

Was Earth Really Created In Six Days?

The debate surrounding the interpretation of the six days of creation can be contentious, especially when confronted with scientific theories supporting an old Earth scenario.

Author of the best-selling book *23 Minutes In Hell*, Bill Wiese lays out six biblical reasons that the Earth was created in six literal days, and is not quite as old as secular scientists believe it to be.

The Scriptural Clarity

Wiese highlights the unambiguous language used in the Bible regarding the creation account. In Genesis 1:5, it explicitly states, "And the evening and the morning were the first day," reinforcing the notion of a literal 24-hour period. This description is reiterated seven times throughout the creation narrative, emphasizing the consistency of the language used.

God's Comparison to Man's Work Week

In Exodus 20:11, God establishes a parallel between His own work during the six days of creation and the way humans are to work and rest. This comparison between the pattern of God's creative work and the work week of humanity further solidifies the notion of literal days. By working for six days and resting on the seventh, we follow and honor God's perfect work of creation.

The Linguistic Evidence

Dr. John D. Morris provides evidence to support the literal interpretation of the days. When the plural form of "yam" (day) is used in the Old Testament, it consistently refers to a literal solar day. This usage is evident in Exodus 20:11 and

over 700 other instances in the Old Testament.

The Consistency of Scripture

Whether it is “six days” or “the third day,” outside of Genesis 1, it always refers to a literal day. This linguistic consistency further reinforces the interpretation of the creation days as 24-hour periods.

Explicit Biblical Statements

The universe’s creation in six days, followed by God’s rest on the seventh day, are stated in the first chapter of Genesis and in the fourth of God’s Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:8-11. The plainness of these statements leaves no room for alternative interpretations.

Literal Interpretation as a Priority

Departing from a literal interpretation requires compelling reasons based on the context of the passage. Therefore, unless there is a clear justification for figurative interpretation, it is essential to uphold the literal understanding of Scripture.

James Lasher is Staff Writer for Charisma Media.

Christian Persecution Intensifies in China with Mandatory Worship App

In a troubling development, it has been alleged that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is testing a new app that

demands citizens pre-register before attending religious services, further restricting religious freedom.

The Voice of the Martyrs, a persecution watchdog, revealed the CCP has rolled out an app in Henan province, requiring individuals to seek approval through the app in order to attend any kind of religious gathering. Todd Nettleton, Chief of Media Relations for The Voice of the Martyrs, explained that citizens must provide personal information, including their identity, address and ID details, to the Chinese government through the app.

The approval process is limited to churches registered with the CCP, leaving house churches and unsanctioned gatherings with no opportunity to obtain permission.

Authorities can now easily check for compliance by asking attendees to present their phones and open the app during church services. The app, known as "Smart Religion," has been developed by the Ethnic and Religious Affairs Commission of Henan Province and applies not only to Christian churches but also to mosques, Buddhist temples and other religious spaces, as reported by CBN News in March.

This app-based regulation raises serious concerns about privacy and personal freedom. With the ability to track individuals and capture their information, the CCP gains further control over citizens' lives.

Nettleton warns that the app could potentially expand throughout China, as seen during the COVID pandemic when a similar app-based control was implemented for public transit and certain buildings.

Sam Brownback, co-chair of the International Religious Freedom Summit, emphasized that the app enables authorities to track and shut down religious gatherings, further limiting church attendance. The implications are particularly worrisome for

unregistered churches, as the government may pressure them to come “under communist control” by promising reduced persecution.

Nettleton also highlighted that the app restricts attendance for individuals under 18, placing additional burdens on adults who must pre-register and subject themselves to potential pressure and persecution. He emphasized the extensive resources available to the CCP, including manpower, surveillance cameras and location tracking, which allow for minute-level control over individuals’ lives.

Persecution watchdogs are closely monitoring the expansion of the app requirements to other provinces. The CCP’s attempts to rewrite a more communism-driven version of the Bible, reported last year, add to concerns about religious freedoms. The proposed new translation, integrating Confucian and Buddhist principles, aligns with the Communist Party’s agenda.

Christians and advocates for freedom of religion remain vigilant in protecting the fundamental right to practice faith without government interference.

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Titan Sub Incident Highlights Moral Decline and Need for Spiritual Renewal

Chicago Pastor Marcus Rogers from Firehouse Church has issued a poignant warning to Christians, drawing attention to the intense spiritual warfare prevailing in today’s world.

The recent incident involving the OceanGate Titan submarine's exploration of the Titanic has sparked concerns regarding the prophesied end times and the imperative of turning toward God. As believers, our Christian worldview significantly influences our perception of the world, underscoring the necessity of prayer for a lost and troubled society.

Rogers points to a step-son of one of the deceased from the OceanGate tragedy attending a rock concert as a symptom of society placing priority in one's self and personal desires over what is moral and good.

While some individuals may debate the appropriateness of attending a concert amid such a crisis, what truly troubles us is the widespread circulation of disrespectful jokes on social media platforms.

This disconcerting trend of trivializing serious situations serves as a vivid manifestation of the perilous era we find ourselves in, as outlined in 2 Timothy 3. People's self-centeredness, relentless pursuit of self-promotion and lack of empathy have become glaringly apparent.

For those who recall the earlier decades, there exists a palpable awareness of a time when America seemed different, a time that held promise. Regrettably for the younger generation, this present distorted reality has become the new normal, potentially obscuring the gravity of societal decline.

As one drives past churches today, the shocking levels of disrespect and moral decadence are evident, presenting a striking contrast to the past. Regardless of those who choose to deny it, the unmistakable decline in moral values cannot be ignored. It is now more critical than ever to seek God, align ourselves with His truth and boldly manifest our faith.

In light of the OceanGate incident and the heartless reactions prevalent on social media, let us fervently pray for the affected families and find the inner strength to stand

unwavering in our beliefs. May we fearlessly proclaim God's truth in the Bible to a world seemingly enamored with sin and rebellion.

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NFL Legend Deion Sanders' Inspiring Prayer & Remarkable Healing

NFL legend Deion Sanders, who recently underwent emergency surgery to treat blood clots in his legs, shared a profound and faith-filled prayer on his Instagram.

Sanders, head football coach at the University of Colorado, had been grappling with blood-flow issues that necessitated immediate medical intervention.

Before his surgery, the eight-time NFL Pro Bowler shared a heartfelt prayer on his Instagram, inspiring and uplifting those who witnessed his faith in action:

“Lord, it’s me. I’m not asking for anything, I just wanted to say thank You. If You never bless me again, Lord, You’ve blessed me enough. I just want to say thank You. If You never cover me again, Lord, You’ve covered me plenty. Thank You. If You never choose to guide me or lead me again, Lord, You’ve led me and guided me enough. I just want to say thank You Lord. Thank You for showing me You, Lord. Thank You for showing me how powerful You are, how mighty You are, how omniscient You are. Lord, I just want to say thank You. When some said they had my back, but all hell broke loose and I’ve

searched far in near, Lord, You were still there. Therefore, I just want to say thank You. Lord, I thank You for all the private battles You fought for me when they thought they had me. Lord thank You. I thank You could just allow me to see the day when many people deserve to see it much more than I do. But You so fitted Lord that I see it one more time. Lord, I just want to say thank You. Lord, I promised to never get weary in thanking You because You never got to weary in blessing me with opportunity, like the opportunity You presented today, that's why we call it the present because it's truly a gift from You. Lord, I thank You."

In a later Instagram video posted on Saturday, Sanders provided an update on his recovery from the surgery, speaking from his hospital bed to his children.