

with two simple questions: Is such-and-such a matter a fact, or is it not a fact? We should also ask a third question; we should say: "Does the Bible not give me an answer to this question?" I am quite convinced that this third is the correct attitude in relation to the question of the length of the creative days.

God could have created the whole ~~universe~~ universe in two seconds if He chose ~~had chosen~~ had chosen. There was no reason He had to take six twenty-four periods. He could - have - done it in a very brief time or in a very long time. We cannot ~~compel~~ compel God to act in the way that may seem desirable to us. The question is: ~~What~~ What does the Bible ~~teach~~ teach?

To assume that the Hebrew word ~~must~~ must mean exactly the same as our English word "day" is a rather foolish assumption. The way to determine what a Hebrew word means is to see how it is used in its ~~context~~ context. When we examine/its context I believe that we find that ~~this~~ this Hebrew word does mean just about what our word "day" means in our language, but unfortunately most people have a completely false idea as to what our word "day" means.

If I were to meet someone at 11 o'clock at night in the middle of winter, and to say to him, "Isn't this a lovely day?" he would probably think that I was out of my mind. He would say, "It is not day; it is night." And the first usage use of the word "day" in the Scripture is where it says that God called the light ~~day~~ day and the darkness He ~~called~~ called night. In this verse the word "day" certainly does not mean a ~~twenty-four~~ twenty-four-hour period; it means a period of activity between two periods ~~of-darkness~~ of inactivity and this I believe is the usual meaning of the word anyway.

I question whether people use the word "day" very much in the ~~sense~~ sense of a twenty-four-hour period except when they are calculating interest or making ~~transportation~~ transportation railroad or airplane timetables. (How about buses? boats?) Ordinarily we use the word day to mean a period of activity between two periods of inactivity which usually corresponds more ~~or~~ or less to the time ~~when-the~~ of light between the two periods of darkness. Yet we often use it in quite a different way, as when