

There is no proof that is not a correct translation of the Hebrew. There is no rule of grammar that rules that out. I know some prefer to take it another way which is possible, but certainly not necessary. I'm quite convinced that this way, the way all the ancient translations render it is the correct way: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." And that means that God created the whole universe--everything that's in heaven and everything that's in earth.

How did He create it then? We're not told. There was a French priest who invented a theory a few years ago. He said, Everything in the universe was in one big ball. Then all the sudden there was a tremendous explosion, and it all went flying apart and it's been flying apart every since. As it flew apart, within the first half hour, all the elements were formed! Then he said, these elements have come into shape and form as they are today. Maybe it happened that way, but Genesis doesn't say it did.

much.

Maybe God created the universe/as it is now with stars and planets and galaxies the same as they are now. The Bible doesn't tell us, how he created. But it does say He created it so it must have had a beginning sometime. Whether God created it as he easily could have, with everything together and then it exploded like that, or whether he created it with many different things already a moving, proceeding system-- God could do either.

But this is the first step: In the beginning God created heaven and earth. The next verse says: And the earth was--but that word can be translated became or came into being as, or came to be. Equally possible translations. After God created heaven & earth (v.1), there came to be that matter which would become this earth in a chaotic condition without form and void. Was that the next instant after God created the universe? Or did the universe go on for a few billion years? until that point at which God showed that this particular matter, having been shot out from the sun would call us together without form and void, and then God would begin to form it into what became this earth? We are not told. We don't know.

So between v. 1 and v.2 there may have been two seconds, there may have been 2000 years, they may have been 2 billion years! We don't know. God could do it anywhere he felt like. But v. 2 shows you a situation in which you have the matter that composes this earth in a chaotic situation. In that situation you have God causing there should be light upon this earth.

It may be that this matter composing the earth would jam together and the pressure would create heat and that would make light here. That might be. Whatever it was, that light did not come from the sun, because the sun is not described until the fourth day. There are various scientific theories today as to how the earth came into being which fit remarkably with this statement in Genesis. That light came to the earth before the sun was visible from the earth.

We won't have time to look at what occurred on the different days. But look at this question: How long were the days? What does the word "day" mean? Isn't this a nice day? Would you say that?