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## **Clocks Are The Minions Of The Devil**

Time is a product of the devil. And like the devil it is an illusory master with machines of torture at its command. These machines are called clocks and they serve their master with almost unerring emotionless precision. Today's clocks feed on a constant diet of energy, both physical and theoretical, which society provides for them. In turn they provide the framework for our lives. They developed from a simple curiosity with the passing of life to become the architects of our lives. Around them has been created a structure that few people today can escape from and maybe tomorrow none will be free of.

Clocks have become very complex machines that interact in an intricate society. They have their humble origins in watching the stars, the moon and the sun roll across the sky. Ancient man observed these celestial bodies and began to quantify their movements. In doing so they developed calendars and structured the manner in which they lived their lives. It was not enough, however, to know how many days passed between the seasons. Man's curiosity inevitably lead him to divide the years into months, the months into weeks and, inexorably, the weeks into days, hours, minutes and seconds. In order to maintain these divisions of time devices were built to express them.

First the sun itself was measured with sundials. When or where the sun was not appropriate devices such as the Clepsydra, water based, the sandglass, earth based, and marked candles made to burn at specific rates, fire based, were used to mark times passing. Eventually these devices were replaced with clocks that showed hours, minutes and seconds and derived their power and ever increasing accuracy from technological advances. These advances include gravity pulling on weight, the swinging of pendulums, the tension of springs, the vibrations of quartz crystals when electrified and currently the cyclical properties of atoms interacting with magnetic fields and radiation. And with all of these diverse types of input that make clocks function they only ever do one single thing. They tell us a number that as a society we have decided has some kind of value.

Clocks display their inherited societal value in two ways. Either directly in digital format or representatively with the arms of the clock pointing to numbers, the short hand to the hours, the long hand at the minutes and more often than not the quick thin hand to the seconds. It seems appropriate that we call these time pointing sticks hands because we are at the mercy of clocks as they mold and shape our lives like so much clay. Clay that society has given into the hands of time the devil. And as we create the devil we also create time. And as the devil has not been proven to exist neither has time, yet we believe in both of them (in some form or another). Time as we perceive it is an illusion. Yet it is a structured illusion that almost all people in all the worlds' societies have chosen to be their masters and do not even recognize that they are slaves. Self imposed slaves to time the devil, with its minions the clocks. And we erect churches and create theologies to make sure that our overseers are in line with time. These churches are called the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the U.S. Naval Observatory (USNO). All clocks derive their output, if it is to be accurate with society, directly or indirectly from these sources. The theologies that are upheld are Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), that a

second is defined as exactly 9,192,631,770 oscillations or cycles of the cesium atom's resonant frequency<sup>1</sup> and Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). These ideas help keep societies in line with the churches of the clock.

Perhaps my analogy of clocks as minions of the devil controlling our every move is a bit excessive. Then again perhaps it is merely premature. As technology becomes more ubiquitous and humans more evolutionarily linked with biologically based information interaction devices the clock may truly become the master. If we extrapolate out from the functions of modern day computers we can speculate that, like a computer is controlled by a clock to keep itself in synch with itself and it's interactions with the outside world, so to may we someday be biologically connected to a societal clock (we already are, it's just not in our heads yet). A networked time based system that feeds information, and perhaps commands, into our heads about the best time and most efficient manner to do things will be, in essence, a master of all men. And if all men are technologically enhanced then no one will be able to escape the devils minions. We will all be a part of an artifice that we created. Measured and derived from the sun.



<sup>1</sup><http://physics.nist.gov/GenInt/Time/time.html>

All material in this paper was extrapolated from information acquired at

<http://physics.nist.gov/GenInt/Time/time.html> and

<http://inventors.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?site=http://www.britannica.com/clockworks/main.html>