

Our present manuscripts bear about the same relation to it that a man would have in walking across a solid concrete bridge ~~over~~ over a wide river in flood when about an inch of water was above the top of the bridge. He would know with certainty that there was a solid/^{basis}~~bridge~~ underneath upon which his feet ~~and~~ could stand firmly, and yet there would be a slight covering over it so that he could not see every bit of the solid foundation

and this is explicitly stated by many of its defenders. It is their ~~essence~~ essential belief that all things have developed from one simple start ~~in~~ by purely natural or, as one might say, purely accidental, development

Unfortunatly many ~~for~~ Christian students are led to believe that anything that involves development is wrong. The result is that when/^{one}~~anyone~~ who holds evolution in the extreme anti-Christian sense gives them evidence for even a small amount ~~of~~ of development or change, they immediately conclude that the whole idea ~~flows~~ from beginning to end ~~is~~ must be true. We make it harder (more difficult) rather than easier, for students to hold their faith when we give them oversimplified impressions of what we believe. Theistic evolution is a contradiction in terms, if we use evolution in its proper sense rather than a mere ~~synonym~~ synonym ~~for~~ for development. The question of the length of time that God spent in the course of His creation is an entirely different matter. The evolutionary theory requires a very long period to give room for accidental development from a very simple beginning to the complex situation that we have today. It is wrong for us to/^{allow}~~let~~ this fact lead us to lead us to think that therefore we must believe that the time was necessarily ~~entirely~~ extremely short. We do not decide what the truth is by taking the opposite of what unbelievers say. The only way to decide the truth is to find ~~out~~ what the Bible ~~and~~ teaches.

I often tell my students that we are making a mistake if we go to the Bible