

# God's Great "Week" of Redemptive Time

## The 6000-Year Apocalyptic Cycle:

At creation God introduced the number "**seven**" as the last day of the week, a sacred time. That number was later "codified" in the Old Testament in numerous ways to illustrate **redemptive history**: e.g., seven years ending in a Sabbath year, seven months for the Jewish sacred year (Abib through Tishri – when the Atonement was completed). The number "**seven**" always had a **holy** purpose.

The Jewish Talmud often referred to God finishing His saving work in 6000 years from Adam's fall. During the seventh millennium it would be a time of "release" or the "Messianic millennium." Early "Christian" writers often referred to man's probation as lasting 6000 years – then God's kingdom would come.

That 6000 years, plus that kingdom 1000 years, is 7000 years, which came to be known as God's Great Week of Time.

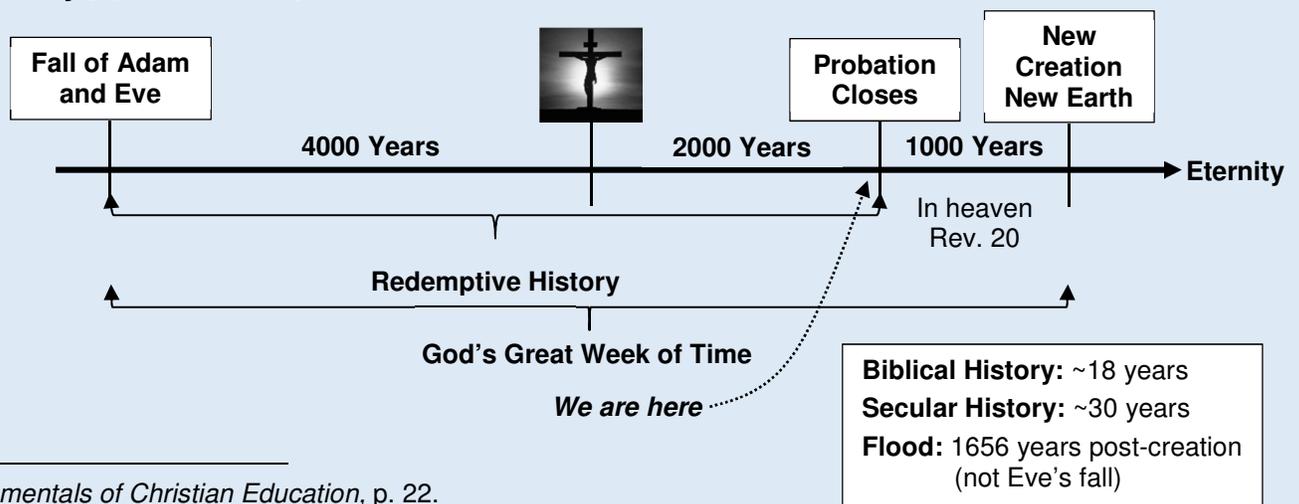
## Expositor E. G. White had fascinating insight into this period:

**Duration of sin:** "God endowed man with so great vital force that he has withstood the accumulation of disease brought upon the race in consequence of perverted habits, and has continued **for six thousand years**."<sup>1</sup>

**Duration of the Great Controversy:** "**For six thousand years** the great controversy has been in progress; the Son of God and His heavenly messengers have been in conflict with the power of the evil one, to warn, enlighten, and save the children of men."<sup>2</sup>

**Redemptive history will end as the 6000 years close:** "Satan's work of ruin is forever ended. **For six thousand years** he has wrought his will, filling the earth with woe and causing grief throughout the universe."<sup>3</sup>

## **Graphically** [figures rounded off]:



<sup>1</sup> *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 22.

<sup>2</sup> *The Great Controversy*, p. 656.

<sup>3</sup> *The Great Controversy*, p. 673.