

The Annals of the World by Archbishop James Ussher

Archbishop Ussher divided his history into seven ages:

- The First Age. Creation to the Flood.
- The Second Age. The Flood to Abram
- The Third Age. Abram to Moses
- The Fourth Age. Moses to Solomon
- The Fifth Age. Solomon to the Fall of Jerusalem to Nebuchadnezzar
- The Sixth Age. The captivity in Babylon to the Birth of Jesus
- The Seventh Age. From the birth of Jesus to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans.

The following chart gives an idea of the dates that Archbishop Ussher produced.

Explanatory Chart of The Annals of the World by Archbishop James Ussher

Age	AM	Julian Period (JP)	BC/AD	Events
First Age (start)	1	710	4004 B.C.	Creation of The World
First Age (end)	1656	2365	2349 B.C.	The Flood
Second Age	1657	2366	2348 B.C.	Start of the new post flood world
Second Age	2008	2718	1996 B.C.	Abram born
Second Age	2083	2792	1922 B.C.	Abram leaves Ur
Third Age	2083	2793	1921 B.C.	Abram travels to Canaan
Third Age	2513	3223	1491 B.C.	Moses before Pharaoh
Fourth Age	2513	3223	1491 B.C.	Exodus from Egypt
Fourth Age	2992	3701	1013 B.C.	Solomon
Fifth Age	2992	3702	1012 B.C.	Foundations of the temple laid
Fifth Age	3416	4126	588 B.C.	Siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar
Sixth Age	3417	4126	588 B.C.	Exile to Babylon
Sixth Age	4000	4709	5 B.C.	Joseph and Mary go to Bethlehem
Seventh Age	4000	4709	5 B.C.	Birth of Jesus
Seventh Age	4030	4740	27 A.D.	Baptism of Jesus
Seventh Age	4036	4746	33 A.D.	Crucifixion
Seventh Age	4073	4783	70 A.D.	Destruction of temple and Jerusalem by Titus
Seventh Age	4076	4786	73 A.D.	End of "Jewish Affairs"

Archbishop Ussher was extremely learned and diligent in his attention to scripture and treated it as the literal Word of God. It is quite informative to examine some of the dates he arrived at and how he arrived at them.

He dated his chronology using three different dating methods: -

1. **The Julian calendar** which was in use in his day. 365 days a year plus a leap year every four years. His chronology uses B.C. (Before Christ) and A.D. (Anno Domini, Year of our Lord).
2. **Anno Mundi (AM)**. This literally means "in the year of the world" and this system counts the years from the first year of biblical creation.
3. The third method used is the "**Julian Period (JP)**". This was a method used to extrapolate the lunar cycle, solar cycle and something called the indiction cycle back to an imaginary start date of January 1st thus creating an artificial epoch that all things could be included in.
 - The solar cycle of the Julian calendar occurs every 28 years because there is a leap year every four years and there are seven possible days to start a leap year thus making a 28 year sequence
 - The lunar cycle, though not exact, is a period of 19 years after which the phases of the moon recur on the same day of the year.
 - The indiction cycle was a 15 year period used to date medieval documents throughout Europe.