

A Case for the Restoration of Dates to the Bible

How incredible would it be if God's Special Revelation, the Bible, with its complete and detailed account of ancient and current history, actually contained dates? The Bible once included a surprisingly accurate chronology, developed by Bishop James Ussher for his **Annals of the World** in the 1650's. But in the intervening history, those who claimed billions of years of evolution, who claimed science and archeology disprove the Bible and who intentionally and unintentionally misinterpreted Scripture and ancient dating systems, finally succeeded in having Ussher's dates expunged from the Bible by the end of the twentieth century. In addition, I believe God intentionally hid the truth about key aspects of His biblical timeline when He allowed separate dating systems to be used by Israel and Judah during and following the period of the divided kingdom, and He allowed the Jews to corrupt their own calendar when they intentionally dislodged the date for the first advent of the Messiah in their Seder Olam Rabbah (Jewish book of the Order of the World) by more than 150 years, early in the second century A.D in order to justify their false Messiah.

We know from Daniel 12:4 that God told Daniel to *"... shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end...when knowledge shall be increased."* Thus, we have a scriptural basis for understanding why an accurate Bible-based chronology has eluded human understanding for so long. But, today, as the time of the Lord's return draws near and knowledge has greatly increased – not only in the understanding of Bible prophecy, but in practically every area of study and practice, the time has come to apply our increased knowledge and wisdom to the restoration of dates in order to create an accurate, up to date chronology of Bible history. The following important truths are revealed in **A Bible Based Chronology** that makes a strong case to restore dates to the Bible:

- The scientific case for an intelligent designer and a six day creation, only thousands of years ago, is so compelling for those who seek the truth, so well researched and documented and so powerful that it thoroughly and completely refutes evolutionism.
- Scripture reveals 3,184 years of continuously linked history dating from Adam to Solomon that makes it possible, with the revelation of critical absolute dates discovered only after the re-birth of Israel as nation in 1948, to develop an accurate, unbroken chronology that extends from Genesis to Revelation.

There are three important reasons why now, in this season of the Lord's return, is the time to restore dates to the Bible just as God revealed to Daniel.

First, based on the current level of knowledge concerning dates, timelines and chronologies for even the most challenging periods of Bible history, it is now possible to chronicle major events and personages to within one year in many cases and, to specific dates in others (the

chronology of the incarnate Jesus Christ for example) to make a Bible containing dates the most complete and accurate chronology to ever exist in all of human history.

Second, and possibly the strongest evidence for divine inspiration of the Bible is the fact that it contains hundreds and hundreds of fulfilled prophecies. No other book, document or record in all of history even reveals fulfilled prophecy, yet the Bible has a 100% record of accuracy in both prophecy and its fulfillment. Despite nearly one quarter of the Bible being prophetic, prophecy is not even addressed in most bibles being published today. This has now become a critical issue as many prophecies are being fulfilled that point to the soon return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Examples of fulfilled prophecies for the first advent of Christ include: Genesis 22:8 where God told Abraham that He would provide Himself a sacrificial lamb for the world, Numbers 24:1 where Balaam prophesies the Christmas Star, Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53 reveal remarkable details about Christ's crucifixion hundreds of years before the event, Isaiah 7:14 prophesies a virgin birth. Micah 5:2 prophesies that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem, Zechariah 9:9 reveals Christ's triumphal entry on the colt of an ass, and importantly for our time, Isaiah 66:8-9 reveals that Israel would be re-born as a nation in a single day.

These prophecies are well known, but their significance would be greatly enhanced if the date when they were given and fulfilled, with elapsed time between the prophecy and fulfillment, could be presented and highlighted in a way that underscores the major role that Bible prophecy plays throughout Scripture.

What if a dated Bible today contained Appendices with tables that confirm God's incredible, incomparable record of fulfilled Bible prophecy? For the events listed above, such a table might look like this:

Date given	Verse	Prophecy	Date fulfilled	Elapsed Period
2036 BC	Gen 22:8	Christ, the sacrificial lamb	3 Apr 33 AD	2,069 yrs
1405 BC	Num 24:17	The Christmas Star	17 Jun 02 BC	1,403 yrs
990 BC	Psalm 22	Jesus' crucifixion	03 Apr 33 AD	1,023 yrs
722 BC	Isaiah 7:14	The Virgin birth	17 Jun 02 BC	720 yrs
700 BC	Micah 5:2	Bethlehem birthplace	17 Jun 02 BC	700 yrs
520 BC	Zech 9:9	Christ's Triumphal entry	29 Mar 33 AD	553 yrs
698 BC	Isaiah 66: 8-9	Israel born in a day	14 May 1948	2,626 yrs

Third, a dated Bible containing accurate records of fulfilled prophecy, especially concerning the first advent of Christ, provides a strong foundation upon which to build an accurate chronology of fulfilled prophecy for the second advent of Christ. The book, *A Bible-Based Chronology* highlights the most important prophecy from which to start a “time of the end” chronology – the absolute date of May 14, 1948 for Israel’s re-birth as a nation prophesied by Isaiah 2,626 years ago. From this date, it becomes possible to chronicle end time windows of time and the signs spoken of by Jesus, and to other end time prophecies by the prophets and New Testament writers giving clear context and relevance to an end of time chronology that might strengthen the faith of believers and open the eyes of non-believers to the reality of the soon return of Jesus.

The restoration of accurate dating and an end time chronology to the Bible would be powerful confirmation of its inerrancy, incomparability and infallibility. It would confirm that God has a plan and that He is still in control and – that JESUS CHRIST IS COMING AGAIN, SOON!