

- (3) Time is either nonexistent or existent for God in Himself. But although time is existent in the created universe in terms of discernible sequence (i.e., time's arrow always points in one direction), and is thus meaningful to God in those terms, yet its duration is subject to God's will. He can stretch days or reduce millennia at will.

In this view time is meaningful to God in terms of sequence, and in terms of duration as a functional determination of His will.

- (4) Time is existent for God in Himself, but the difference between one day and a thousand years, compared with eternity, is so minuscule that, relatively speaking, there is no significant difference between them for God.

Incidentally, one thousand years contain 365,242 days, so that under this interpretation II Peter 3:8 would be saying, "one day is with the Lord as 365,242 days."

- (5) Time is existent for God in Himself, but God's long-suffering and patience toward sinful men is so great that, whether He waits one day or a thousand years, it is all the same to Him; His patience will endure, at least during the present dispensation of grace. But it will not last forever, since the Day of the Lord will come as does a thief for those not ready, but at an appointed time in God's Plan.

This interpretation gains some of its attractiveness from the fact that it takes the context into account, and tries to "fit" with the flow of thought of the passage.

- (6) Time has existence for God in Himself, but time's divisions are measured differently in heaven. One day in heaven ("one day with the Lord") is equal to a thousand years here on earth; and a thousand years on earth are equal to one day in heaven.

This is similar to saying that a year on the planet Pluto is equal to 247.7 years here on earth; and 247.7 years here on earth to one year on Pluto.

- (7) Time is existent for God in Himself, but II Peter 3:8 has reference to the outworking of God's purposes in the created universe. The Lord by supernatural power can accomplish in one earth day what would by natural processes take one thousand years to accomplish. As far as His supernatural power is concerned, a thousand years of natural process can be accomplished in one day by supernatural power.

This interpretation is attractive because it takes into account the flow of thought in the passage. It emphasizes the scriptural truth that God is not limited to working through natural processes. By supernatural power God can bring all of