

M-2 ✓

word

Hebrew the ordinary way of expressing our English ~~word~~ "to be" is ~~simply~~ simply to put two words next to each other. "Huyah" is not a copula. If you look in Brown, Driver and Griggs, a Hebrew dictionary, you will find that it gives as its primary meaning "to become", "to happen"; it does not ~~say~~ say anything about "to be." The use of it <sup>haya' haye</sup> ~~as=~~ like our modern copula is ~~a~~ a late development <sup>in Hebrew</sup>. Therefore it would be a far better translation of verse 2 to say either "the earth became without form and void", or, "there came into existence an earth without form and void." It does not mean that something was, but that something came to ~~be~~ be. However, this does not prove that there was an earth before that. "God created heaven and earth." In verse 1, in my opinion, indicates the original creation of matter. Whether one minute intervened between this and the situation described in verse 2, or whether billions of years intervened, we are not told, but at any rate something did intervene, because verse 2 is <sup>indicates</sup> a definite state (statement?) of a change of situation. There came into existence an earth without form and void. If those astronomers are right who think that there were many great ~~gaps~~ galaxies and suns, and that eventually our sun cast off a large amount of matter which formed the planets, then verse 2 would describe that situation where the material that formed this planet began to come together, and we had an inchoate group of matter which was the earth in a liquid state corresponding closely to what is in verse 2.

I do not say that this is what the Bible says happened. I am not at all sure ~~h~~ that we are in a situation to know what happened a long time ago. Scientists may make guesses; and they may make other guesses. New Hypotheses may be made (better word?) (not "concocted" - but ? It may be a long time before we can have certainty about a great many elements in this. Unfortunately many researchers are much more dogmatic than the facts evidence. However, most of the scientific theories that are made about the origin of this earth do not in any way contradict Genesis 1; they are