

MacRae has pointed this out in connection with our study of the Bible. We must be careful in the field of science that we take the same precaution. For example in the field of geology when we observe the existence of the earth, we observe the atmosphere around it, we observe the water and the lakes and rivers and oceans. We observe how the land has been eroded by the action of streams and rivers. To go a little further, we observe rock strata in which there are evidence of fossil formations of living forms, many of which are now extinct. We go a little further than that and observe the fossils carefully and we find that certain invertebrates; that is, those animals which have no backbone, appear all at once at certain levels of rock strata. And rock strata which apparently are older contain no such fossils. These are facts, these are observations which the geologist makes. Now the theory takes place - how long ago were these laid down? The geologist perhaps can postulate several different theories. Now the scientist works from the viewpoint that he makes certain observations, he proposes certain theories to explain and correlate his observations, then he performs experiments to see whether his theories hold, and if he can perform a large number of experiments in which the theory holds in every case, he develops what he calls a law. We, in our consideration here, get no further than the theory because the things we are discussing don't lend themselves to experimental testing very well. It makes it difficult to prove that they are definite laws. So we must keep in mind that many things which are taught to us, even in schools, as fact, are in actuality only theories. We must be careful to differentiate and know what is fact and what is theory. The geologist goes out to the Grand Canyon, travels down almost a mile - 5000 feet from the rim to the bottom - and down near the bottom he finds material known as sandstone. Sandstone is just what its name implies - rock that has been made from sand. Sand is laid down in the bottom of lakes, oceans; therefore the bottom of the Grand Canyon must at one time have been on the bottom of the ocean and yet today it's several thousand feet above sea level. In order to make sand into sandstone there has to be a great deal of pressure. This is brought about by the rock above it. The geologist recognizes three types of rocks. Sandstone is one type - a sedimentary rock - such as the sediment you find in the mouths of rivers and deltas. He recognizes igneous rock - rock that's been produced by volcanic action - molten at one time. And he recognizes metamorphic rock which is produced from either igneous or sedimentary by the action of heat and pressure. Down at the bottom then