

Shem and Abraham

Who lived longer, Shem the second son of Noah, or Abraham?

From scripture we can construct the following table.

Gen	Person	Father at age	Bible verse	Anno Mundi
1	Adam	130	Gen 5:3	130
2	Seth	105	Gen 5:6	235
3	Enosh	90	Gen 5:9	325
4	Cainan	70	Gen 5:12	395
5	Mahalalel	65	Gen 5:15	460
6	Jared	162	Gen 5:18	622
7	Enoch	65	Gen 5:21	687
8	Methuselah	187	Gen 5:25	874
9	Lamech	182	Gen 5:28	1056
10	Noah's 2nd	502	Gen 5:32	1558
11	Shem	100	Gen 11:10	1658
12	Arphaxad	35	Gen 11:12	1693
13	Salah	30	Gen 11:14	1723
14	Eber	34	Gen 11:16	1757
15	Peleg	30	Gen 11:18	1787
16	Reu	32	Gen 11:20	1819
17	Serug	30	Gen 11:22	1849
18	Nahor	29	Gen 11:24	1878
19	Terah	70	Gen 11:26	1948
20	Abraham	100	Gen 21:5	2048
21	Isaac	60	Gen 25:26	2108
22	Jacob	91	Jasher 31:21	2199
23	Joseph	34	Jasher 50:15	2233

This is the genealogy of Shem: Shem was one hundred years old, and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood. After he begot Arphaxad, Shem lived five hundred years, and begot sons and daughters. (Gen 11:10)

This is the sum of the years of Abraham's life which he lived: one hundred and seventy-five years. (Gen 25:7)

So according to these verses Shem lived for 600 years and Abraham lived for 175 years. Now Shem was born in 1558AM so he died in 2158AM. Abraham was born in 1948AM so he died in 2123AM. Therefore Shem lived 35 years longer than Abraham. This is very important to know because people generally don't realise the major role that Shem played in schooling his descendants in righteousness. Jacob was 15 years old when Abraham died, and 50 years old when Shem died.

It was at that time that Abraham died, in the fifteenth year of the life of Jacob and Esau, the sons of Isaac, and all the days of Abraham were one hundred and seventy-five years. (Jasher 26:29)

It came to pass in those days, in the hundred and tenth year of the life of Isaac, that is in the fiftieth year of the life of Jacob, in that year Shem the son of Noah died; Shem was six hundred years old at his death. (Jasher 28:24)

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