

its axis. I find no evidence that Moses knew that the earth had an axis, or that the earth revolves at all. Whether Moses thought that the earth went around the sun or that the sun went around the earth, is nowhere stated in the Bible. I do not know whether Moses knew anything about this or not, but I do not believe that he has given us any information about it. When we say that Moses by the word day means the length of time that it takes the earth to revolve--to go round on its axis--we are reading modern scientific ideas into the Bible and becoming wise above what is written. ~~W~~ If we want to know what Moses meant by day the only way to find out is to see how he used the word.

When we undertake to do this we find that what Moses meant by a day in the first case where he uses it is a period of light between two periods of darkness. We find this right in Genesis 1: . He called the light day and the darkness he called night. This is by far the most common--this is the most general use of the word day. It is a period of light between two periods of darkness. The length of this period varies tremendously. When Moses spoke of six days, did He mean six combinations of a period of darkness and a period of light, or did he mean six periods of light without including in his enumerations the period of darkness. As far as I know we have no way to tell. Of this I am sure, that Moses did not mean a period of time that would be marked as 24 hours on a clock. Moses had never heard of a 24-hour day, nor had he ever heard of the ^{earth} sun revolving on its axis.

Moses clearly used the word day in three senses. He uses it of the period of light between two periods of darkness. He uses it for a succession of days, whether they be simply the periods of light or whether it also includes with each period of light the preceding period of darkness. And he uses it for a general period of time. Thus in chapter 2 he speaks of the whole creation as one day. These are the generations of heaven and earth in the days when they were created. This includes all the six days in one. It is --the word day is often used in the Bible for a general period of time. All that we can say