

~~The same is true of evolution.~~ If the Bible ~~is~~ clearly teaches that the world as it is ~~was~~ came into existence six thousand years ago this would inevitably rule out evolution. However, ~~is~~ if the Bible does not tell us when the world came into existence this does not prove evolution. It is an utterly erroneous argument to say that we must deny the possibility of any long period because if we do so it is a step toward evolution. The question is, "What does the Bible teach?"

It seems to me that one thing must be clearly established. The word "day" in Hebrew as in English does not essentially or definitely or universally mean a ~~twenty-four hour~~ twenty-four hour period. The very first use of it in the Bible, in Genesis 1: is that God saw the light that it was good and He called the light day, and the darkness He called night. Now the period that is referred to in this verse could be exactly twelve hours at in certain parts of the world; in other areas it would be a far shorter or a far longer period. At the poles it might even be as long as six months, <sup>but the</sup> ~~outside~~ cases would be few indeed where day as used in this verse represents a twenty-four hour-period. In fact the ~~common~~ use of the word "day", not only in the Bible, ~~but~~ also in ordinary life is for a period that is a period of activity that is ~~surrounded~~ preceded and followed by a period of rest. If you meet a man at midnight, and you say, "Isn't this a lovely day?" ~~He would~~ he would certainly laugh at you. He would say, "This is not day; it is night." About the only cases that I know of where we in common language today use the word "day" for a twenty-four hour period is in the figuring of interest or in the making out of railroad or airplane (travel) ~~is~~ schedules.

I notice that in the last paragraph I used the word I said "When we use the word 'today' Here I surely was not by "today" meaning December 22~~nd~~, 1966. I was referring to the general ~~period~~ period in which we live. I heard a man over the radio say recently that back in Lincoln's day they did not have automobiles. This did not refer to a twenty-four-hour period . It referred to the general