

was created -- we don't know how soon after -- maybe the next instant after, or maybe ten million years after. We don't know how soon after. The Bible doesn't say how soon after v. 1 comes v. 2. But sometime after God created the matter of the universe there came a time when he decided to put this particular earth into a condition for man to live upon. And at that time when he decided to do that, whether that was the next instant ~~or~~ after he created the universe as a whole or whether it was the next 10 million years after, whatever it was, at that instant the condition is what is described in v. 2 here. "The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep." And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the water.

And then God proceeded to make light, to separate light from darkness, to put up a firmament, to draw the waters together into one place, and he had the dry land areas on which he had the vegetation grow, and for that rain was needed. That is the point at which the ~~the~~ account of the creation of man begins over in the next ch.

It starts at a later point. No contradiction. Simply starts at a different point.

The other alleged contradiction between these two is the claim of the order of creation. They say the order of creation in Gen. 1 is that he created vegetation, then he created animals, then he created man and woman, because it says in v. 28, So he created man in his own image . . . male and female created he them. But you have left out the stars, you have left out the firmament, you have left out the original creation of matter -- all these things, but . . . they say the order of these things is vegetation, animals, man and woman.

But they say in ch. 2 you have a different order. You have first man (v.7) . . . then, they say, you have vegetation, because God planted a garden. They say ~~then~~ then you have animals because in v. 9 out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and fowl of the air and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. Then you have the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and God made woman. So here, they say, you have man, vegetation, animals, and woman. A different order! And what a primitive idea of God it is!

God created man, and then he said, Where will we put man? O we've got to have a garden for him. So, v.8, The Lord God planted a garden, and out of the garden he made to grow every tree pleasant to sight. . . God made man, then laid him aside to dry and said, Now we've got to prepare him a place to live! So he said, let's plant some trees, and then within 10 of 30 years those trees will grow up big enough to take man from ~~a~~ this place here and put him in the garden!

That's not the God of the Bible! When the God of the Bible creates a man he's already prepared a place to put him. So when it says ~~that~~ God formed man, and then it says the Lord planted a garden eastward in Eden, it is not saying he planted a garden after he made man, but it is saying that he had planted a garden.