

So if somebody wants to say to me, "The world was created five billion years ago" I don't object. If somebody wants to say three billion, I don't object. If somebody wants to say it was 10,000 years ago, I think it's very unlikely but I don't object. I don't know, the Bible doesn't say so I don't see how we can say when the world was created. I don't think we have any evidence in the Bible about when it was. It's just like the question of the descendants of Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Somebody says to me, "Which of these three sons are you descended from? I don't know. My father was Scotch, my mother was of English ancestry. Neither English nor Scotch is mentioned in any one of the three. So I haven't the slightest idea whether I'm descended from Shem, from Ham, or from Japheth. The Bible doesn't tell me and I don't know. Aside from the Jews there are comparatively few people today who have any reason to tell which of the three they are descended from. Well I'll skip over rapidly then that ~~XXXXXX~~ second question - the creation of the world. The third question - the creation of man. Since the fourth is evolution, I'll leave the matter of how man was created. I won't take your time with going into that now but simply deal with the matter of the time. When was man created? People like to make a joke of Usher's chronology - say that according to Usher's chronology man was created at 10 o'clock in the morning on the 6th of July in the year 4004 B.C. Well, of course the fact of the matter is, we don't know what month he was created in or what day or what year because the Bible doesn't tell us. We have never found an inscription in any archaeological place ~~XXXX~~ dating 4004 B. C. or any such date. We have no evidence as to how long ago man was created. Well Archbishop Usher, who was a very fine scholar and a fine Christian man, took the dates in the Bible and tried to add them together to find when man would have been created and since there are many places where dates are not given, he made guesses about those. And thus he came up with a total of 4004 so's to make it exactly 4000 years before the birth of Christ. There have been a hundred different guesses on the basis of these dates though there are not enough of them in the Bible to make an exact statement. But I'd like to go beyond that. I'd like to say that those dates were not intended by the Lord to enable us to say when man was created. We just don't know when it was. And as proof of that I would like to point out that many words in the Hebrew and Greek usage are different from any translation you can give in English - and here is one of them - The first verse in the New Testament - "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ,