

# SCRIPTURE SLEUTH



**Some people believe** that the earth is millions of years old, but the Bible teaches that the earth is just a few thousand years old. Did you know that we can calculate the age of the earth using the genealogies (jee-nee-AH-luh-jees) in Genesis? A genealogy is a list of ancestors in a family such as parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents.

The genealogies in Genesis 5 and 11 tell us how old each father was when his son was born. We can add up their ages to find how much time passed between Adam and Abraham.

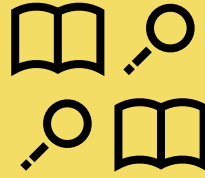
**LOOK UP** each Scripture reference and fill in the column with the age of the father when his son was born. Then, add all the numbers together. (You might want to grab a calculator or ask an adult to help you.)

FATHER	REFERENCE	AGE	SON
1 Adam	Genesis 5:3	_____	Seth
2 Seth	Genesis 5:6	_____	Enosh
3 Enosh	Genesis 5:9	_____	Kenan
4 Kenan	Genesis 5:12	_____	Mahalalel
5 Mahalalel	Genesis 5:15	_____	Jared
6 Jared	Genesis 5:18	_____	Enoch
7 Enoch	Genesis 5:21	_____	Methuselah
8 Methuselah	Genesis 5:25	_____	Lamech
9 Lamech	Genesis 5:28	_____	Noah
10 Noah	Genesis 5:32	_____	Shem
11 Shem	Genesis 11:10	_____	Arpachshad
12 Arpachshad	Genesis 11:12	_____	Shelah

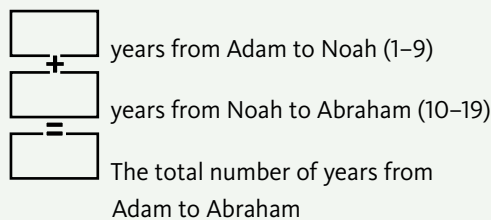
**ANSWERS**

1. 130	2. 105	3. 90	4. 70	5. 65	6. 162	7. 65	8. 187	9. 182	10. 500	11. 100	12. 35
17. 30	18. 29	19. 70	20. 16. 32	21. 13. 30	22. 14. 34	23. 15. 30	24. 16. 32	25. 17. 30	26. 18. 29	27. 19. 70	28. 16. 32
Years from Adam to Noah=1,056											
Years from Noah to Abraham=890											
Age of the earth=about 2000 years											

God tells us to search for wisdom and understanding (Proverbs 2:3–6). The best place to look is in the Bible! So grab your detective gear and let's investigate Scripture, inspect clues, and discover all that God's Word has to teach us.



FATHER	REFERENCE	AGE	SON
13 Shelah	Genesis 11:14	_____	Eber
14 Eber	Genesis 11:16	_____	Peleg
15 Peleg	Genesis 11:18	_____	Reu
16 Reu	Genesis 11:20	_____	Serug
17 Serug	Genesis 11:22	_____	Nahor
18 Nahor	Genesis 11:24	_____	Terah
19 Terah	Genesis 11:26	_____	Abraham



Scholars (people who study the Bible) mostly agree that Abraham lived about 2,000 years before Jesus. And since we are in the year 2023, we know that Jesus came to earth roughly 2,000 years ago.

So how old is the earth? Just add the numbers above!

+  +  =   
 Adam to Abraham    Abraham to Jesus    Jesus to Today    Age of the Earth



BIG QUESTIONS

# Why does God let the bad guys win sometimes?

Verses to Read

Romans 3:23; Romans 8:28;  
 1 Corinthians 15:24–25;  
 Hebrews 10:30–31

**WHEN YOU LISTEN** to the news, you might hear about people hurting each other, starting wars, or stealing things. When God first created the world, everything was “very good.” Bad things didn’t start happening until sin entered the world when Adam and Eve disobeyed God.

From our limited human view, it seems like “bad guys” often get away with their sin. But we need to remember that God is all-powerful and all-knowing. He knows exactly how everything will turn out. In the end, he will judge those who do wrong.

But the Bible says that we have all done wrong. Unless we admit we are sinners in need of Jesus as our

Savior, we will also face God’s punishment.

But God will work all things for good for those who love him.

