

# The Written Word its Organization

## Engaging the World- Background Studies

015

Issues in our Contemporary World  
February 1, 2012

# The Bible

## Background Studies

# Issues in Our Contemporary World 2012

The Bible, only the Bible, presents a Creator/creature distinction. This is the very opposite of the idea that there is continuity/eternality for all things. God is not a factor and may not even exist



## Background Studies

# Issues in Our Contemporary World 2012

It is in this skeptical environment that  
God has spoken Truth. But any  
message from the Creator is  
suppressed because they stand  
condemned by it



## Background Studies

# Issues in Our Contemporary World 2012

Our study is to investigate the record of the spoken truth. Later we will deal with how it came to us and how it addresses the skeptical world. But now we will look at the organizational structures of the Bible



# Apologetics Comments

Unfinished Conclusion.  
How is truth communicated to the  
skeptic?



# The Mystery of Apologetics

**Me using persuasion  
to encourage another  
to believe the Gospel**

**Holy Spirit works here**

**Holy Spirit works here**

**Holy Spirit works here**

**He is attentive  
to listen to the  
truth of the Gospel**



# The Structure of the Bible

## The Time Line

By the events and people of the Bible



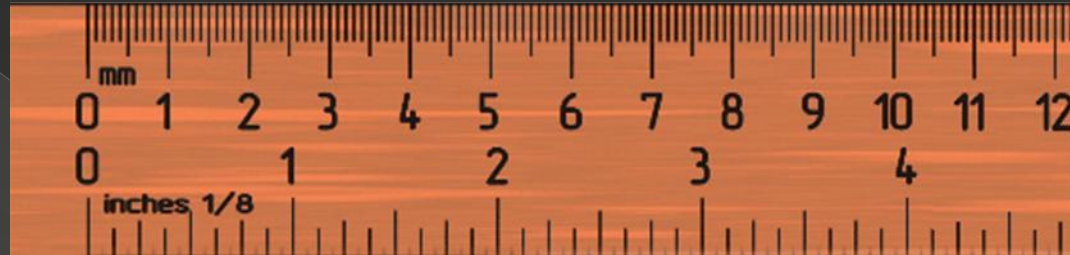
# Organization of the Bible

The Physical arrangements  
Time line is essential- God is the Sovereign  
of History



## God Controls Time and Space





- Existentialist have a low view of history... so there is little to learn from it
- The Christian/Jew has a great respect for history since it is a record of the acts of God and Man
- The Christian sees an objective set of times and places for events; the existentialist sees only random acts of accident and as unreliable myth with no predictability or a future based on the past (remember Alinsky's comment)



# Sol Alinsky- From Rules for Radicals- Existentialist

- "From all our legends, mythology, and history (and who is to know where mythology leaves off and history begins – or which is which), ), the first radical known to man who rebelled against the establishment and did it so effectively that he at least won his own kingdom – [was] Lucifer."



# There is a past, present and future

- If this is the true nature of things we ought to be able to reconstruct an objective history (True History)
- While historians can be subjective, there really is an objective history underneath it all, sometimes waiting to be discovered
- The job of a faithful historian is to deal with the past in an objective way- the best he can. Let him try and other examine his work
- Can the historian ever get it completely right? Yes and No!



# There is a past, present and future

- No, because few/none write their histories 100% objectively- some one looks good or some one looks bad may not always be correct
  - > A mother sees a good boy even when he is guilty of murder and waiting execution
- Yes, because we have God who has “kept” the history for us in His revelation. Is it objective, true for all. Can we misread, misunderstand, misuse it? Yes, but the fact remains that the Word of God is trustworthy

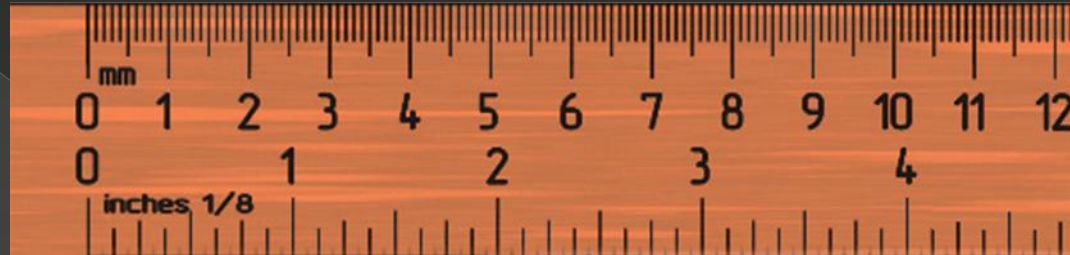


# With this assumption...

## There is God and He reveals

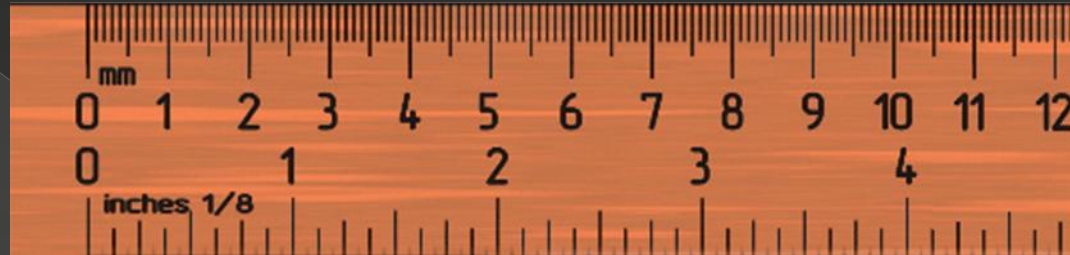
- We ought to be able to construct a reliable chronological history of creation
- While the existentialist sees the stories of the Bible as freestanding, isolated, myths, Christians see all the events interconnected and interwoven into a great fabric of history
- There is a beginning, there is yesterday, there will be a tomorrow, sin and evil are not normal, these have boundaries, everything thing that is or was fits somewhere, somehow, by Sovereign design





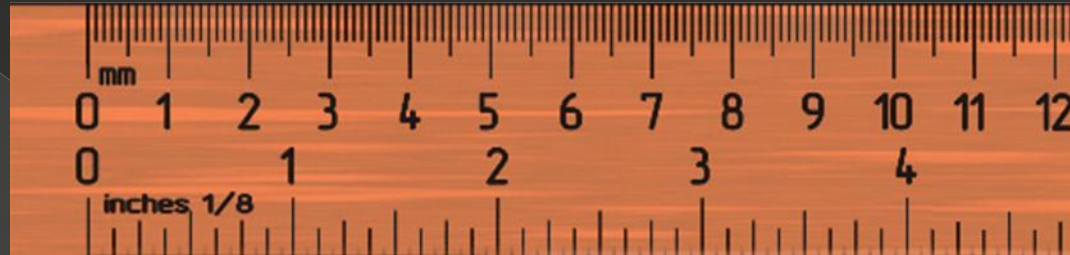
- When we construct a **time line of history** we understand we are discovering the very back bone of God's work
- As we understand that a complex object has been made by an intelligent being we also know that history is a reflection of the revealing acts of God in creation (time and space)
- The reliable historical record, amazingly has been reduced to words, the text of Scripture





- But what about the history since the time of the writing of the New Testament? Do we have an infallible record of these events, these acts of God?
- No but, the pattern has been set, for how history is to be recorded. This legacy set by the Bible gives what we need to be able to continue to write the history of God's work without the aid of inspiration- not an infallible record but adequate

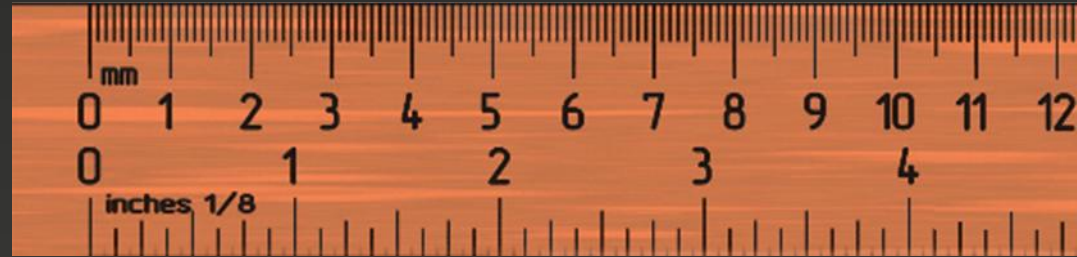




- We can construct a reliable time line for history since Christ, a very detailed one
- However, this may be more challenging than it first appears. Few dispute the dates of WW I and II etc., but there are some that would say that the holocaust never happened. Or that the 9/11 attack was the work of the Jews, etc., The myth markers are still free to ply their trade but reasoned people have no difficulty in constructing a reliable time line and identifying many of its players in history



# Bible Time Line



- We come to the Biblical time line understanding that it is essential (backbone) to understanding the work of God in history
- If the persons, events, places are all jumbled up, the lessons, promises, consequences are lost and meaningless; we in essence have become existential readers
  - > I.e. Get what you can out of it...that is devotional reading; what does it say to you today?
- We need to understand the events on a time line to anchor it in the truth



# No Exaggeration

- Lest this may seem to be overstating the situation regarding the rejection of an historic time line notice what of the time line (we will construct) is mythical and none historical



# Deconstructing History

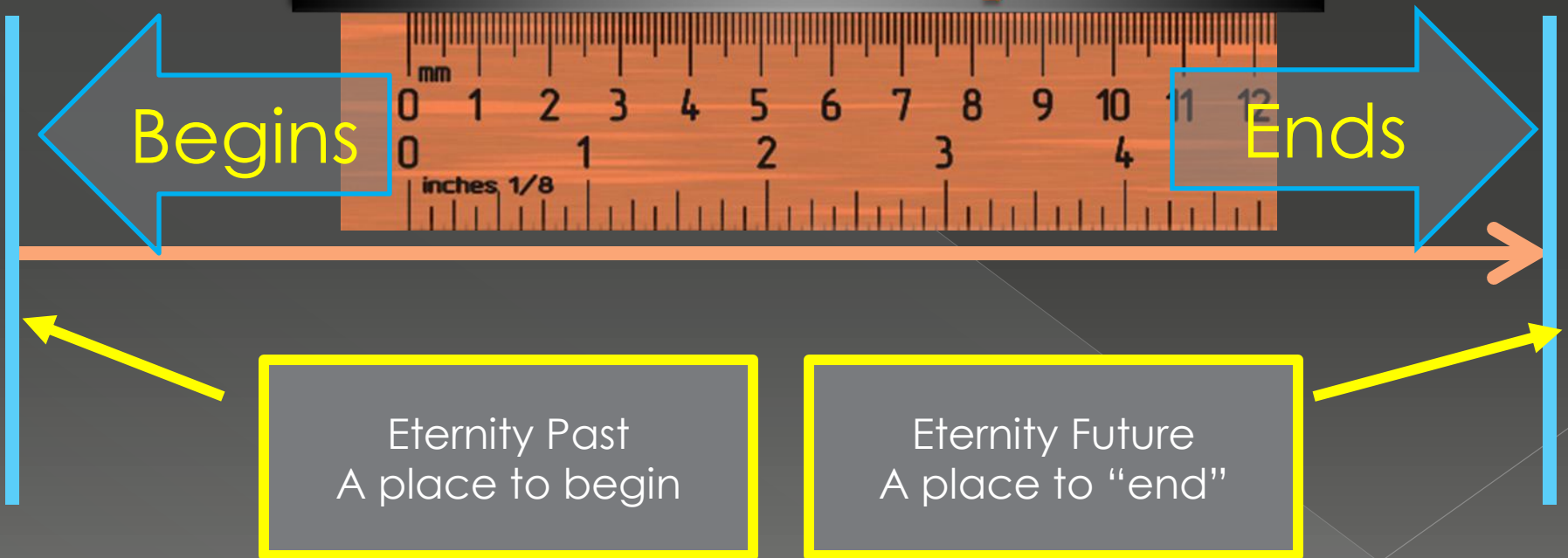
## None historical events...they say

- The creation week
- The special creation of Man
- The Fall event the introduction of evil
- The denial of the world wide flood
- The denial of the confusion of Languages
- The choice of Abraham
- Israel in Egypt
- The personage Moses
- The Exodus Event
- The fall of Jericho
- Denial of David as King
- Denial of prophecy and the prophets cast as historians
- Note the position these skeptics shoulder when independent corroborating evidence continues to be discovered supporting the biblical record
- The Time Line is highly controversial because it is based on true history



Time line a beginning event  
and an ending event

# Time and Space



Building a time line is only possible if there is true history and that the Bible gives it, via the birth and death years Gen. 5 and 10



# 26 points on the Time-line

Measured time

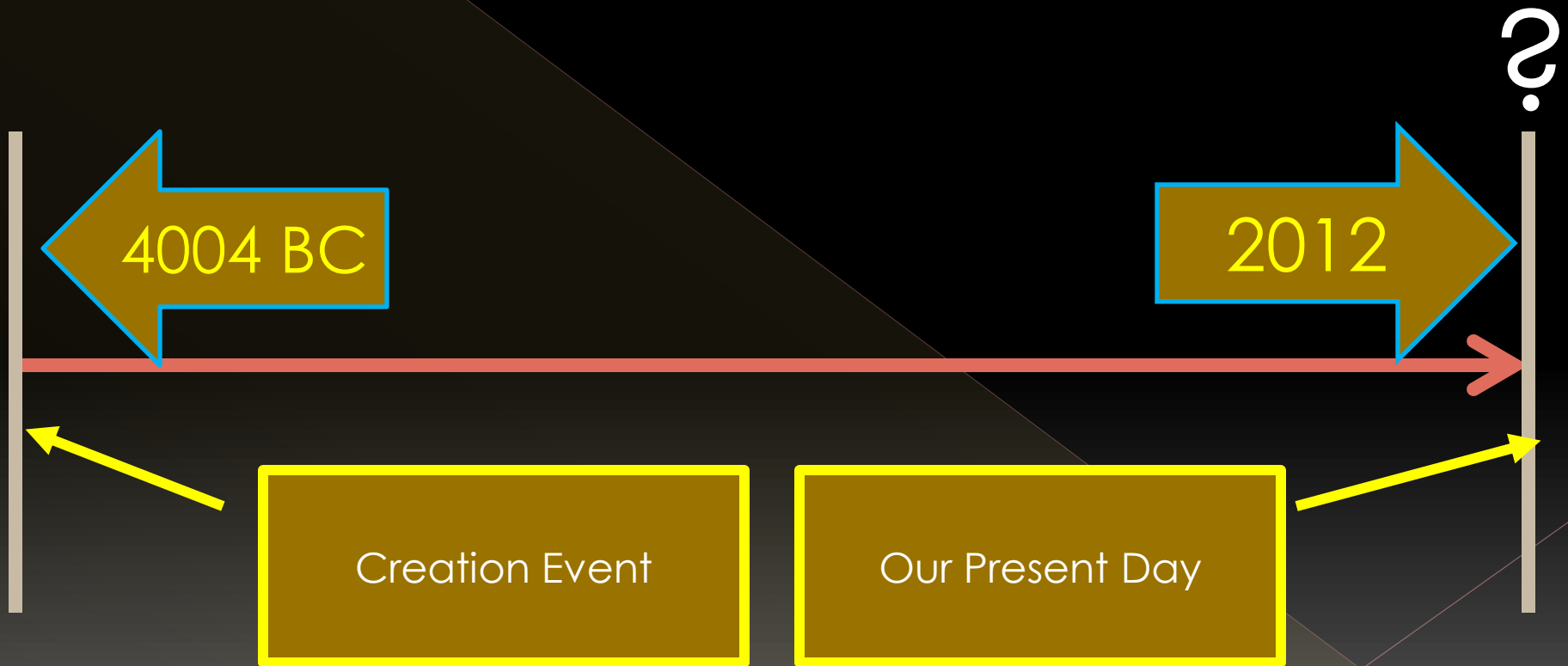
4004 BC to 2012 = c.  
6000 years

This has led some to speculate that man has 6000 years to have his way (6 his number); the 7<sup>th</sup> millennial kingdom is God's time to have His way, (7 his number)



# Time Line to Present Time

## There is more time in future

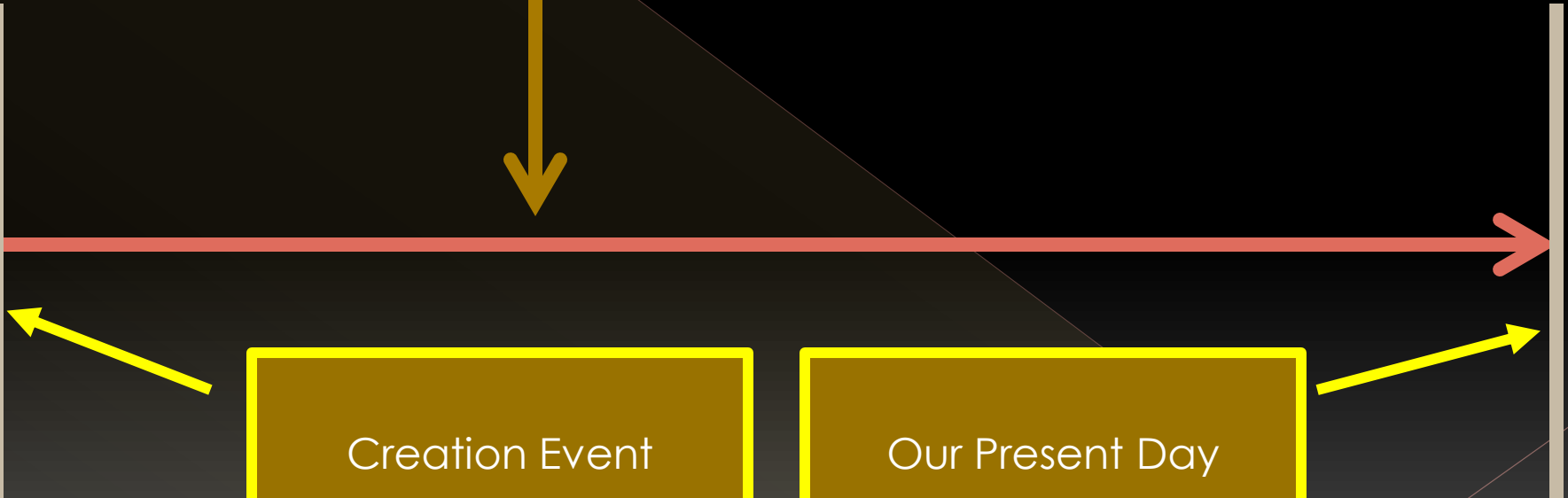


# Dividing Time in 1000 yrs.

-4000      -3000      -2000      -1000      0      +1000      +2K



Abraham



Creation Event

Our Present Day



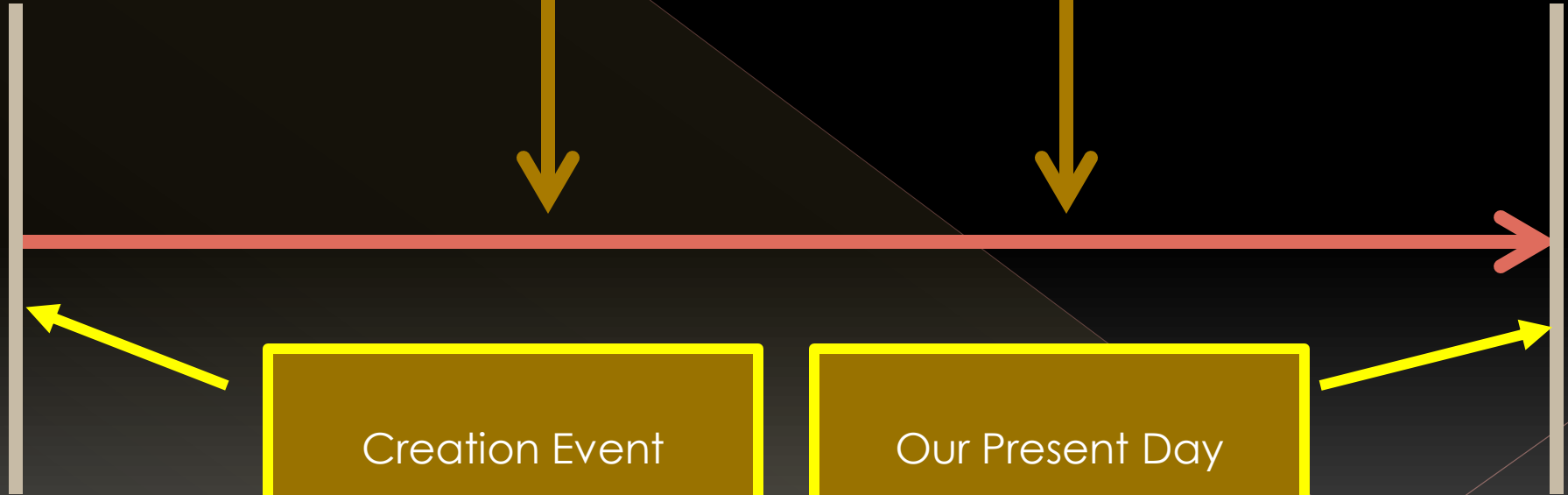
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Abraham

Messiah



Creation Event

Our Present Day



# Dividing Time in 1000 yrs.

-4000      -3000      -2000      -1000      0      +1000      +2K



Abraham

Messiah



2348 BC

Creation Event

Our Present Day



# Dividing Time in 1000 yrs.

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Abraham

Messiah



2348 BC

1446 BC

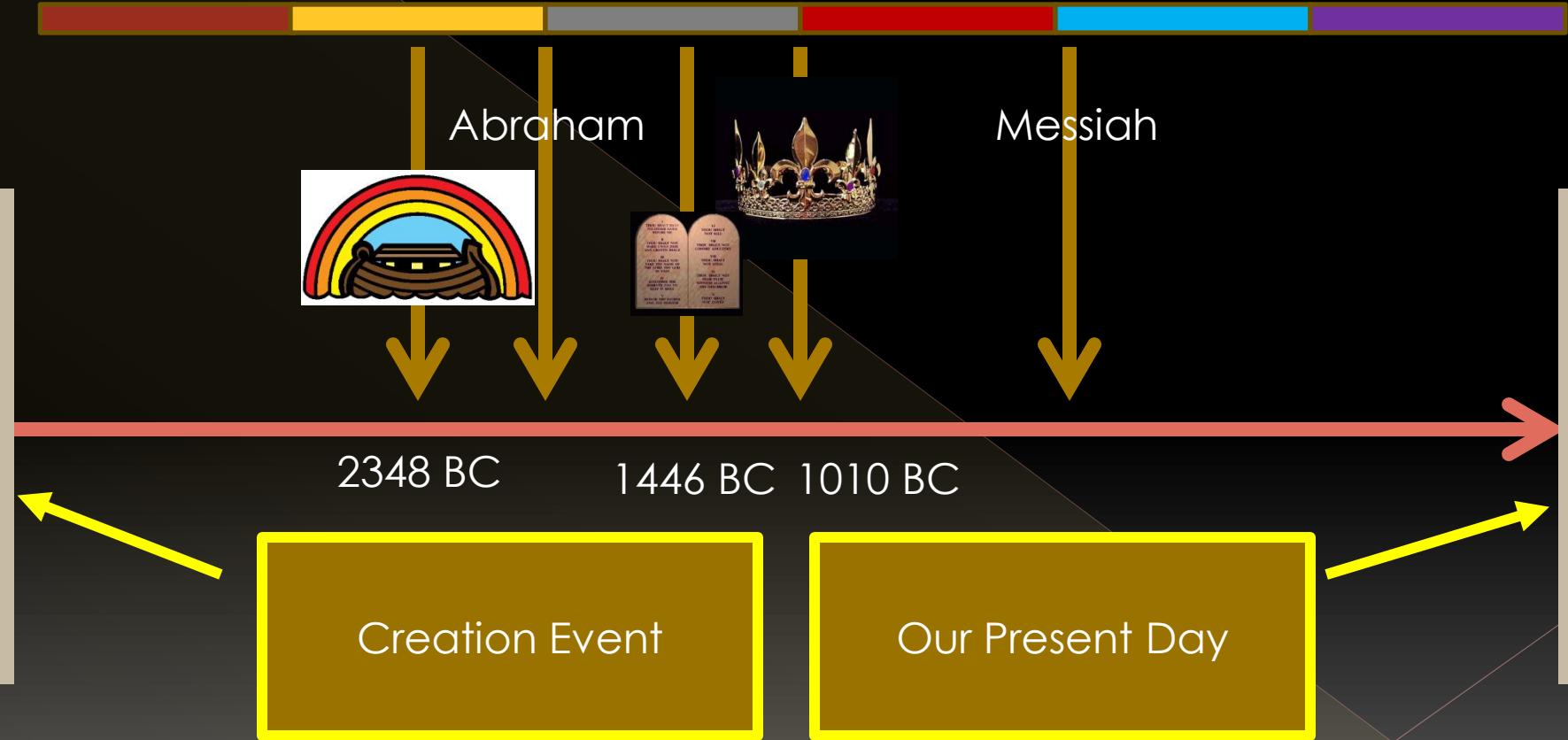
Creation Event

Our Present Day



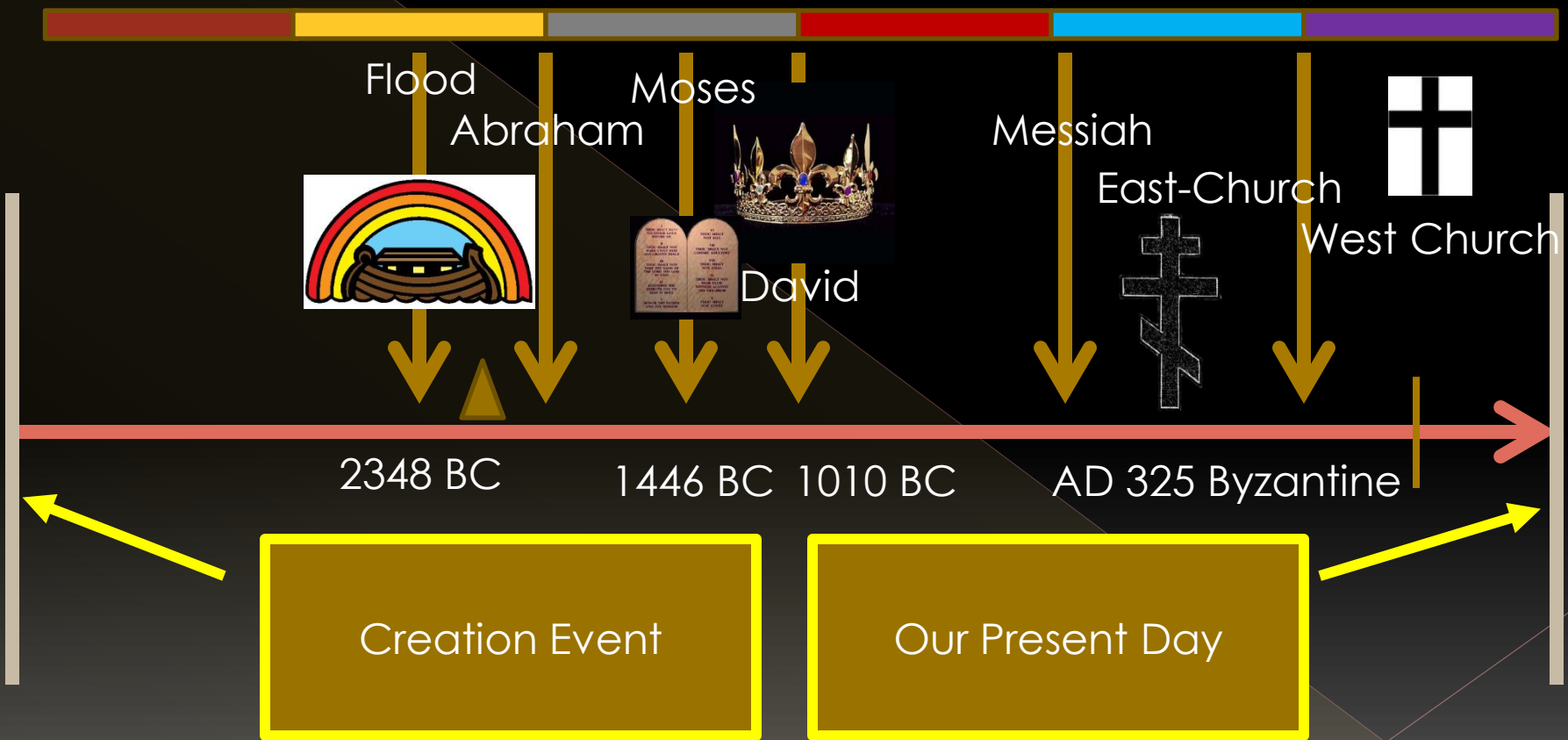
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Thus far....