THE QUESTION

# Did early Christians believe the world would last 6,000 years?

*Asked by a THF member on April 11, 2026 · published November 9, 2026, updated November 11, 2026 · 13 numbered quotations · the 29 early Christian passages and 251 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.*

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/did-early-christians-believe-the-world-would-last-6-000-years

## The short answer *Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words*

Several early Christian writers taught that history would last about 6,000 years, followed by a sabbath-like kingdom when Christ returns. They read 666 as all rebellion gathered in the Antichrist, would not name him for sure, and tied the mark to forced worship. None of these passages turns Revelation's one hour into 42 years.

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| **HOW IT WAS MADE** | Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith. |
| **SHARING WITH AN AI?** | Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us. |

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POINT 1 OF 7

## Barnabas read creation week as 6,000 years

***Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say***

The Epistle of Barnabas reads the six days of creation as six thousand years, because with God a day is like a thousand years. It reads the seventh day of rest as the time when the Son returns, judges the ungodly, and changes the sun, moon and stars.

**1**

"Pay attention, my children, to the meaning of the phrase, "He finished in six days." This implies that the Lord will complete all things in six thousand years, for with Him a day is like a thousand years."

*later in the same passage*

"Therefore, my children, in six days, meaning in six thousand years, all things will be completed. "And He rested on the seventh day." This means that when His Son returns, He will destroy the time of the wicked, judge the ungodly, and change the sun, moon, and stars, then He will truly rest on the seventh day."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Barnabas,** *Epistle of Barnabas* (c. 70–132 AD) **Source 2, page 7** Read it in the library ›

*THF's updated English*

POINT 2 OF 7

## The seventh thousand years pictured Christ's kingdom

***Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say***

Hippolytus says 6,000 years must be completed before the Sabbath rest comes, and he calls that Sabbath a picture of the saints reigning with Christ when He comes. Lactantius, a later writer from the early 300s, uses the same pattern and expects righteousness to reign for a thousand years after the six thousandth year.

**2**

"And 6,000 years must be completed so that the Sabbath may come, that is, the rest, the holy day on which God rested from all His works. For the Sabbath is the type and symbol of the future kingdom of the saints, when they will reign with Christ, when He comes from heaven, as John says in his Apocalypse."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hippolytus,** *Exegetical Fragments* 1 (c. 200–236 AD) **Source 23, page 8** Read it in the library ›

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**3** “And again, since God, after finishing His works, rested on the seventh day and blessed it, at the end of the six thousandth year all wickedness must be abolished from the earth, and righteousness must reign for a thousand years.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Lactantius,** *Divine Institutes* 14 (c. 290–320 AD) **Source 29, page 9** **Read it in the library ›**
*THF's updated English*

POINT 3 OF 7

# Irenaeus saw 666 as rebellion summed up

***Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say***

Irenaeus defends 666 as the number in the oldest and best copies of Revelation, counted from the Greek letters of the beast's name. He reads the repeated sixes as rebellion against God from beginning to end, all gathered into the Antichrist, who will be thrown into the fire.

**4** “Given the state of the matter, and this number being found in all the most respected and ancient copies of the Apocalypse, with testimony from those who saw John directly, reason suggests that the beast's name, calculated according to the Greek system by the value of the letters, amounts to six hundred and sixty-six. The number of tens matches the hundreds, and the hundreds match the units. The digit six throughout represents the complete recurrence of apostasy from the beginning, through intermediary periods, to the end.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 12, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
*THF's updated English*

**5** “In this beast, when he arrives, all kinds of iniquity and every deceit are gathered, so that all apostate power, flowing into and confined within him, may be cast into the furnace of fire. Therefore, it is fitting that his name bears the number six hundred and sixty-six, since he embodies all the wickedness that occurred before the flood due to the apostasy of the angels.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 13, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
*THF's updated English*

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POINT 4 OF 7

## They refused to name the Antichrist for sure

***Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say***

Irenaeus says many names add up to 666, so it is safer to wait for the prophecy to be fulfilled than to guess. Hippolytus agrees that the name cannot be explained exactly and that any answer is only a guess.

**6** "It is therefore more certain and less risky to wait for the prophecy to be fulfilled than to make guesses and search for any names that might come up, since many names can be found with the mentioned number; and the question will still remain unanswered."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 11, page 7** Read it in the library ›
*THF's updated English*

**7** "As for his name, it is not in our power to explain it exactly, as the blessed John understood it and was taught about it. We can only give a guess about it."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hippolytus,** *Treatise on Christ and Antichrist* 1 (c. 200–236 AD) **Source 24, page 8** Read it in the library ›
*THF's updated English*

POINT 5 OF 7

## The mark meant forced worship and exclusion

***Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say***

Hippolytus reads the mark of the beast as part of a persecution. Those who will not worship the beast's image are put to death, and believers are hunted and shut out of buying and selling unless they carry the beast's name or bear its mark on the forehead.

**8** "And he will cause all those who will not worship the image of the beast to be put to death. Here the faith and the patience of the saints will appear."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hippolytus,** *Treatise on Christ and Antichrist* 1 (c. 200–236 AD) **Source 18, page 8** Read it in the library ›
*THF's updated English*

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**9** “And the abomination will make war against them everywhere, and will cut them off by sea and by land by his decree, and will try by every means to destroy them from the world. And they will no longer be able to sell their own property, or to buy from strangers, unless a person keeps and carries with him the name of the beast, or bears its mark on his forehead.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hippolytus,** *Exegetical Fragments* 1 (c. 200–236 AD) **Source 20, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
*THF's updated English*

POINT 6 OF 7

# A deceiver, then resurrection and judgment

***Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say***

The Didache, a very early church manual, warns that a world deceiver will pose as the Son of God and do great evil, but those who endure in faith will be saved. Tertullian follows Revelation's order: the devil is bound, the first resurrection comes, and then the final resurrection and judgment.

**10** “Then the deceiver of the world will appear as the Son of God, and he will do signs and wonders, and the earth will be handed over into his hands. He will do wicked things such as have never happened since the beginning. Then humanity will come into the fire of testing, and many will be caused to stumble and will perish. But those who endure in their faith will be saved from the curse itself.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Didache,** *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 16 (c. 50–120 AD) **Source 1, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
*THF's updated English*

**11** “Then, after the devil is cast into the bottomless pit for a while, in Revelation 20:2, the blessed prerogative of the first resurrection may be appointed from the thrones. Then again, after he is consigned to the fire, the judgment of the final and universal resurrection may be determined from the books.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On the Resurrection of the Flesh* 25 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 17, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
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POINT 7 OF 7

## Ten kings share one hour, no years given

***Our note · compiled by machine learning · Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words***

Irenaeus reads Revelation's ten kings as Daniel's ten horns, the last split of the fourth kingdom shown by the statue's toes. He quotes their one hour with the beast and the beast's forty-two months, but he turns neither into years. Reading one hour as about 42 years is not found in these passages.

**12** “He explains what the ten horns seen by Daniel are, telling us this is what was said to him: “The ten horns you saw are ten kings, who have not yet received a kingdom but will receive power as kings for one hour with the beast. They have a single purpose and give their power and authority to the beast. These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them because He is the Lord of lords and the King of kings.””

*later in the same passage*

“Daniel also specifies that the end of the fourth kingdom is represented by the toes of the image seen by Nebuchadnezzar, on which the stone cut without hands fell.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 10, page 7** Read it in the library ›

*THF's updated English*

**13** “And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemy, and authority was given to him for forty-two months.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 8, page 7** Read it in the library ›

*THF's updated English*

THE LIMITS

## What these passages don’t tell us

- These passages do not show that every early Christian held the 6,000-year view.
- No passage here gives the Greek wording of the one hour in Revelation, so they cannot show whether it was mistranslated.
- They do not name the beast for certain or set a date for the end.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

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WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

# The Sources

The 29 early Christian passages and 251 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–29, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 30–192, in Bible order), then 88 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF's updated English unless marked "1885 English" (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). "… [continues online]" marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

## EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *29 passages from 12 writers*

**Didache**, *c. 50–120 AD · source 1*

**1** *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 16 (1885 English) **Quote 10, page 5** shall do iniquitous things which have never yet come to pass since the beginning… [continues online] **read ›**

**Barnabas**, *c. 70–132 AD · sources 2–3*

**2** *Epistle of Barnabas* **Quote 1, page 2** "He finished in six days." This implies that the Lord will complete all things in six thousand years, for with Him a day is like a thousand years. And He… [continues online] **read ›**

**3** *Epistle of Barnabas* (1885 English) "this also I further beg of you, as being one of you, and loving you both individually and collectively more than my own soul, to take heed now to yourselves… [continues online] **read ›**

**Ignatius of Antioch**, *c. 98–117 AD · source 4*

**4** *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (1885 English) "last times are come upon us. Let us therefore be of a reverent spirit, and fear the long-suffering of God, lest we despise the riches of His goodness and… [continues online] **read ›**

**Justin Martyr**, *c. 130–165 AD · source 5*

**5** *Dialogue with Trypho* I and others, who are right-minded Christians on all points, are… [continues online] **read ›**

**Theophilus of Antioch**, *c. 169–183 AD · sources 6–7*

**6** *To Autolycus* 28 "the years from the creation of the world amount to… [continues online] **read ›**

**7** *To Autolycus* 20 Pharaoh, whose name was Amasis. They say that, after the expulsion of the people, he ruled for 25 years and 4 months, as Manetho states. After him, Chebron ruled for… [continues online] **read ›**

**Irenaeus**, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 8–13*

**8** *Against Heresies: Book V* **Quote 13, page 6** "and he will cause death to those who will not worship it." He also says: "And he will cause a mark to be put on the forehead and right hand… [continues online] **read ›**

**9** *Against Heresies: Book V* (1885 English; on point 7) "its ten horns are ten kings which shall arise… [continues online] **read ›**

**10** *Against Heresies: Book V* **Quote 12, page 6** "arise. The existing empire will be divided among them. He explains what the ten horns seen by Daniel are, telling us this is what was said to him: "The ten… [continues online] **read ›**

**11** *Against Heresies: Book V* **Quote 6, page 4** and search for any names that might come up, since many names can be found with the mentioned number; and the question will still remain unanswered. For if many names… [continues online] **read ›**

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**12** *Against Heresies: Book V* **Quote 4, page 3** the state of the matter, and this number being found in all the most respected and ancient copies of the Apocalypse, with testimony from those who saw John directly, reason… [continues online] **read ›**

**13** *Against Heresies: Book V* **Quote 5, page 3** "In this beast, when he arrives, all kinds of iniquity and every deceit are gathered, so that all apostate power, flowing into and confined within him, may be cast into the furnace of fire. Therefore, it is fitting that his name bears the number six hundred and sixty-six, since he embodies all the wickedness that occurred before the flood due to the apostasy of the angels." **read ›**

### **Clement of Alexandria**, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 14–16*

**14** *Stromata* 1.21 "after the judges, there were five hundred and seventy-two years, six… [continues online] **read ›**

**15** *Stromata* 1.21 s life, Joshua succeeded to the leadership of the people. And he, after warring for sixty-five years, rested in the good land another twenty-five. As the book of… [continues online] **read ›**

**16** *Stromata* 1.21 the Roman emperors, in order to show the time of the Savior's birth. Augustus reigned forty-three years; Tiberius, twenty-two years; Caius, four years; Claudius, fourteen years; Nero… [continues online] **read ›**

### **Tertullian**, *c. 196–220 AD · source 17*

**17** *On the Resurrection of the Flesh* 25 **Quote 11, page 5** "the Revelation of John, again, the order of these times is spread… [continues online] **read ›**

### **Hippolytus**, *c. 200–236 AD · sources 18–24*

**18** *Treatise on Christ and Antichrist* 1 **Quote 8, page 4** he says, "And he will cause all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand or in their forehead, that… [continues online] **read ›**

**19** *Exegetical Fragments* 1 (1885 English) "after it, the fourth kingdom of the Romans will succeed, more powerful than those that went before it… [continues online] **read ›**

**20** *Exegetical Fragments* 1 (1885 English) **Quote 9, page 5** "they shall not be able any longer to sell their own property, nor to buy from strangers, unless one keeps and carries with him the name of the beast, or… [continues online] **read ›**

**21** *Treatise on Christ and Antichrist* 1 (1885 English; on point 7) "receive power as kings one hour with the beast… [continues online] **read ›**

**22** *Treatise on Christ and Antichrist* 1 (on point 5) "be killed. And he caused all people, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their forehead. And no… [continues online] **read ›**

**23** *Exegetical Fragments* 1 **Quote 2, page 2** "And 6,000 years must be completed so that the Sabbath may come, that is, the rest, the holy day on which God rested from all His works. For the Sabbath is the type and symbol of the future kingdom of the saints, when they will reign with Christ, when He comes from heaven, as John says in his Apocalypse." **read ›**

**24** *Treatise on Christ and Antichrist* 1 **Quote 7, page 4** "As for his name, it is not in our power to explain it exactly, as the blessed John understood it and was taught about it. We can only give a guess about it." **read ›**

### **Julius Africanus**, *c. 232–265 AD · sources 25–26*

**25** *Extant Writings* 1 twentieth year of the Persian Empire, and in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes himself, and the fourth year of the eighty-third Olympiad, up to this time, which was the… [continues online] **read ›**

**26** *Extant Writings* 1 was the second year of the 202nd Olympiad and the 16th year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, 475 years are counted. These become 490 years according to the Hebrew… [continues online] **read ›**

### **Commodianus**, *c. 250–300 AD · source 27*

**27** *Writings* (on point 1) "shall be immortal when six thousand years are accomplished… [continues online] **read ›**

### **Lactantius**, *c. 290–320 AD · sources 28–29*

**28** *Epitome of the Divine Institutes* 71 (1885 English; on point 5) "by these prodigies he shall entice many to worship him, and to receive his sign in their hand or forehead… [continues online] **read ›**

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29 *Divine Institutes* 14 (1885 English) **Quote 3, page 3** "again, since God, having finished His works, rested the seventh day and blessed it, at the end of the six thousandth year all wickedness must be abolished from the earth… [continues online] **read ›**

## THE BIBLE *163 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

30 **Genesis 2:3** God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because on it he rested from all his works that God had begun to make. **read ›**

31 **Genesis 14:9** against Chedorlaomer king of Elam, Thargal king of nations, Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar: the four kings against the five. **read ›**

32 **Genesis 46:26** All the persons who came into Egypt with Jacob, who came out of his loins, besides the wives of Jacob's sons—all the persons were sixty-six. **read ›**

33 **Exodus 9:3** behold, the hand of the Lord shall be on your cattle in the fields—on the horses, on the beasts of burden, on the camels, the oxen, and the sheep—a very severe deadly disease. **read ›**

34 **Exodus 13:9** It shall be a sign to you on your hand and a memorial before your eyes, so that the law of the Lord may be in your mouth; for with a mighty hand the Lord God brought you out of Egypt. **read ›**

35 **Exodus 13:16** It shall be for a sign on your hand and fixed before your eyes; for with a mighty hand the Lord brought you out of Egypt." **read ›**

36 **Exodus 16:29** See, the Lord has given you this day as the Sabbath; for this reason he gave you bread for two days on the sixth day. Each of you shall stay in your houses; let no one go out of his place on the seventh day." **read ›**

37 **Exodus 16:30** So the people kept the Sabbath on the seventh day. **read ›**

38 **Exodus 20:8** Remember the day of the Sabbath, to keep it holy. **read ›**

39 **Exodus 20:11** For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth and the sea and all that is in them, and he rested on the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the seventh day and sanctified it. **read ›**

40 **Exodus 21:24** eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, **read ›**

41 **Exodus 23:12** Six days you shall do your works, but on the seventh day there shall be rest, so that your ox and your beast of burden may rest, and so that the son of your maidservant and the resident foreigner may be refreshed. **read ›**

42 **Exodus 31:15** Six days you shall do work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath, a holy rest to the Lord. Whoever does work on the seventh day shall be put to death. **read ›**

43 **Exodus 31:17** It is a perpetual covenant between me and the children of Israel; it is a perpetual sign with me. For in six days the Lord made the heaven and the earth, and on the seventh day he rested and ceased.'" **read ›**

44 **Exodus 34:21** Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; in sowing and in harvest there shall be rest. **read ›**

45 **Exodus 35:2** Six days you shall do work, but on the seventh day there shall be rest: a holy Sabbath, a rest for the Lord. Whoever does work on it shall die. **read ›**

46 **Leviticus 13:29** If a man or a woman has a plague of leprosy on the head or in the beard, **read ›**

47 **Leviticus 13:42** But if on his bald head or his bald forehead there is a white or reddish plague, it is leprosy on his bald head or on his bald forehead. **read ›**

48 **Leviticus 14:17** The priest shall put the rest of the oil that is in his hand on the lobe of the right ear of the one being cleansed, on the tip of his right hand, and on the tip of his right foot, on the place of the blood of the guilt offering. **read ›**

49 **Leviticus 16:31** It shall be to you a Sabbath of Sabbaths, a rest, and you shall humble your souls; it is a perpetual ordinance. **read ›**

50 **Leviticus 19:28** You shall not make cuttings in your body for the dead, and you shall not put tattooed letters on yourselves. I am the Lord your God. **read ›**

51 **Leviticus 23:3** Six days you shall do work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath, a rest, a holy convocation to the Lord. You shall do no work; it is a Sabbath to the Lord in all your dwellings. **read ›**

52 **Leviticus 25:3** Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in its fruit; **read ›**

53 **Leviticus 25:4** but in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath, a rest for the land, a Sabbath to the Lord. You shall not sow your field, and you shall not prune your vineyard; **read ›**

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54 **Leviticus 25:8** You shall count for yourself seven rests of years, seven times seven years; and the seven weeks of years shall be for you forty-nine years. **read ›**

55 **Numbers 1:39** the count of them from the tribe of Dan was sixty-two thousand seven hundred. **read ›**

56 **Numbers 26:51** This is the count of the children of Israel: six hundred and one thousand seven hundred and thirty. **read ›**

57 **Numbers 29:4** a tenth for each lamb, for the seven lambs; **read ›**

58 **Numbers 31:37** and the tax for the Lord from the sheep was six hundred and seventy-five; **read ›**

59 **Deuteronomy 6:8** You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and it shall be immovable before your eyes. **read ›**

60 **Deuteronomy 11:18** So you shall lay up these words in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and it shall be immovable before your eyes. **read ›**

61 **Deuteronomy 16:8** For six days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a closing festival, a feast to the Lord your God. You shall do no work on it, except what must be done to sustain life. **read ›**

62 **Deuteronomy 19:21** Your eye shall not spare him: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot. **read ›**

63 **Deuteronomy 25:12** you shall cut off the hand; your eye shall not spare her. **read ›**

64 **Deuteronomy 27:15** “Cursed is the man who makes a carved or a molten image, an abomination to the Lord, the work of the hands of craftsmen, and puts it in a secret place.” And all the people shall answer and say, “So be it.” **read ›**

65 **Joshua 12:24** the king of Tirzah: all these, twenty-nine kings in all. **read ›**

66 **1 Kings 7:30** Each base had four bronze wheels, with bronze attachments; and their four sides had shoulders beneath the washbasins. (Septuagint 3 Kingdoms 7:17 (1 Kings 7:30 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

67 **1 Kings 10:14** And the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold, **read ›**

68 **2 Chronicles 9:13** And the weight of the gold that was brought to Solomon in one year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold, **read ›**

69 **2 Chronicles 36:21** to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its Sabbaths, keeping Sabbath all the days of its desolation, to the fulfilling of seventy years. **read ›**

70 **Nehemiah 2:13** I went out by the gate of Golela, toward the mouth of the spring of the figs, and to the Dung Gate; and I was breaking at the wall of Jerusalem, which they are tearing down, and its gates were devoured by fire. (Septuagint 2 Esdras 12:13 (Nehemiah 2:13 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

71 **Proverbs 1:10** Son, do not let ungodly men lead you astray, and do not consent. **read ›**

72 **Ecclesiastes 8:4** as a king who has power; and who will say to him, “What are you doing?” **read ›**

73 **Song of Solomon 5:14** His hands are turned work of gold, inlaid with Tharsis; his belly is an ivory tablet on a sapphire stone. **read ›**

74 **Isaiah 13:15** For whoever is caught will be overcome, and those who are gathered together will fall by the sword. **read ›**

75 **Isaiah 14:7** All the earth cries out with gladness, **read ›**

76 **Isaiah 14:8** and the trees of Lebanon have been glad over you, and the cedar of Lebanon: ‘Since you were laid to rest, no one has come up to cut us down.’ **read ›**

77 **Jeremiah 37:1** Zedekiah the son of Josiah reigned in place of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadnezzar made king to reign over Judah. (Septuagint Jeremiah 44:1 (Jeremiah 37:1 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

78 **Daniel 2:39** And after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to you, and a third kingdom, which is the bronze, which shall rule over all the earth; **read ›**

79 **Daniel 2:40** and a fourth kingdom, which shall be strong as iron; just as iron crushes and subdues all things, so it shall crush and subdue all things. **read ›**

80 **Daniel 2:41** And since you saw the feet and the toes, partly of clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom, and some of the root of iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with the clay. **read ›**

81 **Daniel 7:7** After this I was looking, and behold, a fourth beast, fearful and terrifying and exceedingly strong; and its teeth were of iron; it was devouring and crushing, and it trampled the rest with its feet; and it was exceedingly different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. **read ›**

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82 **Daniel 7:17** “These four beasts are four kingdoms that will arise on the earth, **read ›**

83 **Daniel 7:23** And he said, “The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will surpass all the kingdoms, and it will devour the whole earth, and trample it down and cut it to pieces. **read ›**

84 **Daniel 7:24** And its ten horns are ten kings who will arise; and after them another will arise, who will surpass all who were before him in evils, and he will humble three kings. **read ›**

85 **Daniel 8:22** And as for the one that was broken, in whose place four horns stood up beneath, four kings will arise out of his nation, but not in their strength. **read ›**

86 **Daniel 11:4** And as soon as his kingdom stands, it shall be broken and divided toward the four winds of heaven, but not to his descendants, nor according to the dominion with which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be uprooted, and pass to others besides these. **read ›**

87 **Hosea 10:2** They have divided their hearts; now they shall be destroyed. He himself shall dig down their altars; their pillars shall be in misery. **read ›**

88 **1 Esdras 1:58** until the land has enjoyed its Sabbaths; all the time of its desolation it shall keep Sabbath, until the completion of seventy years. **read ›**

89 **Wisdom of Sirach 10:8** Kingship passes from nation to nation because of unrighteousness and arrogance and money. **read ›**

90 **Wisdom of Sirach 18:24** Remember the wrath in the days of the end, and the time of vengeance when he turns away his face. **read ›**

91 **Wisdom of Sirach 33:6** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

92 **Wisdom of Sirach 40:9** Death and bloodshed and conflict and sword, calamities, famine and ruin and the lash, **read ›**

93 **Wisdom of Sirach 49:11** How shall we magnify Zerubbabel? He too was like a signet ring on the right hand; **read ›**

94 **Bel and the Dragon 1:2** And Daniel was a companion of the king and was honored above all his friends. **read ›**

95 **Bel and the Dragon 1:17** And he said, “Are the seals intact, Daniel?” And Daniel said, “They are intact, O king.” **read ›**

96 **Bel and the Dragon 1:22** And the king killed them and gave Bel over to Daniel, and he overthrew it and its temple. **read ›**

97 **Bel and the Dragon 1:24** And the king said to Daniel, “You will not say of this one too that it is bronze, will you? Look, it lives and eats and drinks; you cannot say that this is not a living god. So worship it.” **read ›**

98 **Bel and the Dragon 1:40** And on the seventh day the king came to mourn for Daniel; and he came to the den and looked in, and behold, Daniel was sitting there. **read ›**

99 **1 Maccabees 1:10** And there came out of them a sinful root, Antiochus Epiphanes, son of Antiochus the king, who had been a hostage in Rome; and he began to reign in the hundred and thirty-seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks. **read ›**

100 **1 Maccabees 2:60** Daniel, for his innocence, was rescued from the mouth of lions. **read ›**

101 **2 Maccabees 8:4** and to remember the lawless destruction of the innocent infants and the blasphemies committed against his name, and to show his hatred of evil. **read ›**

102 **3 Maccabees 5:14** When it was already about the middle of the tenth hour, the one in charge of the invitations, seeing the invited guests gathered together, went up and roused the king. **read ›**

103 **4 Maccabees 13:15** for great is the contest of the soul, and the danger that lies in eternal torture for those who transgress the commandment of God. **read ›**

104 **4 Maccabees 14:7** O all-holy seven of harmonious brothers! For just as the seven days of creation are about godliness, **read ›**

105 **4 Maccabees 14:8** so the youths, dancing around the number seven, encircled it, dissolving the fear of the tortures. **read ›**

106 **1 Enoch 1:2** Then Enoch took up his parable and said: He is a righteous man; a vision from God was opened to him, and he had the vision of the Holy One and of heaven. He showed it to me, and I heard holy words from the holy ones, and as I heard everything from them, I also understood what I saw. I was not thinking of this present generation, but I speak of one that is far off. **read ›**

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**107** **1 Enoch 1:9** For he comes with his tens of thousands and his holy ones to execute judgment upon all; and he shall destroy all the ungodly, and convict all flesh concerning all the works of their ungodliness in which they have acted ungodly, and concerning the harsh words they have spoken, and concerning all that ungodly sinners have spoken against him. **read ›**

**108** **1 Enoch 27:3** in the last ages, in the days of the true judgment in the presence of the righteous for all time. Here the ungodly shall bless the Lord of glory, the eternal King. **read ›**

**109** **1 Enoch 38:1** The first Parable. When the congregation of the righteous shall appear, and sinners shall be judged for their sins, and shall be driven from the face of the earth, **read ›**

**110** **1 Enoch 38:3** When the secrets of the righteous shall be revealed and the sinners judged, and the ungodly driven from the presence of the righteous and chosen, **read ›**

**111** **1 Enoch 41:2** And there I saw the dwelling places of the chosen ones and the dwelling places of the holy; and my eyes saw there all the sinners who deny the name of the Lord of Spirits being driven from there and being dragged off; and they could not remain because of the punishment which goes out from the Lord of Spirits. **read ›**

**112** **1 Enoch 45:1** And this is the second Parable, concerning those who deny the name of the dwelling of the holy ones and the Lord of Spirits. **read ›**

**113** **1 Enoch 46:4** And this Son of Man whom you have seen shall raise up the kings and the mighty from their seats, and the strong from their thrones, and shall loosen the reins of the strong, and break the teeth of the sinners. **read ›**

**114** **1 Enoch 48:2** And at that hour that Son of Man was named in the presence of the Lord of Spirits, and his name before the Head of Days. **read ›**

**115** **1 Enoch 48:3** Indeed, before the sun and the signs were created, before the stars of heaven were made, his name was named before the Lord of Spirits. **read ›**

**116** **1 Enoch 48:8** In those days the kings of the earth shall have downcast faces, and the strong who possess the land because of the works of their hands; for on the day of their anguish and trouble they shall not be able to save themselves. **read ›**

**117** **1 Enoch 50:2** on the day of trouble on which evil shall have been stored up against the sinners. And the righteous shall be victorious in the name of the Lord of Spirits; and he will cause the others to witness this, so that they may repent and forgo the works of their hands. **read ›**

**118** **1 Enoch 57:3** And they shall all fall down and worship the Lord of Spirits. And this is the end of the second Parable. **read ›**

**119** **1 Enoch 60:6** And when the day, and the power, and the punishment, and the judgment come, which the Lord of Spirits has prepared for those who do not worship the righteous law, and for those who deny the righteous judgment, and for those who take his name in vain, that day is prepared: for the chosen ones a covenant, but for sinners an inquiry." **read ›**

**120** **1 Enoch 62:3** And there shall stand up on that day all the kings and the mighty, and the exalted and those who hold the earth, and they shall see and recognize how he sits on the throne of his glory, and righteousness is judged before him, and no lying word is spoken before him. **read ›**

**121** **1 Enoch 62:9** And all the kings and the mighty and the exalted and those who rule the earth shall fall down before him on their faces, and worship and set their hope on that Son of Man, and petition him and plead for mercy at his hands. **read ›**

**122** **1 Enoch 63:8** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

**123** **1 Enoch 67:12** And I heard Michael answering and saying: "This judgment with which the angels are judged is a testimony for the kings and the mighty who possess the earth." **read ›**

**124** **1 Enoch 69:2** And behold the names of those angels: and these are their names: the first of them is Semjaza, the second Artaqifa, and the third Armen, the fourth Kokabel, the fifth Turael, the sixth Rumjal, the seventh Danjal, the eighth Neqael, the ninth Baraqel, the tenth Azazel, the eleventh Armaros, the twelfth Batarjal, the thirteenth Busasejal, the fourteenth Hananel, the fifteenth Turel, and the sixteenth Simapesiel, the seventeenth Jetrel, the eighteenth Tumael, the nineteenth Turel, the twentieth Rumael, the twenty-first Azazel. **read ›**

**125** **1 Enoch 69:3** And these are the chiefs of their angels and their names, and their chief ones over hundreds and over fifties and over tens. **read ›**

**126** **1 Enoch 69:12** And the fifth was named Kasdeja: this is he who showed the children of men all the wicked blows of spirits and demons, and the blows of the embryo in the womb, that it may pass away, and the blows of the soul, the bites of the serpent, and the blows that come in the noonday heat, the son of the serpent named Taba'et. **read ›**

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127 **1 Enoch 69:14** This angel asked Michael to show him the hidden name, that he might pronounce it in the oath, so that those who revealed all that was in secret to the children of men might quake before that name and oath. **read ›**

128 **1 Enoch 82:16** And these are the signs of the days which are to be seen on earth in the days of his dominion: sweat, and heat, and calms; and all the trees bear fruit, and leaves are produced on all the trees, and the harvest of wheat, and the rose flowers, and all the flowers which come forth in the field; but the trees of the winter season become withered. **read ›**

129 **1 Enoch 91:14** and all mankind shall look to the path of uprightness. After that, in the ninth week, the righteous judgment shall be revealed to the whole world, and all the works of the ungodly shall vanish from all the earth, and the world shall be written down for destruction. **read ›**

130 **1 Enoch 91:15** After this, in the tenth week, in the seventh part, there shall be the great eternal judgment, in which he will execute vengeance among the angels. **read ›**

131 **1 Enoch 93:10** At its close the chosen righteous of the eternal plant of righteousness shall be chosen, to receive sevenfold instruction concerning all his creation. **read ›**

132 **1 Enoch 96:8** Woe to you, you mighty, who with might oppress the righteous; for the day of your destruction is coming. In those days many good days shall come to the righteous, in the day of your judgment. **read ›**

133 **1 Enoch 100:4** And in that day angels shall come down, going down into the hidden places; and those who helped unrighteousness shall be gathered together into one place; and the Most High shall arise in the day of judgment to execute great judgment on all, **read ›**

134 **1 Enoch 104:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

135 **1 Enoch 108:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

136 **Matthew 19:28** Jesus said to them, “Amen, I say to you that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me shall also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. **read ›**

137 **Matthew 24:21** for then there shall be great tribulation, such as has not occurred from the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall. **read ›**

138 **Matthew 24:29** “Immediately after the distress of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon will not give her light; the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. **read ›**

139 **Matthew 24:30** Then the sign of the Son of Man shall appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth shall mourn. They shall see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. **read ›**

140 **Mark 1:15** and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand! Repent, and believe in the gospel.” **read ›**

141 **Mark 13:19** For those days shall be a time of distress such as has not occurred from the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never shall occur. **read ›**

142 **John 5:29** and will come out; those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment. **read ›**

143 **Acts 14:9** He listened to Paul speaking. Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be healed, **read ›**

144 **Acts 24:17** After several years I came to bring alms to my nation and offerings. **read ›**

145 **Acts 24:21** unless it is for this one thing that I cried standing among them, ‘Concerning the resurrection of the dead I am being judged by you today!’” **read ›**

146 **Ephesians 1:10** for an administration when the times reach their fullness, to sum up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth— **read ›**

147 **Philippians 1:17** but the latter out of love, knowing that I am set for the defense of the gospel. **read ›**

148 **Philippians 1:19** For I know that this will turn out for my salvation through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, **read ›**

149 **Philippians 1:21** For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. **read ›**

150 **Philippians 2:16** holding fast the word of life, so that I may have cause to boast in the day of Christ that I did not run in vain nor labor in vain. **read ›**

151 **Philippians 2:19** But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered when I learn how things are with you. **read ›**

152 **Philippians 2:26** for he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. **read ›**

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153 **Philippians 2:27** For indeed he was sick, near to death; but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but on me also, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow. **read ›**

154 **Philippians 2:28** So I have sent him the more eagerly, so that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful. **read ›**

155 **Philippians 2:29** Receive him therefore in the Lord with all joy, and hold such men in honor; **read ›**

156 **Philippians 3:1** Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is not tiresome for me, and for you it is safe. **read ›**

157 **Philippians 3:5** circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; **read ›**

158 **Philippians 3:6** as to zeal, persecuting the church; as to the righteousness that is in the law, found blameless. **read ›**

159 **Philippians 4:18** But I have received everything in full, and I abound; I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a pleasing aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. **read ›**

160 **Philippians 4:23** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. **read ›**

161 **1 Thessalonians 1:2** We always give thanks to God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers, **read ›**

162 **Hebrews 4:4** For he has spoken somewhere of the seventh day in this way: “And on the seventh day God rested from all his works”; **read ›**

163 **Hebrews 4:9** There remains therefore a Sabbath rest for the people of God. **read ›**

164 **1 Peter 4:17** For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God. If it begins first with us, what will happen to those who do not obey the gospel of God? **read ›**

165 **1 John 2:18** Little children, it is the last hour; and as you heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have arisen. From this we know that it is the last hour. **read ›**

166 **Revelation 4:4** Around the throne were twenty-four thrones. On the thrones were twenty-four elders sitting, dressed in white garments, with crowns of gold on their heads. **read ›**

167 **Revelation 5:10** and made them kings and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.” **read ›**

168 **Revelation 8:1** When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. **read ›**

169 **Revelation 9:11** They have over them as king the angel of the abyss. His name in Hebrew is “Abaddon”, but in Greek, he has the name “Apollyon”. **read ›**

170 **Revelation 10:7** but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God is fulfilled, as he announced the good news to his slaves the prophets. **read ›**

171 **Revelation 10:11** They told me, “You must prophesy again over many peoples, nations, languages, and kings.” **read ›**

172 **Revelation 11:7** When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them, and kill them. **read ›**

173 **Revelation 11:15** The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and great voices in heaven followed, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ. He will reign forever and ever!” **read ›**

174 **Revelation 11:18** The nations were angry, and your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, to give the reward to your slaves the prophets and to the saints and those who fear your name, small and great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth.” **read ›**

175 **Revelation 13:1** Then I stood on the sand of the sea. I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads. On his horns were ten crowns, and on his heads, blasphemous names. **read ›**

176 **Revelation 13:3** One of his heads appeared to have been fatally wounded. His fatal wound was healed, and the whole earth followed the beast in wonder. **read ›**

177 **Revelation 13:5** A mouth speaking great things and blasphemy was given to him. Authority to make war for forty-two months was given to him. **read ›**

178 **Revelation 13:6** He opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name and his tabernacle, those who dwell in heaven. **read ›**

179 **Revelation 13:9** If anyone has an ear, let him hear. **read ›**

180 **Revelation 13:14** He deceives my own people who dwell on the earth because of the signs he was granted to do in front of the beast, saying to those who dwell on the earth that they should make an image to the beast who had the sword wound and lived. **read ›**

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181 **Revelation 13:16** He causes all, the small and the great, the rich and the poor, and the free and the slave, to be given marks on their right hands or on their foreheads; **read ›**

182 **Revelation 13:17** so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, the name of the beast or the number of his name. **read ›**

183 **Revelation 13:18** Here is wisdom. He who has understanding, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man. His number is six hundred sixty-six. **read ›**

184 **Revelation 14:9** Another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, **read ›**

185 **Revelation 16:2** The first went, and poured out his bowl into the earth, and it became a harmful and painful sore on the people who had the mark of the beast, and who worshiped his image. **read ›**

186 **Revelation 17:10** They are seven kings. Five have fallen, the one is, and the other has not yet come. When he comes, he must continue a little while. **read ›**

187 **Revelation 17:11** The beast that was, and is not, is himself also an eighth, and is of the seven; and he goes to destruction. **read ›**

188 **Revelation 17:12** The ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. **read ›**

189 **Revelation 19:20** The beast was taken, and with him the false prophet who worked the signs in his sight, with which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. **read ›**

190 **Revelation 20:2** He seized the dragon, the old serpent, who is the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole inhabited earth, and bound him for a thousand years, **read ›**

191 **Revelation 20:4** I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and such as did not worship the beast nor his image, and did not receive the mark on their forehead and on their hand. They lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. **read ›**

192 **Revelation 20:11** I saw a great white throne and him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the sky fled away. And no place was found for them. **read ›**

## ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *88 verses, by reference*

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**Genesis** 2:1

**Psalms** 90:4

**Isaiah** 1:13 · 5:21

**Jeremiah** 17:16

**Daniel** 7:9 · 11:31 · 12:1

**Matthew** 5:13 · 5:25 · 5:35 · 7:25 · 10:17 · 10:29 · 10:34 · 11:24 · 12:25 · 17:12 · 20:16 · 21:8 · 21:33 · 23:24 · 24:10 · 24:11 · 24:13 · 24:42 · 24:48

**Mark** 5:31

**Luke** 1:33 · 3:23 · 10:12 · 12:35 · 12:45 · 13:32 · 17:26 · 18:7

**John** 2:18 · 2:23 · 4:37 · 7:30 · 8:34 · 13:5 · 20:31

**Acts** 4:8 · 4:22 · 8:9 · 8:27 · 10:1 · 10:15 · 16:16 · 17:24

**Romans** 1:18 · 2:5 · 2:11 · 8:36 · 10:9

**1 Corinthians** 1:18 · 4:4 · 5:10 · 10:19 · 13:13 · 15:23

**Galatians** 2:5 · 3:14

**Ephesians** 4:8 · 4:16

**Philippians** 2:15

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**1 Thessalonians** 4:17

**2 Thessalonians** 2:8 · 2:10 · 2:11 · 3:6

**2 Timothy** 4:3

**Hebrews** 10:25

**1 Peter** 4:7 · 4:12

**Revelation** 1:12 · 1:17 · 6:9 · 11:19 · 12:1 · 13:2 · 13:11 · 13:15 · 20:5 · 20:6 · 22:17 · 22:19

*Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.*

## ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “Did early Christians believe the world would last 6,000 years?” on April 11, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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**How to cite this study.** The Historic Faith, “Did early Christians believe the world would last 6,000 years?” Early Church Questions, published November 9, 2026, https://thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/did-early-christians-believe-the-world-would-last-6-000-years. To cite one quotation, add its number and source, for example “quote 1, source 2.”

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