

This is Why the Earth is Older Than 6,000 Years

By Richmond Shee

Most Christians are taught that the Earth is young, around 6,000 years old, based on the account given in the book of Genesis. However, evolutionists believe that the Earth is billions of years old. It is interesting to note that both groups examine the same evidence - fossils, rocks, and bones - yet come to vastly different conclusions. Both sides have experts, methods, evidence, and convincing arguments, and there seems to be no resolution in sight for their disagreement.

The aim of this paper is to demonstrate to believers that the Bible supports an older Earth, much older than the widely accepted 6,000 years, and that the account of creation in Genesis (excluding Genesis 1:1) is actually an account of recreation.

The issue of the Earth's age is important because, as Christians, we have a responsibility to understand, live, and share the word of God correctly. God starts the Bible with the story of recreation. If we don't get this right, our foundation will be flawed, potentially leading to further problems.

Before presenting my arguments, I would like to provide some context for the readers.

- I am a Christian who has been saved by God's grace through faith. I do not believe in evolution or any hybrid theories such as Theistic evolution.
- I adhere to the belief that the six days of creation in Genesis 1 were literal 24-hour days.
- My evidence is based solely on scripture. I will not be taking into account physical evidence or science at this time. The apostle Peter, who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus Christ and heard God declare His love for His son, tells us in 2Peter 1:19 that we have a “more sure” word of prophecy. In other words, the word of God is more trustworthy than our senses or measurements.

With this context established, let's begin to examine why the Earth is older than the widely accepted Christian age of 6,000 years.

Where in the Bible did you learn about creation?

If you rely solely on Genesis, you are only getting a small portion of the story. It's like arriving late to a 2-hour movie and only being able to see the final six minutes.

The account of creation is spread throughout the Bible. The books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Nehemiah, and 2Peter all contain verses on creation. Genesis picks up the story after the fall of Lucifer and is a story of recreation, while the other books provide information on the creation story prior to the fall of Lucifer. When all the books are taken into account, the picture that emerges is of a much older Earth.

There was a time when the Earth was considered God's footstool (Isaiah 66:1), and Lucifer led the hosts of heaven in worshipping God. Everything was harmonious. However, this peace was disrupted when Lucifer rebelled against God and took one-third of the stars of heaven (angels) with him (Revelation 12:3-4). This resulted in a loss for the Kingdom of God, and Lucifer became the devil.

The rebellion of Lucifer, although not mentioned in the book of Genesis, cannot be ignored. It is a legitimate part of the history of the Kingdom of God and is one of the crucial pieces that every believer must incorporate. Once in its proper place, the picture reveals an old Earth. Creation teachings that are based solely on the first two chapters of Genesis are incomplete. Those who hold a young Earth perspective will struggle to fit the fall of Lucifer into the picture, often dismissing it as having occurred at some point in the past. Their creation story will never be complete or accurate without it.

The commonly told creation story goes as follows: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the Earth. The Earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the surface of the deep. The Spirit of God hovered over the waters. On day 1, God created spiritual light. On day 2, He made the sky, and on day 3, He created dry land, vegetation, and trees. On day 4, He made the sun, moon, and stars. On day 5, He created sea creatures and birds, and on day 6, He created land creatures and Adam. He rested on day 7.

However, this story is only a partial account. It does not include the creation of spiritual beings, such as angels, seraphim, cherubim, and Lucifer, for God's service. *Nehemiah 9:6 Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.*

These spiritual beings existed before Adam and inhabited the Earth. They worshiped God from that time, before day 1 of Genesis 1. We must ask when these spiritual beings were created and for how long the Earth was used as a platform for worship before Lucifer rebelled, took a third of the heavenly forces with him, and a war broke out. And, how soon after the rebellion did God create Adam to replenish the loss? Without considering the existence and actions of spiritual beings, it is easy for believers to accept the 6,000-year-old model. This model suggests that the Almighty God, the Ancient of Days, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, who is eternal, only recently, 6,000 years ago, decided to create something for Himself. One thing is for sure, God was not lonely before Adam and Eve.

Psalms 41:13 Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.



When did God create spiritual beings, including Lucifer, for His worship? God is never without worship. Rev 4:8

The earth served as a platform for worship, so it had to exist during this time. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

There was Eden, and Lucifer (not the serpent) was in it.

Eze 28:13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. 14 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

When did Lucifer rebel, become Satan, and draw 1/3 of the angelic beings with him?

Eze 28:16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. 17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

How long was the angelic war that destroyed the earth and turned it into "without form and void?" Jer 4:19-23

Gen 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

When did God begin to clean up and replenish the missing spiritual beings?

When did God create Adam and Eve for this purpose?



And you try to fit all that history in 6,000 years?



Here are four proof points for a much older Earth:

1. The Lucifer Puzzle

No one would argue that the devil was Lucifer. According to Ezekiel 28:14, he was the anointed cherub who covered the mercy seat. His name means "light bearer" and he was a perfect creation of God. *Ezekiel 28:15a Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created.* (God only used the word "good" to describe the things created in Genesis 1, but He ascribed "perfect" to Lucifer.)

Lucifer was the sum of God's creation, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty (Ezekiel 28:12). In other words, he was the epitome of perfection and nothing could be added to him.

However, we know that Lucifer was not satisfied with being second in command. He wanted to be like God. His iniquity corrupted him and caused his downfall. *Isaiah 14:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!* ¹³ *For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:* ¹⁴ *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.* ¹⁵ *Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.* *Ezekiel 28:15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.* ¹⁶ *By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.* ¹⁷ *Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.*

But when did Lucifer become Satan, the devil, the dragon, or the serpent that deceived Eve? And where does this fit in the events in Genesis 1 below?

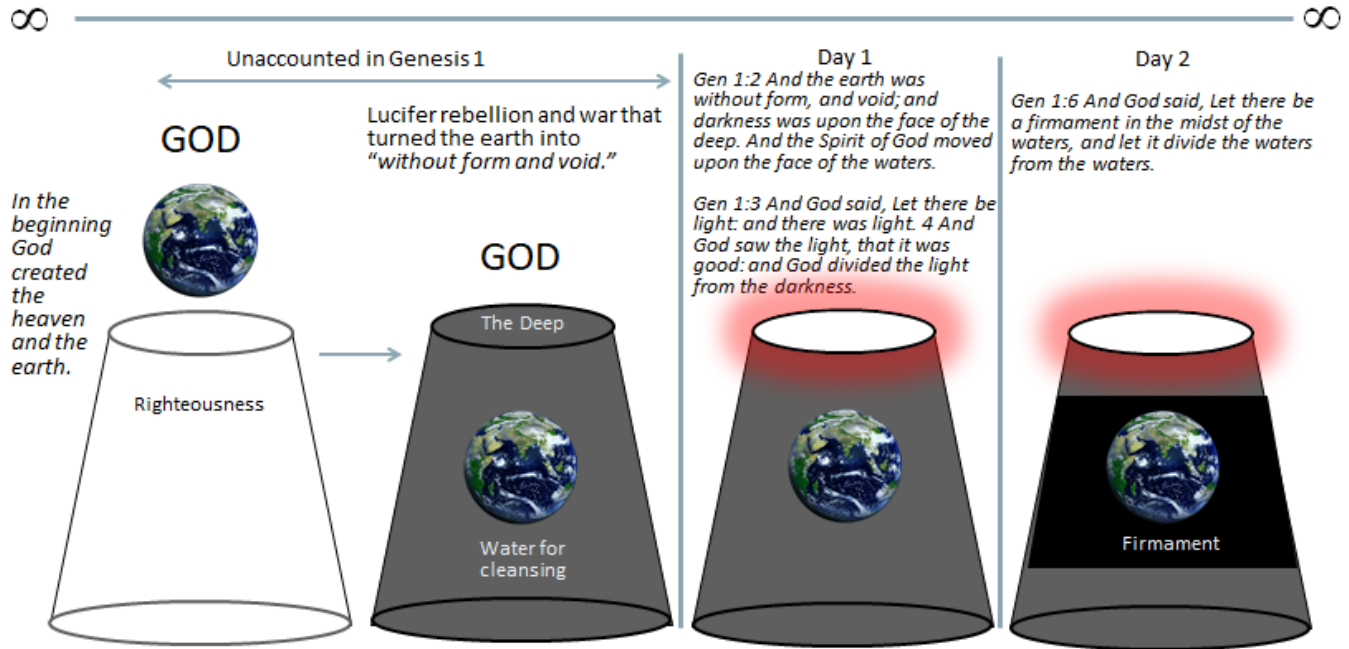
Day 1	Heaven and earth and spiritual light	The light was good (Genesis 1:4)
Day 2	Firmament (the space)	
Day 3	Land, sea, vegetative life	They were good (Genesis 1:12)
Day 4	Physical lights	They were good (Genesis 1:18)
Day 5	Animal life that originates from waters, and birds	They were good (Genesis 1:21)
Day 6	Animal life that originates from earth. Adam and Eve also.	They were good and very good (Genesis 1:25, 31)
Day 7	God rested	

Based on the above events, one might assume that Lucifer rebelled on day 2 because it was the only day that God did not label as good. However, this view is problematic because according to Ezekiel 28:13, Lucifer and not the serpent appeared in Eden. *Ezekiel 28:13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.*” This is to say Lucifer had not fallen. However, Genesis 3:1 states that Eve saw a serpent. If you go with Genesis 3:1, you would have to exclude Ezekiel 28:13 from your Bible. But we know that the word of God and does not contradict itself.

The best indication of when Lucifer became the devil may be found in 1John 3:8, “*He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God*

was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.” Lucifer became the devil from (or since) the beginning, not in the beginning, meaning after Genesis 1:1. This paper will attempt to show that the fall of Lucifer occurred sometime between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2.

Psalms 41:13 Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.



It is intriguing that an event as significant as the fall of Lucifer is not recorded in the book of Genesis. Could it have happened before day 1? Yes, it makes sense that Lucifer fell prior to day 1 of Genesis 1. The context of Ezekiel 28:13 suggests that Eden was initially given to Lucifer, and that it was the first Eden that God created for him. Adam's garden was the second Eden, and it was a recreation. Eve encountered the serpent, not Lucifer. In other words, Lucifer had already fallen when he approached Eve (Genesis 3:1). The Bible does not specify how long Lucifer carried out his duties in the first Eden on Earth before he rebelled. It could have been hundreds, thousands, millions, or billions of years. But we know that this event happened long ago, and the Earth could be much older than 6,000 years.

2. **The Condition of the Earth in Genesis 1:2**

“And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”

Why was the earth formless, vain, void, empty, and dark (absent of spiritual light)? These characteristics contradict God's nature, character, and glory. If you were a king with unlimited resources,

and owned the cattle on a thousand hills, would you want your subjects to worship you from a formless, empty, and dark platform? Wouldn't that diminish your glory?

The Earth couldn't have originally been void or empty because spiritual beings were present on it before Adam. God himself said that He did not create an earth that was formless and void. *Isaiah 45:18 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.*

The Earth also could not have originally been a dark place. It does not make sense for God, the Father of lights (James 1:17) and without sin (1John 3:5), to create something that is void of spiritual light and is evil (darkness). That is completely out of character for Him. He clothed Adam and Eve in light, and made his ministers a flaming fire (Psalms 104:4). Lucifer was the “light bearer”!

I can only imagine how beautiful and glorious the Earth was when it was a worship platform for the heavenly hosts - “*when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy*” (Job 38:7). It does not make sense for them to sing and shout for joy over an Earth that was formless and void. There was the Garden of Eden, and there may have been sea creatures, animals, mountains, and hills. Jeremiah 4:25 says, “*I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled.*” This refers to birds impacted by the angelic war. I am convinced that the Earth was not originally formless, void, and dark.

So, why does Genesis 1:2 present such a horrible picture, as if something bad had happened after verse 1 and the light had departed? Because something bad did happen. Lucifer sinned, the light departed from him, and darkness (evil) was upon the face of the deep. (Just like when Adam sinned, the light departed and he saw himself as naked). Genesis 1:2 records the condition of the Earth following the rebellion. *Jeremiah 4:23 I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. Isaiah 24:1 Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.* (There is a significant difference between “create” and “make.” To create is to bring something into existence from nothing, as in God spoke the heaven and Earth into existence. To make is to bring something into being from something else, as in to make a cake from various ingredients. In Isaiah 24:1, God had already created the Earth, and it was made empty and waste following Lucifer's sin.)

In the latter part of Genesis 1:2, the Holy Spirit moved to begin the restoration process, which is further evidence that something went wrong between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. The Holy Spirit is consistent

with regeneration and renewal. *Titus 3:3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.* ⁴ *But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared,* ⁵ *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*

There is another thought to consider. Why was the Earth in the water? The Earth was God's footstool, and it doesn't make sense for a footstool to be in water. The reason the Earth was in the water was because it had to be washed as a result of Lucifer's sin (consistent with our salvation, through the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost, as stated in Titus 3:5 above).

Consider the following creation lessons that God gave to Job.

Before Lucifer rebelled:

Job 38:4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. ⁵ *Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?* ⁶ *Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;* ⁷ *When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?*

After Lucifer rebelled:

Job 38:8 Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? ⁹ *When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it,* ¹⁰ *And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors,* ¹¹ *And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?*

When Lucifer sinned, God set bars and doors in heaven to prevent him from entering and polluting it. The Earth was plunged into water for cleansing.

There is an unknown number of years between Genesis 1:1, when God created the Earth as a platform for worship led by Lucifer, and verse 2, when light went out and evil was present on the face of the deep. It is likely that the Earth is much older than 6,000 years.

3. Adam and Eve's Mission

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over

every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.” Genesis 1:26-28

Isn't it odd that God commanded Adam and Eve to replenish the earth? What was missing that they had to replenish? Didn't God provide everything for them and declare it all good?

Lucifer's rebellion resulted in the loss of 1/3 of the kingdom of God, and the kingdom had to be replenished. Adam and Eve were tasked with replenishing the kingdom with righteous souls. The Bible doesn't specify the amount of time between Lucifer's fall and Adam's creation, but it's clear that day 1 in Genesis 1 is not the first day of the original earth. Day 1 marks the first day of the newly renovated earth, and the creation account in Genesis (excluding Genesis 1:1) is the account of recreation.

Tragically, due to sin, Adam failed in his mission. But the last Adam, the Lord Jesus, succeeded in fulfilling it. *Matthew 18:11 For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.*

4. The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil

“And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.” Genesis 2:8-9

Adam's Garden of Eden was abundant with beautiful and fruitful trees, but two trees stood out. The Tree of Life represented the Lord Jesus Christ, while the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil represented the devil. The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil was a trap of death and God warned Adam not to eat its fruit, even though it was good for food.

Adam was placed in an imperfect garden, which was already inhabited by the devil. Lucifer must have fallen before Adam's creation, between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. Although the earth is estimated to be 6000 years old, starting from Genesis 1:2, there may be a significant time gap between verses 1:1 and 1:2.

I am grateful that the new heaven and earth that is to come will not have the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, only the Tree of Life. Unlike Adam, I will inherit a place free of the

devil's presence. *Revelation 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. Revelation 22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. ² In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*

Wrapping Up

As Christians, we have a mission: To live and proclaim the truth of God and make disciples. Debating with non-believers about the age of the earth may not necessarily bring them closer to salvation. Instead, it could further discourage them from accepting Christ. It would be more impactful to engage in discussions about sin and the salvation offered through Jesus Christ.

We may need to defend our beliefs about the age of the earth at times, but it's important to choose our battles wisely. If a non-believer believes the earth is billions of years old, we can share the story of Lucifer's fall and link it to the gospel of salvation. If they believe the earth is young, we can share Adam's story and connect it to the gospel. The focus should always be on sin and the redemption available in Jesus.

The aim of this paper is to provide biblical evidence for an older earth. To conclude, I would like to share my creation story. In the beginning, God created one heaven and earth, as well as the heavenly hosts (angels, seraphim, cherubim, including a perfect being named Lucifer) for His worship and service. The earth served as a platform for the heavenly host to worship God, and Lucifer led the worship from the Garden of Eden. However, Lucifer became proud and rebelled, taking a third of the kingdom with him, and a war erupted in heaven. God cast Lucifer out of the mountain of God and put out his light. God then began the restoration process, plunging the earth into water for cleansing. This marks the beginning of Genesis 1:2 and the rest is known history.