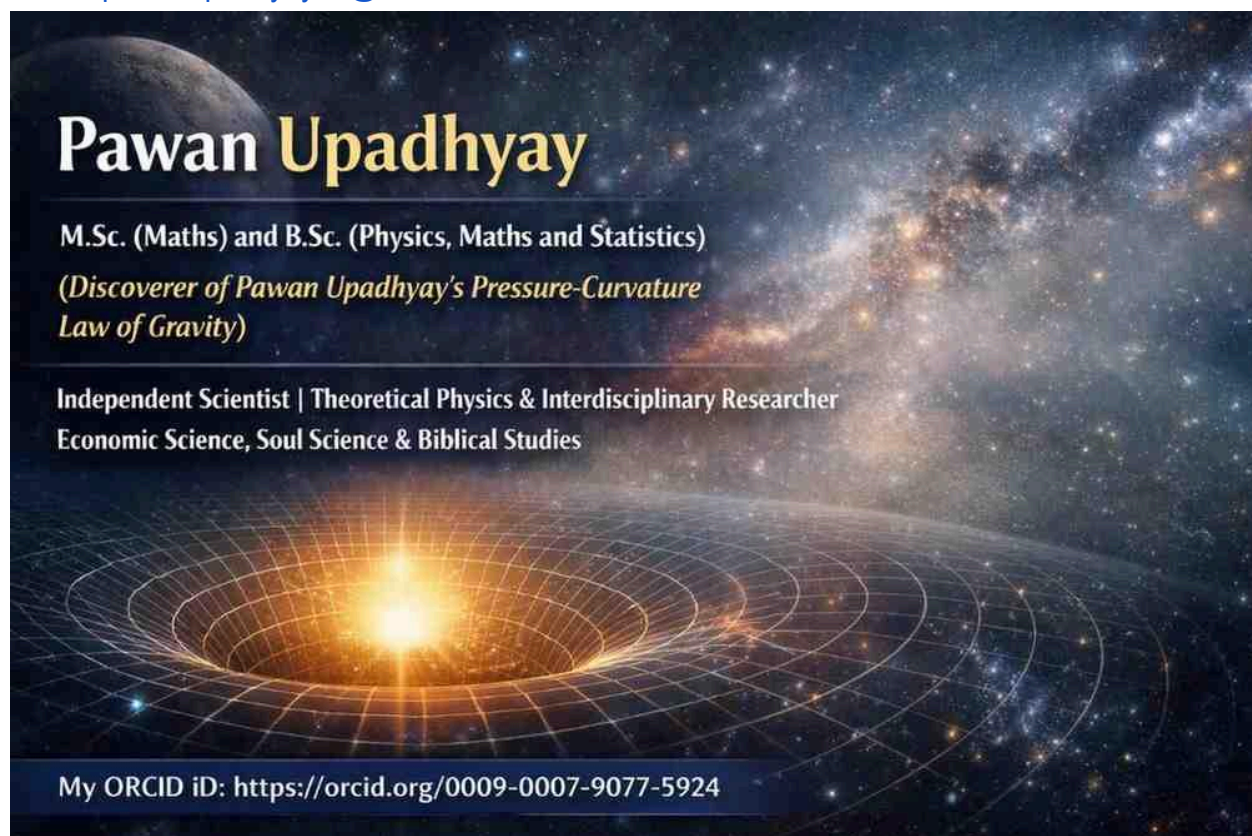


Divine Time, Created Time, and Spacetime: A Theological and Philosophical Study

Author: Pawan Upadhyay

Affiliation: Independent Researcher

Email: pawanupadhyay28@hotmail.com



Abstract

This research paper explores the distinction between Divine Time, created human Time, and physical Spacetime from a theological and philosophical perspective rooted in biblical revelation. Divine Time is presented as eternal, unborn, creative, and sovereign, residing in the Word of God and fully identified with the Holy Trinity. Created Time governs human experience, while Spacetime belongs to the physical cosmos. The study also examines the biblical understanding of good time and difficult time, showing how divine action enters history to bring salvation, judgment, healing, and transformation. Through examples such as the Exodus, the

Flood, and the ministry of Jesus Christ, this paper argues that Divine Time is one, not three, and that all created times are subject to it.

1. Introduction

Time is not a single, uniform reality in biblical theology. Scripture reveals multiple layers of temporality: God's eternal reality, human historical time, and the physical structure of the created universe. Modern science speaks of spacetime, while Scripture speaks of divine acts that transcend ordinary chronology. This paper proposes a threefold distinction—Divine Time, created Time, and Spacetime—while affirming the unity of Divine Time within the Holy Trinity.

2. Divine Time: Eternal and Uncreated

Divine Time is uncreated because it resides in the Spirit of God and is inseparable from God's own being. Divine Time and God are not separate realities; rather, Divine Time is the eternal mode of God's existence and action.

Divine Time is omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent. As the creator of the whole universe and all created orders of reality, Divine Time precedes and sustains every form of created temporality. It is not bound by succession or limitation, but contains all moments within divine fullness.

Divine Time knows past time, present time, and future time simultaneously. From the perspective of Divine Time, history is fully present to God. Therefore, Divine Time possesses the authority to enter, judge, redeem, and transform created time.

Divine Time can change human present time and redirect future time, not by abolishing human freedom, but by sovereignly guiding history toward divine purpose. In this sense, Divine Time governs creation while remaining eternally one with the Spirit of God.

Divine Time is uncreated, eternally one with God, omniscient and sovereign, containing all past, present, and future, and capable of transforming human history according to divine purpose.

3. Divine Time Residing in the Word of God

The Word of God is the active expression of Divine Time within creation. When God speaks, His Word does not merely communicate information; it acts, creates, heals, judges, and transforms.

Biblical examples include:

- The Word of God parting the Red Sea through Moses
- God's spoken commands bringing creation into existence
- Prophetic words shaping historical outcomes

Divine Time is thus embedded in the Word of God, entering history at decisive moments to accomplish divine will.

4. Jesus Christ and Divine Time

Jesus Christ, being fully God, embodies Divine Time in human history. His words carried creative and restorative power because they flowed directly from Divine Time.

- His words healed the sick
- His words forgave sins
- His words restored hope and brought good time into human lives

When Jesus spoke, eternal reality intersected with historical time, transforming human destiny. In Him, Divine Time became audible and visible within created Time.

5. Created Time: Human Historical Experience

Created Time is the temporal framework in which human life unfolds. It is sequential, measurable, and limited.

Created Time includes:

- Birth and death
- Growth and decay
- Memory and expectation

Unlike Divine Time, created Time is subject to change, uncertainty, and suffering. It is the arena in which moral decisions are made and history progresses.

6. Spacetime: The Physical Dimension of Creation

Spacetime belongs to the physical universe. It is the structure studied by science, combining space and time into a single continuum.

From a theological perspective:

- Spacetime is created by God
- Spacetime is governed by physical laws
- Spacetime is not eternal

Spacetime is subordinate to Divine Time and dependent on God's sustaining will.

7. Unity of Divine Time in the Holy Trinity

Divine Time is not divided among the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Holy Trinity is one in essence, will, and eternity.

Therefore:

- Divine Time is one, not three
- The Trinity does not experience conflicting or separate times
- All divine actions proceed from one eternal will

The plurality within the Trinity does not imply plurality of Divine Time.

8. Divine Judgment and Annihilation in History

Scripture records moments when Divine Time intervened decisively to judge corruption.

Examples include:

- The annihilation brought by the Flood when sin corrupted the earth
- The plagues upon Egypt to break an evil kingdom and liberate Israel

These events show that Divine Time includes not only creation and mercy, but also judgment, destruction, and annihilation when evil threatens life and covenant.

9. Divine Time and Salvation History

Divine Time intervenes to preserve life and fulfill promise.

- God saved Abraham and Sarah, protecting the covenant
- God delivered Moses and Israel from Egypt

These acts were not random events but purposeful moments where Divine Time reshaped human history.

10. Two Experiences of Created Time: Good Time and Difficult Time

Within created Time, human beings experience different qualitative moments.

10.1 Good Time

Good Time is associated with:

- Peace
- Joy
- Healing
- Prosperity

Good Time often follows divine blessing, obedience, and restoration.

10.2 Difficult Time

Difficult Time is associated with:

- Sorrow
- Anxiety
- Suffering
- Loss

Difficult Time may arise from sin, injustice, testing, or the brokenness of creation. Scripture teaches that God can work within difficult Time to bring repentance, growth, and eventual restoration.

11. Relationship Between Divine Time and Human Experience

Divine Time governs both Good Time and Difficult Time. While humans experience time sequentially, Divine Time can enter any moment to transform its meaning.

Thus:

- Good Time can be redeemed
- Difficult Time can be sanctified
- History can be redirected

Human helplessness before time is met by divine sovereignty over time.

12. Satanic Agency and Difficult Time in the Life of the Righteous

Biblical theology acknowledges that righteous and holy persons may experience difficult time not as divine punishment, but through satanic agency operating within limits permitted by God. Such difficult time functions as testing, revelation, or preparation for a greater divine purpose.

Canonical Scripture presents examples such as Job and the temptation of Jesus Christ, where suffering and trial arise through satanic influence but remain under divine authority.

Difficult time in the life of the righteous therefore does not indicate divine abandonment, but often accompanies the unfolding of salvation history.

13. Satanic Deception and the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ (Interpretive Tradition)

According to the *Gospel of Nicodemus* (also known as the *Acts of Pilate*), a non-canonical early Christian text dated approximately to the 4th century, Satan is portrayed as actively involved in deception surrounding the crucifixion. In **Gospel of Nicodemus, Part I (Acts of Pilate), chapters 12–16**, Satan is depicted as working through fear, pride, and conspiracy among earthly authorities.

Canonical Scripture provides an explicit theological key to understanding this moment. During His arrest, Jesus declares:

“This is your hour, and the power of darkness.” (Luke 22:53)

This statement does not imply that Satan possesses independent or ultimate authority. Rather, it indicates a **limited and permitted moment** in which evil powers are allowed to act within Divine

Time. The phrase “your hour” signifies a temporary allowance, while “power of darkness” denotes spiritual forces operating under divine sovereignty.

Within this framework, the crucifixion is understood as a convergence of satanic deception, human moral failure, and divine permission. Satanic influence operates through human agents, yet human responsibility remains intact, and the event ultimately fulfills God’s redemptive purpose.

The Gospel of Nicodemus reflects early Christian attempts to articulate this spiritual conflict narratively, while canonical Scripture provides the authoritative theological boundary for interpretation.

14. Divine Time as Judgment Upon the Wicked

Scripture teaches that God Himself brings difficult time upon evil persons and unjust kingdoms as an act of judgment. Unlike the testing of the righteous, this form of difficult time confronts corruption and restrains injustice.

Biblical examples include:

- The plagues upon Egypt to overthrow an oppressive kingdom
- The Flood, where widespread corruption resulted in annihilation
- The fall and exile of persistently unjust societies

In these cases, difficult time is an expression of Divine Time intervening decisively in history to restore moral order.

15. Synthesis: Divine Time, Satanic Agency, and Human Responsibility

A clear theological distinction emerges:

- Satan may introduce difficult time into the lives of the righteous by divine permission
- God introduces difficult time into the lives of the wicked as judgment
- Human beings remain morally responsible even when spiritual forces influence events

The crucifixion of Jesus Christ stands as the supreme example in which satanic deception and human sin were permitted within Divine Time to accomplish redemption rather than defeat.

This responsibility is illustrated in the Gospel account of the two criminals crucified with Jesus. In **Luke 23:40**, one criminal rebukes the other, acknowledging guilt and justice, thereby demonstrating that repentance and moral accountability remain possible even amid satanic influence and historical injustice.

12. Conclusion

Divine Time, created Time, and Spacetime represent three distinct but related dimensions of reality. Divine Time is eternal, unborn, creative, and sovereign, fully identified with the Holy Trinity and residing in the Word of God. Created Time governs human life, while Spacetime structures the physical universe. Scripture shows that Divine Time intervenes in history to heal, judge, destroy evil, and save life. Although humans experience good times and difficult times, all moments remain under the authority of Divine Time. Ultimately, Divine Time is one, not three, and all creation moves toward its fulfillment under God's eternal will.

Keywords

Divine Time, eternity, Word of God, Holy Trinity, created time, spacetime, judgment, salvation history

Footnotes

1. Luke 22:53 — Jesus' declaration identifying a divinely permitted moment of satanic activity, described as the "power of darkness," during His arrest.
 2. Luke 23:40 — Canonical affirmation of human moral responsibility and repentance during the crucifixion.
 3. Gospel of Nicodemus (Acts of Pilate), Part I, chapters 12–16 — Non-canonical early Christian interpretive tradition describing satanic deception surrounding the crucifixion.
 4. Job 1–2 — Scriptural example of satanic agency permitted by God in the testing of a righteous person.
 5. Matthew 4:1–11 — Temptation of Jesus Christ illustrating satanic testing under divine permission.
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