

SESSION 19

Reed Genesis 4:25-26 & 5:28-29

1 What is it about Eve's exclamation over the birth of Seth that might show repentance over her misplaced hope in Cain?

2 Why does Genesis wait until 4:26 to report that people began to call upon the name of the Lord? Surely Adam and Eve and even Cain and Able did this. What do we make of this?

Exodus 3:13-14

Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you," and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you."

Exodus 6:2-3

God spoke to Moses and said to him, "I am the Lord. I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD I did not make myself known to them.

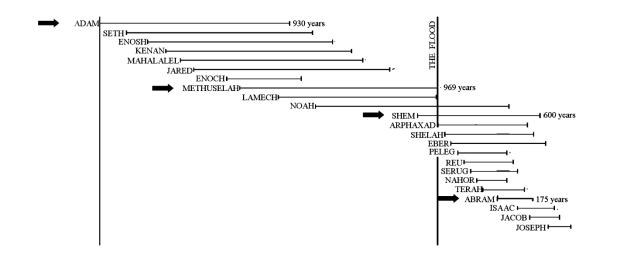
Reed Genesis J:1-32

3 How many of you know all the names in your family tree just 4 or 5 generations back? What were your great grandparents like? What about your great, great grandparents? How did they live out their faith and honor the Lord with their lives? What about 10 or 20 generations back? What were your great-

The Genealogies of Genesis 5 are interesting for a number of reasons. Many of have attempted to write them off as typical exaggerations as found in some other ancient genealogies from the Ancient Near East For example, the ancient Sumerian chronicles of the kings record some fantastic ages—some kings supposedly living tens of thousands of years). Such exaggerations presumably made these ancient Sumerian kings seem more god-like and immortal. But everything about Genesis 5 is different. The context of Genesis is not one of man becoming more like God, but man being separated more and more from God by sin. Additionally, the ages in Genesis 5 aren't nicely rounded numbers. They are quite specific. Seth lived exactly 912 years. Jared lived to 962. Methuselah, 969. Lamech, 777. The genealogy also records the very specific ages of each man when they had their first child and how many years they lived after. Many scholars have attempted to ascribe various possible symbolic meanings to the ages (known as numerology) but the list, because it is very specific, seems to defy such attempts. But many

modern scholars would still agree that the absence of any persuasive reasons for thinking that the ages of these men were so radically different than the age of people today, it seems that a symbolic or rhetorical interpretation is a legitimate option and maybe even a preferable one. **But is there a valid reason for believing these numbers are exactly what they appear to be**? Is there a logical reason to understand them as the literal age of Adam's descendants?

5 If we understand Genesis 5 in a literal way, could these numbers help us determine the precise, or even approximate, age of the earth?



6 What is so special about Enoch? What exactly happened to him?

HEBREWS 11:5

By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.

When does Lamech (Seth's line) demonstrate his faith in the Genesis 3:15 promise in the way that he names his son, Noah?

8 What lessons can we learn from these early chapters of Genesis about passing on the faith to our children and our children's children.