



OBSERVATIONS

- Most of the antediluvian patriarchs lived about 900 years.
- Children were sired at progressively earlier ages.
- Enoch was translated (Genesis 5:24; Hebrews 11:5).
- Methuselah died the same year as the flood.
- The flood occurred 1656 years after Adam was created.
- The antediluvian patriarchs all died before the flood—except Noah and Shem.
- Adam died when Lamech, Noah's father, was 56.
- Adam died 126 years before Noah was born.
- Seth died 14 years before Noah was born.
- Noah died three years before Abraham was born.
- Shem outlived Abraham by 35 years.
- Noah and Shem would remember the "giants" of the antediluvian age: this is the source of ancient mythologies. The oldest cuneiform texts are creation and flood stories.

TRANSMISSION OF GOD'S WORD

- God spoke personally to Adam and Eve, Cain, Enoch, Lamech, Noah, and Abraham.
- God instituted preaching and prophetic utterance before the flood. Enoch was the first prophet (Jude 14–15) and Noah the first preacher (2 Peter 2:5).
- There was no written Scripture during the antediluvian age.
- Revelation was passed from generation to generation by oral transmission, as in the case of Abraham (Genesis 18:19).
- There was little chance of accidental loss, distortion, or perversion of God's Word during this period: all the antediluvian patriarchs except Noah could speak directly with Adam about pre- and post-fall events.
- A partial knowledge of God's Word was preserved in the line of Cain to the seventh generation (cf. Genesis 4:15 and 4:24).
- Noah and Shem were alive when writing became common.