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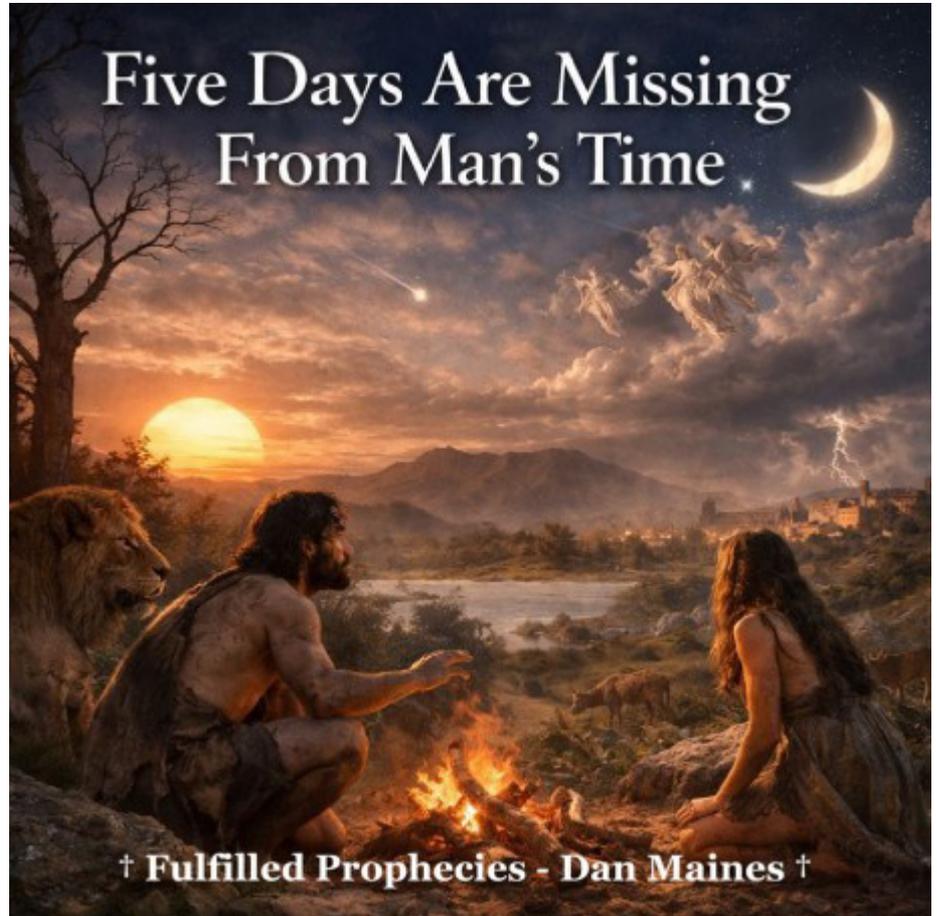
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Five Days Are Missing From Man's Time



By Dan Maines

Five Days Are Missing From Man's Time

Introduction

† This message is not about denying Scripture, it's about letting Scripture define time on God's terms, not ours.

† The Bible never says God's time and man's time are the same thing, and Genesis itself gives us reasons to pause before making that assumption.

† If Scripture is our authority, then we've got to let the text

Speak, even when it challenges long held traditions.

Genesis 1:14-18

Then God said, Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, and it was so. God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also. God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

† Man's time is clearly defined here, days and years are tied to the sun, moon, and stars.

† Before this point, Scripture gives no mechanism for measuring human time.

† This shows man's time begins when God establishes lights to govern it.

Genesis 1:3-5

Then God said, Let there be light; and there was light. God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

† Evening and morning exist before the sun and moon are created.

† There is no man present to observe, measure, or count these days.

† This cannot be man's time, it must be God's time.

† The light of Day One is not the sun, which is created later.

† Scripture consistently presents God Himself as light.

† This supports divine illumination rather than a solar source.

† With no man, sun, or moon, God's evening and morning could

span far beyond human measurement for day one.

Genesis 1:6-8

Then God said, Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters. God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

† The expanse describes God establishing order within creation by separating what was previously undivided.

† The separation of the waters shows God structuring creation according to His purpose, not human observation.

† God naming the expanse heaven identifies His authority over what He formed and defined.

† With no man, sun, or moon, God's evening and morning could span far beyond human measurement for day two.

Psalms 104:2

Covering Yourself with light as with a cloak, Stretching out heaven like a tent curtain.

† God is described as clothed in light.

† This aligns with the light of Day One preceding the sun.

† The source of light is God Himself.

1 Timothy 6:16

Who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see.

† God's dwelling is light itself.

† This reinforces that light does not require created bodies.

† The first light fits God's nature.

Revelation 21:23

And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on

it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

† God provides light without the sun.

† This shows divine light is sufficient for life and order.

† Genesis follows the same pattern.

Isaiah 60:19

No longer will you have the sun for light by day, nor for brightness will the moon give you light; but you will have the Lord for an everlasting light.

† God is explicitly identified as everlasting light.

† This confirms the nature of the first light.

† God does not merely provide light, He replaces the need for the sun and the moon entirely, and Scripture identifies this reality in His spiritual Kingdom, the New Jerusalem.

† Scripture interprets Scripture.

Genesis 1:11-13

Then God said, Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them; and it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. There was evening and there was morning, a third day.

† Vegetation appears before the sun exists.

† This means plant life did not depend on the sun at this stage.

† God sustained creation directly.

† With no man, sun, or moon, God's evening and morning could span far beyond human measurement for day three.

Deuteronomy 8:3

Man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord.

- † Life is sustained by God's word, not physical systems.
- † This principle applies to all creation.
- † Vegetation existed by divine provision.

Matthew 4:4

Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.

- † Jesus affirms this truth.
- † God's word sustains life apart from natural means.
- † Genesis reflects this reality.

Hebrews 1:3

Upholding all things by the word of His power.

- † Creation is sustained by God's power.
- † The sun was not required for preservation.
- † God alone is sufficient.

Isaiah 46:10

Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done.

- † God's time is purpose driven.
- † His days are defined by accomplishment.
- † Genesis days reflect divine purpose, not clocks.

Psalms 90:2-4

From everlasting to everlasting, You are God. For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it passes by.

- † God's time is not measured like man's.
- † Long periods are insignificant to Him.
- † This applies directly to creation days.

2 Peter 3:8

With the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand

years like one day.

- † Scripture explicitly separates God's time from man's.
- † This supports non human measurement of early days.
- † Genesis allows for extended duration.

Job 38:4-7

Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth.

- † Man was not present.
- † Timekeeping did not exist.
- † God alone acted and defined the process.

Job 10:4-5

Do You have eyes of flesh? Or do You see as a man sees? Are Your days as the days of a mortal, or Your years as man's years.

- † Scripture directly contrasts God's days with man's days.
- † God's time cannot be assumed to match human time.
- † This removes the requirement for human length days.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

He has made everything appropriate in its time. He has also set eternity in their heart, yet so that man will not find out the work which God has done from the beginning even to the end.

- † Man cannot fully comprehend God's timing.
- † Scripture acknowledges limits to human understanding.
- † Creation timing fits this principle.

Psalms 102:25-27

Of old You founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. Even they will perish, but You endure; and all of them will wear out like a garment.

- † Creation is subject to time.
- † God is not subject to time.
- † This distinction governs how we read Genesis.

Genesis 2:4

This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made earth and heaven.

- † All creation is summarized as one day.
- † Scripture itself uses day flexibly.
- † This confirms non rigid usage.

Exodus 20:11

For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them.

- † Scripture affirms six days of creation.
- † Scripture does not define their length.
- † Duration is not specified.

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God.

- † Faith rests on God's word, not timelines.
- † The focus is on divine action.
- † Duration is irrelevant to the message.

Revelation 1:8

Who is and who was and who is to come.

- † God exists across all time simultaneously.
- † He is not bound to chronology.
- † He was present long before man.

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

- † God's nature does not change.
- † His work is not limited by time.
- † Scripture never demands a 6,000 year earth.

- † Three days pass before the sun exists.
- † Five days pass before man exists.
- † Without man, this cannot be man's time.

Historical References

- † Augustine stated the days of creation cannot be ordinary days since the sun was created later.
- † Origen acknowledged the creation days are not to be understood as common days.
- † Philo described creation as divine order, not chronological sequence.
- † Justin Martyr affirmed God's eternal nature beyond time.
- † Irenaeus taught God is not bound to created order.
- † Josephus acknowledged God's works exceed human understanding.

How It Applies To Us Today

- † Scripture does not require us to defend assumptions.
- † God's authority stands independent of timelines.
- † Faith rests in God's word, not tradition.

- † The Bible tells us what God did, not how long He took by our clocks.
- † God's time and man's time are not the same.
- † Letting Scripture speak strengthens confidence, not doubt.

Anticipating Common Objections

† Some will argue that evening and morning must always mean a 24 hour solar day, but the text itself places evening and morning before the sun exists.

† Scripture defines man's days by the sun and moon, and those are not created until Day Four.

† Therefore Scripture itself prevents us from forcing a solar definition onto Days One through Three.

† Others will claim that questioning the length of the days undermines biblical authority, but Scripture never defines the length of those days.

† Accepting what Scripture does not specify is not compromise, it is submission to the text.

† Biblical authority is upheld by saying no more and no less than what God has revealed.

† Some will say this introduces human reasoning, yet every conclusion here comes directly from Scripture interpreting Scripture.

† God's time is explicitly distinguished from man's time throughout the Bible.

† Letting God define His own work honors Him rather than confining Him to human limits.

Covenant Fulfillment and God's Time

† Just as God's creative work was not bound to man's measurements of time, His redemptive work was also carried out according to His appointed time.

† Scripture consistently shows that God fulfills His purposes when the time is full, not when man expects it.

† This same principle governs both creation and covenant.

† When we allow God to define time in creation and covenant, we see that Scripture has always been fulfilled according to His purpose, not man's expectations.

Habakkuk 2:3

For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay.

† God sets the appointed time.

† Delay is only perceived from a human perspective.

† Fulfillment occurs exactly when God intends.

Galatians 4:4

But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son.

† Christ did not come early or late.

† Redemption unfolded on God's timetable.

† Time is defined by divine purpose.

Matthew 24:34

Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

† Jesus anchored fulfillment to a specific generation.

† God's timing was precise, not symbolic or delayed.

† The promise was fulfilled exactly as spoken.

Revelation 1:1-3

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond servants, the things which must soon take place. And He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond servant John. Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

† Soon and near are defined by God's perspective, not future delay.

† Fulfillment occurred within the stated time frame.

† Measuring prophecy by man's clock leads to error.

† Forcing Genesis into human time creates the same mistake as forcing prophecy into human delay.

† Both errors come from measuring God by man's clock.

† Letting God define His own time preserves the integrity of Scripture.

Closing Reflection

† Before walking away from this, consider what Scripture itself has shown us.

† Not opinions, not tradition, just the order the Bible gives.

† Man is not created until Day Six.

† The sun and moon, which define human days and years, are not created until Day Four.

† Days One through Five occur with no man present to observe or measure them.

† Three days pass before the sun exists.

† Five days pass before man exists.

† Therefore, none of the first five days can honestly be called man's time.

† This is not denying Scripture.

† This is letting Scripture define its own terms.

Why We Speak of Seven Days When Timekeeping Begins on Day Four

† Scripture clearly states that God created in six days and rested on the seventh, and those days are real and ordered as recorded in Genesis.

† At the same time, Scripture does not define all days in the same way.

† On Days One through Three, there is light, evening, and morning, but there is no sun or moon to measure time.

† Without the sun and moon, Scripture provides no mechanism

for defining days and years as man later understands them.

† On Day Four, God creates the sun, moon, and stars and assigns them a specific function.

† Scripture explicitly states that these lights are for signs, seasons, days, and years.

† This is the first point in the creation account where measured time is defined.

† This means the Bible presents days before timekeeping exists, and then introduces timekeeping later.

† The days are real, but their duration is not defined in human terms until Day Four.

† Man himself is not created until Day Six.

† Even after timekeeping begins, there is still no man present to live within or observe that measured time.

† For this reason, Scripture allows us to affirm seven real days of creation while also recognizing that not all days are measured by the same standard.

† The text never states that Days One through Three must be solar, twenty four hour days.

† When Scripture defines how time is measured, we are bound by that definition.

† When Scripture does not define duration, we are not free to impose one.

† This preserves the authority of Scripture by letting God define His work on His own terms rather than forcing human measurements onto divine action.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Genesis 1:3-5; Genesis 1:11-13; Genesis 1:14-18; Genesis 2:4; Exodus 20:11; Job 10:4-5; Job 38:4-7; Psalm 90:2-4; Psalm 102:25-27; Psalm 104:2; Isaiah 46:10; Isaiah 60:19; Matthew 4:4; Hebrews 1:3; Hebrews 11:3; Hebrews 13:8; 1 Timothy 6:16; 2 Peter 3:8; Revelation 1:8; Revelation 21:23

† Augustine, Confessions; Origen, De Principiis; Philo of Alexandria, On the Creation; Justin Martyr, Dialogue with Trypho; Irenaeus, Against Heresies; Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews

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