

It didn't take Him 24 hours to make light. He could take whatever time He wanted to. So we have the first day - and there's no sun dividing time yet - so there's no reason to say it's 24 hours. It might have been five minutes and it might have been 5 billion years - you have nothing to tell you. And the second day~~the~~ the same way and the third day the same way. Well now how about the fifth day? Or how about the third day - that's before the sun was there - was the third day a day of 24 hours or was it shorter or was it longer? We don't know. It doesn't say. But can we make a guess - I think we can. I think we can make a guess that it was much longer than 24 hours. Read verse 11 - in the third day - "And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth' and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the third day." Was this third day 24 hours? Well, if what God did was say, "Let the earth be covered with fruit trees" it might be one second, mightn't it? But that's not what he said. He said, "Let the earth bring forth grass and fruit trees and everything." Well how fast does the earth bring forth grass and trees? Some kinds of trees take a hundred years to grow. How long did it take the earth to bring forth all these kinds of trees, all the vegetation, so all the vegetation and all the kinds of trees were standing on the earth? Well God could have speeded up the process just like you take a camera and you take pictures of the growth of a tree and then you run it over double speed. He could have speeded it up so it all happened in five minutes if He chose. But there's nothing here to suggest that He did it. And so my guess is that this third day was a period of several million years. That's my guess - it's only a guess. If you want to believe it's 24 hours - certainly God could do it in 24 hours if He chose but the Bible doesn't say which. But it sounds to me more like a longer period. Now there are so many of these other subjects I've been asked to speak of - I won't ~~take~~ ^{dare} take time to read with you about the fifth and sixth days~~but~~ only to say it's exactly the same situation as in the third - that it says that the water shall bring forth abundantly moving creatures, the earth is to bring forth animals and so on. Well that doesn't sound like let the earth be covered with animals, not an instantaneous creation but a gradual coming into existence is what the phraseology is