
Subject: Re: How old is our planet, and the effect this question has on the Bible.
Posted by [Spoony](#) on Sat, 28 Feb 2009 08:24:57 GMT

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fobby, it's basically done by counting the number of generations in the bible. unfortunately the people who do so don't seem to mind that people attend impossibly old ages, nor are they phased by little details like the fact the two accounts of jesus' genealogy in two gospels are so radically different from each other (but then, the gospels manage to contradict each other about every other single major event to do with jesus, so no surprise there)

to answer the general question by reborn: welcome to the way religious people argue compared to the way scientists argue. when scientists look at the evidence and it doesn't tie up to their theory, they adapt the theory or start a new one from scratch. with the religious, the automatic reflex is "oh, it's a metaphor", "i know it says 'days' but it really means something else" etc etc etc. the possibility that the bible is just plain wrong never crosses the mind.

DeadX07 wrote on Fri, 27 February 2009 09:02The Bible states that the Earth was made in seven days. In numerous parts of the Bible you will read that to God, a day is like a thousand years (as well as other similar metaphors).

...like so.

DeadX07 wrote on Fri, 27 February 2009 09:02So I suppose it is possible that the Earth itself is very old, but mankind has only been existant for the 6000 years.

Except it hasn't, it's more like hundreds of thousands of years since we became distinct from the neanderthals and the cromagnons (sp?). Yahweh, on the other hand, has only 'existed' (and I'm stretching that word to breaking point) for a few thousand years.

God did not create Man. Man created God.

DeadX07 wrote on Fri, 27 February 2009 09:02I don't personally believe science and their billion year statistics they always pull out

What do you mean "pull out"? These are conclusions that have been arrived at after studying enormous amounts of evidence, and which are faced by continual scrutiny. If you wanna see a statistic that was "pulled out" of nowhere, go read the Bible.

DeadX07 wrote on Fri, 27 February 2009 09:02but who is to say I am right or wrong. Do we really know anything about our own planet or ourselves for that matter? Not really.

We know buckets and buckets and buckets more about the world, the universe and ourselves than we did at the time the Bible was written.

DeadX07 wrote on Fri, 27 February 2009 09:02After all, we created our own science, so how do we know we are right?

We didn't "create" science, science is simply the word used for the process of studying the world around us. On the other hand, something we clearly did create is gods. They were a very very primitive version of science.

I'll just repeat a point I made in a few other threads. Now, we know a great deal about the planet; we know the world has fissures in its crust, a turbulent weather system, a molten core that is still cooling. This explains earthquakes and hurricanes and whatnot. We know about bacteria, which

goes a long way to explaining most diseases.

When the Bible was written, we didn't know any of this. Therefore we had no real clue why earthquakes and plagues and such happened, so we can perhaps be forgiven for making the best guess we could; "it's the wrath of a celestial super-bully". Why not think that? It was probably the best we could do at the time.

Now, we know better.

Does the point need emphasising? Read the verses about the animals and God supposedly giving man 'dominance' over them. I'll name three examples of animals that are not mentioned absolutely anywhere: bacteria, dinosaurs, and marsupials. Why not? Because the men who wrote the Bible didn't know they existed. Nobody had found a dinosaur skeleton, nobody knew anything about germs, and nobody had a map that featured Australia. What's more, if they did know about bacteria they'd have known that for thousands of years we did not have 'dominance' over them. Indeed, they had dominance over us for thousands of years, a fight in which we are finally, finally turning the tide. No thanks to religion, of course.
