

For any statement you can ask all sorts of things that are suggested by it but not covered by it. It's when we try to read into a statement something like someone might say, Of course Dr. MacRae went by plane, he's got too much work to do to take a steamer; he had to get there in a hurry. Of course he took a plane. Someone else says, Oh no, I've heard Dr. MacRae telling how he enjoyed walking around the deck at night looking at the moon on the ocean, how much he enjoys the trip across; he would not miss that if he possibly could. They could argue back and forth but that would not tell you ~~xxx~~ which. The statement would not tell you ~~xxx~~ which.

So to bring in other matters and there are matters that throw light on the statement and there are many things we don't know that do not. There's much discussion about the days of creation. The question is not what does the word day mean in English, but what does the Heb. word used there mean? Anybody can easily determine that for himself by taking Young's concordance and looking up the word day. It shows what Heb. word is so translated. I believe there is only one in this case.. Look at the various cases and see what the word day means. It can strictly mean a 24 hr. period. But does it have to mean a 24 hr. period?

I would challenge any one of you during the next mo. to make a note of every time you use the word day for the next mo. Then go thro the list and see in how many of those instances you meant a 24 hr. period when you used "day." If there was one case in 20 in which you meant a 24 hr. period I would be tremendously surprised. If I would meet you at 11 o'clock tonight and say, Isn't this a lovely day. You'd say, What are you talking about? It isn't day at all; it's night. The word is not often used ~~in~~ today and perhaps never used(very rarely) in those days to mean a 24 hr. period.

In Lincoln's day they did not have airplanes. Which day was that? Jesus said, Abraham saw my day and was glad. Which day was He talking about? Was it the day of His crucifixion, or of his resurrection, or of His life in general? If we go to Scripture and see how words are used instead of taking our own ideas and reading them into Scripture we get God's truth. But how much easier it is to take what some commentator said or some philosopher said and compare back and forth and let our minds run according to our experiences instead of seeing how the words are used and what they mean as they were used.

Now at this meeting in Chicago of the Advisory Board we met with the Inerrancy Council, there was considerable discussion of a meeting they planned to have afterward in San Diego. They sent me maybe 100 copies of this beautiful thing for me to put up with pictures of 50 Christian leaders, some from other countries, most from the U.S., pictures of them with the titles of the subjects they were to speak on. This meeting in San Diego, March 3-6, 1982. A \$150 registration fee for the meeting. They said if 2000 people come it will pay its expenses. But they said we expect to get 1000 from San Diego, 1000 from L.A., and perhaps 1000 from other parts of the country, and if we have that many we'll have enough to pay the costs of the hermeneutics conference we're going to have.