

If The Days Can Mean Ages

by **Steven J. Wallace**

If “days” in Genesis 1 can mean “ages,” why not “interpret” other words in the Bible to mean something other than what they say? If we are going to be in the “word changing business” why not change several words in the Bible to mean something else? Let us interpret the rest of the Bible as a “Day-Ager” does
Genesis 1.

- If “days” in Genesis 1 can mean “ages,” why not interpret “all” in Genesis 7:21 as “some?” After all, the Bible doesn’t really mean to indicate that all the world was overcome by water, and therefore the flood could not have killed every living thing on the earth. It must have only flooded the Mesopotamian valley as there just could not be enough time in forty days to flood the entire world. “The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered. And all flesh died that moved on the earth. . .” (Gen. 7:20, 21b). But, does the Bible say what it means?
- If “days” in Genesis 1 can mean “ages,” why not interpret “virgin” in Isaiah 7:14 as “woman” for we know that it is biologically impossible for a virgin to conceive. “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel” (Is.7:14). Does the Bible say what it means?
- If “days” in Genesis 1 can mean “ages,” why not interpret “by the resurrection from the dead” as “by being resuscitated from near death” in Romans 1:4? The idea of a literal resurrection might be true, but that is not the best “interpretation.” This “interpretation” is supported by the New Testament Text. Lazarus, for example, was believed to be dead, in fact he even stunk, but Jesus said that he was just sleeping and needed to be woken up John 11:11. Since we can ignore “the evening and the morning” in Genesis 1, we can also ignore that Jesus plainly said Lazarus was dead (Jn. 11:14). Does the Bible say what it means?
- If “days” in Genesis 1 can mean “ages,” why not interpret “whoever” as “if any disciple” in Matthew 19:9? You may accept the literal “interpretation” of “whoever” but that is not the best Biblical “interpretation.” After all, marriage is something that God instituted just like the church. Until you are in God, you cannot be married, just like until you are in Christ you cannot be in the church, right? But then again, were any Old Testament persons in the church? Was Cain’s wife really his “wife” (Gen. 4:17)? If “days” doesn’t mean “days,” then I guess “whoever” doesn’t mean “whoever.” Does the Bible say what it means?
- If “days” in Genesis 1 can mean “ages,” why not interpret “week” as “month” in Acts 20:7)? Now you may interpret “week” to mean a literal “week” but that is not the best interpretation. The reason why “week” must mean “month” is because God would be approving of a procedure that would promote a cold ritualistic command. Since this is something that God would never do, we must interpret “week” as month or year, but then again, does the Bible say what it means?
- If “days” in Genesis 1 can mean “ages,” why not interpret “saints” as “good people” in 2 Corinthians 9:1 and be more tolerant of our “liberal” brethren?

After all, “If the church cannot practice pure and undefiled religion (Jas. 1:27), what kind of religion can she practice?” they ask. Surely a good God would want all good people to have good money if they needed it? Even though the Bible says that “saints” were in mind of receiving this gift (2 Cor. 9:1, 12; 1 Cor. 16:1; Rom. 15:25, 26), we should assume that “all” in (2 Cor. 9:13) means all people rather than all Christians. But then again, does the Bible say what it means?

Brethren, what a mess human assumptions make of God’s word! To make assumptions like the above is of the devil and not of God. God does say what he means and means exactly what He says! “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’” (Gen. 3:1). Has God really said it? Has God said, “whoever divorces his wife” (Matt. 19:9)? Has God said, “saints” (2 Cor. 9:1)? Has God said “Days” (Gen. 1)? The devil says God doesn’t know what He is talking about, and He doesn’t mean what He says (Gen. 3:4, 5). Who will you believe? If one can pervert creation then why not the virgin birth, the resurrection from the dead, marriage, the frequency of the Lord’s supper, and benevolence? Why stop there? Since it is okay to surrender the clear teaching of the Bible to evolutionary dogmatism, why not also surrender the Bible’s teaching on male/female roles to feminists’ demands? Why not change 1 Timothy 2:12 to teach, “HOWEVER, [rather than “and” sjw] I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority UNDER [rather than “over” sjw] a man, NOT [rather than “but” sjw] to be in silence”?

What kind of heart does it take to change God’s words? It takes nothing but a dishonest one! Any approach to scripture that imprisons its meaning and arrives at some definition which is completely diametrical with its natural meaning is diabolical and unethical! Brethren, the Lord God will not award any gold medals for such exegetical gymnastics. Is it really that hard to make sense of God’s word regarding the creation, the resurrection, baptism, divorce and remarriage, etc.? The Lord has one thing to say to those who are in the word changing business—“Woe” (Is. 5:20).

“For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth. . .perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men” (2 Pet. 3:5-7). May we never be so proud to toy with the word of God.