7000 Years is Not Enough

Many Christians subscribe to the theory that the fullness of time will be a flat 7000 years. This generally comes from the creation week. Since there were six days of creation and one day of rest, that translates to six thousand years of man's struggle and one thousand years of Christ's rule. There's plenty of scripture to back up the idea.

Most commonly,

2 Peter 3:8 "...one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

and

Hosea 6:2 "After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight."

This passage in Hosea is what gives many of us the idea that Christ will not return until after two-thousand years. We tend to call it the 'age of grace' or 'the time of the gentiles.'

I agree with the general idea of seven millennia, but a flat 7000 years does not work with scripture. Allow me to explain.

Revelation 20:1-3, 7-8

- "1. And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.
- 2. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,
- 3. And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season."

Also...

- "7. And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,
- 8. And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea."

From this passage we see that Satan is not released until after the thousand-year reign of Christ has 'expired'. This means that either the thousand-year reign of Christ begins before the 6000th year, or

that the thousand-year reign of Christ is not a literal 1000 years, or that the fullness of time will be more than a flat 7000 years.

I reject the first possibility because I (like so many others) have read the Bible and mapped it out on a timeline. Christ was born in 3997AM (3BC) and was crucified and resurrected in 4031AM (32AD).

It seems that many others have come to similar conclusions, all of which shows that Christ lived well past the 4000-year mark. Thus, if He doesn't return for 2000 years, then the date of His return must be after the year 6000, which won't leave enough time for a full thousand-year reign of Christ. Not to mention the 'little season' where Satan is loosed to deceive the nations, the Great White Throne Judgement and New Jerusalem.

I also reject the second possibility. There is nothing in the text of Revelation 20 that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the thousand-year reign of Christ means anything less than a literal 1000 years.

So, that leaves the third possibility. There will have to be more than just 7000 years, but how much more? I'm glad you asked...

Remember that 'little season' when Satan is to be loosed? It turns out that scripture doesn't use that phrase very often, but before we see how scripture defines a 'little season', let's take a quick look at how scripture defines a 'long season'. Fortunately, it doesn't use that phrase much either.

The term 'long season' only appears twice and has the same Strong's definition (H3117),

Joshua 24:7 "And when they cried unto the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season."

Here we can see that a 'long season' is clearly defined as a 40-year span of time.

2 Chronicles 15:3 "Now for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law."

Here we have to read the surrounding context (2 Chronicles 14-15:10) to figure it out. From the start of Jeroboam's reign (King of Israel) until the 15th year of Asa's reign (King of Judah) was 34 years.

So, a 'long season', as shown by examples in scripture is about 34 to 40 years.

The phrase 'little season' only appears twice, both times in the Revelation and both times with the same Strong's definition (G5550).

Revelation 6:11 "And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled."

Here we see the only other use of the phrase 'little season' and it appears during the Fifth Seal. All seven of the seals are associated with the time of the Tribulation, which spans a total of seven years. This Fifth Seal event must occur at some point in the middle since it resulted from the first four seals. Therefore, a 'little season' is shown by example in scripture to be less than 7 years, probably 3 to 5 years.

So, this brings us back to the question, how long will Satan be loosed to deceive the nations? According to scripture, less than seven years.

According to Revelation 20:7, Satan will be loosed as soon as the 1000 years of Christ's reign have 'expired'.

So, we can add the 'less than 7 years' to the 1000 years and considering that there isn't anything left afterwards but the Great White Throne Judgement and New Jerusalem, I believe that this indicates no more than 1007 years.

But wait, there's more...

The time after the thousand-year reign of Christ is not the only occurrence where scripture indicates a span of time beyond the 1000yrs=day mentioned in 2 Peter.

Let's take another look at Hosea 6:2.

"After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight."

If you think about it, 'after two days', is the same as 'in the third day'. But this is indicating something else.

What it's saying is that after 2000 years God will 'revive' Israel. This will be done through the time of Jacobs trouble (the Tribulation). It's referring to the 144,000, which are comprised of 12,000 from each of the tribes of Israel.

So, the Tribulation will take place after 'two days' (2000 years) from Christ, and before His thousand-year reign. The thousand-year reign of Christ is the 'third day' mentioned in the passage. Israel will indeed be raised up and live in His sight, along with all other believers that have been saved by His grace!

This shows that the 'day = 1000 years' of 2 Peter 3:8 is true, but that there is another seven years of real time that passes in between.

As indicated in scripture, the fullness of time cannot be a flat 7000 years, but rather, it will be seven spans of 1007 years, or a total of 7049 years.

'But wait', I can hear you say, 'it could be a little less, or a little more. Why 1007 years?' Again, I'm glad that you asked...

Let's take a look at the beginning and the end of time, through the lens of 2 Peter 3:8

According to Genesis 1 and 2, there were 6 days of creation and then one day when God rested (the first Shabbat). Genesis 3 picks up immediately after that day of rest (the 7th day). In the early morning of the 8th day is when the serpent deceived Eve. After-which, God called to them while He was walking in the 'cool of the day'.

Genesis 3:15 is where the messianic prophecy is given.

So, at the beginning there were 7 days, in that 7th day mankind was at peace with God, the very next day Satan came to deceive.

In Revelation 20 we read that after Christ returns, Satan will be bound 1000 years. A thousand-years that Christ, the Prince of Peace, will reign over the whole earth. Once that time has expired, Satan will be loosed into the last 7 years to deceive the nations.

As it says in 2 Peter 3:8, '...one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.'

So, one day (the 7th day) is with the Lord as a thousand years (1000-year reign of Christ), and a thousand years as one day.

The messianic prophecy that began in Genesis 3:15 is finished in Revelation 20:15.

So, as the 7th day (the first Shabbat) was preceded by the days of creation, the 1000-year reign of Christ will be followed by 7 years in which sin is dealt with and the heavens and earth are passed away.

I believe that Jesus created the Heavens and the Earth, and all that in them is. I also believe that He designed everything from atoms to asteroid belts. This includes time itself. Jesus is the Master Engineer! Everything was designed by Him, and I believe that He has left His fingerprints all over everything, including the timeline. If we look, He will reveal them to us.

One way to see this design would be to look at the increments that time has been divided into. Like the hands of a clock. Hours, minutes, seconds. These increments must be relevant to both the physical world and scriptural events.

The Appendix below contains a list of every year from 7000 to 7080 and the factors (numbers that divide evenly into the base number) for each of them. A quick survey of those numbers and their factors will show you that very few of them (only one really-7049) meets the criteria.

Each of the factors of 7049 are relevant to our world and the timeline of scripture.

Please compare the information below with the other numbers and their factors.

The point is not only that 7000 years is not enough, but that the factors of 7049 reveal the glory of Jesus' masterful engineering of time itself.

Here is a very small sample of what the research has revealed concerning the factors of 7049.

- 1 The unit of measure is one year (Relevant to the Sun)
- 7 The Shemitah Cycle (6:1 work:rest) (Relevant to the Earth)
- 19 The Metonic Lunar Cycle (Relevant to the Moon)
- The number of days from the Crucifixion of Christ to Pentecost
- The years when the Shemitah Cycle and Lunar Cycle resynchronize Caezium-133 is the element used to define a 'second' of time
- 371 The number of days that Noah's family spent in the Ark (Flood)
- 1007 The thousand-year reign of Christ to New Jerusalem
- 7049 The number of years that Jesus will have worked in order to secure our salvation

APPENDIX 1:

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1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 20, 24, 30, 40, 59, 60, 118, 120,
     177, 236, 295, 354, 472, 590, 708, 885, 1180, 1416, 1770, 2360, 3540,
     7080
     PRIME (1, 7079)
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7076 1, 2, 4, 29, 58, 61, 116, 122, 244, 1769, 3538,
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7075 | 1, 5, 25, 283, 1415, 7075
7074 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 18, 27, 54, 131, 262, 393, 786, 1179, 2358, 3537, 7074
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     1, 11, 643, 7073
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     416, 442, 544, 884, 1768, 3536, 7072
     1, 3, 2357, 7071
7071
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7069
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7061 1, 23, 307, 7061
7060 | 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 20, 353, 706, 1412, 1765, 3530,
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     1, 2, 3529, 7058
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     1, 2, 3527, 7054
7053 | 1, 3, 2351, 7053
7052 | 1, 2, 4, 41, 43, 82, 86, 164, 172, 1763, 3526, 7052
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7045 1, 5, 1409, 7045
     1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, 587, 1174, 1761, 2348,
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     PRIME (1, 7027)
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7022 1, 2, 3511, 7022
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7016 | 1, 2, 4, 8, 877, 1754, 3508, 7016
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     1, 2, 5, 10, 701, 1402, 3505, 7010
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     1, 3, 5, 15, 467, 1401, 2335, 7005
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