

Our present manuscripts have about the same relation to it that a man would have in walking across a bridge that had one inch of water over it. He would ~~ki~~ know with certainty that there was a solid basis underneath on which his feet could stand firmly, and yet there is a slight covering of that which is uncertain. /

It is God's will that we study each passage with extreme care in order to get everything out of it that we can, but also that we be very careful not to read into it anything that is not there. Human words are ~~not~~ not like a photograph which might be enlarged greatly and yield more and more evidence. They ~~are~~ are more like blunt instruments. A word is an area ~~of~~ of meaning, ~~not~~ not a point. In any sentence there is a certain amount of information that can be gathered with absolute certainty, but ~~there~~ there is a far greater amount of information that is suggested but ~~is~~ not clearly taught. It is therefore extremely important to compare ~~a~~ Scripture with Scripture if we are to know exactly what it means.

You mention the question of theistic evolution, and here we immediately come into a problem of semantics. It is unfortunate that the word "evolution", like so many other words, has come to be used in a great number ~~of~~ of senses. ~~A~~ A man said to me once that he did not see ~~x~~ how anyone could doubt evolution because anyone can see the evolution of a boy into a man. It is true that when you compare a small babe (baby) with the same person ~~x~~ forty years later it is hard to see <sup>many</sup> points of ~~resemblance~~ resemblance. <sup>Great</sup> ~~small~~ changes have occurred <sup>gradually,</sup> and often these changes would have been ~~exte~~ extremely difficult to predict with accuracy. Development is a common thing in life. <sup>2</sup> ~~A caterpillar~~ develops into a butterfly.

<sup>no 11</sup> Who would ever dream, in looking at <sup>a</sup> the caterpillar, that eventually it would ~~be~~ replaced by a butterfly? <sup>3</sup> Life is full of development, and of small changes. It would be <sup>absurd to deny that development is</sup> ~~as a~~ <sup>very</sup> real fact of life. <sup>4</sup> ~~the word evolution,~~ <sup>5</sup> ~~as properly used it should be taken as meaning the~~ idea that everything has developed by purely natural processes from an extremely simple beginning into the great ~~complex~~ complexity that we find today. <sup>6</sup> The theory, <sup>thus,</sup> ~~thus~~ by its very nature, <sup>excludes</sup> ~~rules out~~ any idea of a