

# Comparison of Pre-Abrahamic Genealogical Dates

## Hebrew MT vs. Greek LXX

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**NOTE:** The dates leading up to Abram and Teraḥ are based on chronological notices in the Hebrew Masoretic Text (MT). See my handout, “Calculating the Date of Creation and the Flood,” for substantiation. I explain on that handout why Teraḥ was not 70 years old when he fathered Abraham (and thus the need for “± 25 yrs.” Prior to Teraḥ, however, the dates for Abram’s ancestors in the MT differ from those in LXX. Unless otherwise indicated, the dates given for LXX are based on manuscript LXX<sup>A</sup> (Alexandrinus). Text critical data for all the ages given in Genesis 5 and 11 for both MT and LXX are provided in my handout “Genealogies of Genesis 5 and 11; A Comparison of the Hebrew Masoretic Text, the Samaritan Pentateuch, and the Septuagint.”

| PERSON                                    | YEARS ACCORDING TO HEB MT<br>(Hebrew Masoretic Text) | YEARS ACCORDING TO GK LXX<br>(Greek Septuagint) |
|---|--|---|
| <b>CREATION</b>                           | <b>4199 BC ± 25 yrs</b>                              | <b>5585 BC ± 25 yrs</b>                         |
| Adam                                      | 4199 – 3269 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 5585 – 4655 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Seth                                      | 4069 – 3157 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 5355 – 4443 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Enosh                                     | 3964 – 3059 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 5150 – 4245 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Kenan                                     | 3874 – 2964 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 4960 – 4050 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Mahalalel                                 | 3804 – 2909 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 4790 – 3895 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Jared                                     | 3739 – 2777 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 4625 – 3663 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Enoch                                     | 3577 – 3212 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 4463 – 4098 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Methuselah                                | 3512 – 2543 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 4298 – 3329 BC ± 25 yrs <sup>1</sup>            |
| Lamech                                    | 3325 – 2548 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 4111 – 3358 BC ± 25 yrs <sup>2</sup>            |
| Noah                                      | 3143 – 2193 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 3923 – 2973 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Shem                                      | 2643 – 2041 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 3423 – 2823 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| <b>FLOOD</b>                              | <b>2543 BC ± 25 yrs</b>                              | <b>3323 BC ± 25 yrs</b>                         |
| Arpachshad                                | 2541 – 2103 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 3321 – 2756 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Kainan                                    | (MT does not have Kainan)                            | 3186 – 2726 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Shelah                                    | 2506 – 2073 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 3056 – 2596 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Eber                                      | 2476 – 2012 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 2926 – 2422 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Peleg                                     | 2442 – 2203 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 2792 – 2453 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Reu                                       | 2412 – 2173 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 2662 – 2323 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Serug                                     | 2380 – 2150 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 2530 – 2200 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Nahor                                     | 2350 – 2202 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 2400 – 2192 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Teraḥ                                     | 2321 – 2116 BC ± 25 yrs                              | 2321 – 2116 BC ± 25 yrs                         |
| Abram                                     | 2166 – 1991 BC                                       | 2166 – 1991 BC                                  |
| <b>ABRAM DEPARTS<br/>HARAN FOR CANAAN</b> | <b>2091 BC</b>                                       | <b>2091 BC</b>                                  |

<sup>1</sup> The evidence for the LXX date for Methuselah’s age at which he fathered Lamech is disputed. LXX<sup>A</sup> is not clear (although A\* has 167, A<sup>c</sup> has 187). Several other mss have 167, but Josephus and a number of other mss have 187. The chart above accepts the number 187. For a full listing of the ms evidence, see my chart, “Genealogies of Genesis 5 and 11.”

<sup>2</sup> LXX<sup>A</sup> gives Lamech’s age as 188, but Josephus gives his age as 182 (in agreement with MT). What makes this interesting is that if the number 182 is followed (so Josephus), this would result in a date for the flood in 3329 BC ± 25 yrs, the same year that Methuselah died. MT, although having different figures, also has Methuselah dying the same year as the flood (for MT, 2543 BC ± 25 yrs).