

these conditions. First of all plant flowers tend to develop from many parts to few parts; in other words, the number of petals. The more evolved flower has fewer petals, fewer stamens, fewer calyx - which is the green, small leaves under the petals. Another thing is that the parts become united. If we take some of the family - now I'm thinking of one, the morning glory, where you have a fusion of parts. Few of you possibly realize when you pick a daisy or when you pick a dandelion - that what you pull out as a petal is in reality an entire flower. And if you examine it more closely under a hand lens, you'll find that instead of finding individual petals, the petals have fused except for the tips. And here's an evidence that fusion is more evolved. Now I'm getting around to saying that in the evolutionary cycle, the botanist believes that the lowly dandelion is more developed, more evolved than something like the large trees that we have outside. And bearing that up, another characteristic of this trend of evolution in plants is how woodiness has given rise to herbaceousness in plants. The trees are fairly primitive. Why they developed woody structures I can't say - there are many theories postulating how that has happened and why it has happened. But in reality our lowly herbaceous plants, and this is not always true because we have all sorts of intermediate forms, but looking at some of the most evolved plants in the higher families, herbaceousness seems to predominate. When you go back to the lower forms in the seed plants, woodiness predominates. There is a tendency for insect pollination to give way to wind pollination. The more primitive plants are believed to have been dependent on insects to disseminate pollen whereas the more evolved plants depended on wind. Condition in the seed - there exists in the more primitive plant more seed than in the more evolved plant where we have fewer seeds. If we go again to Genesis - and looking now particularly at the 11th verse - "And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit'" and so forth, I don't think we can assume by reading that that God had the wording in there to mean which came first. From evolutionary data we find that the grass, for instance, is more evolved than the fruit tree yielding fruit. The term "fruit tree" - you might think of an apple tree. To the botanist it's any tree that produces a fruit and a seed. Whether this was edible or not at this time, we don't know, and it certainly isn't stated in the 11th verse. We are in agreement though that plants preceded animals - very much so. And it lines in, the way God has outlined it in Genesis for us. I see my time is nearly up but there's one thing