

events. From God's viewpoint it is evening and morning all the time. The fact that this particular globe revolves at a certain rate is no reason to make His day consist of 24 hours. His creative day could amount to any ~~amount~~ length He chose. It might happen to be 24 hours, it is much more likely that it was not. Whether, however, it was a period even less than 24 hours, or whether it was a period lasting for millions of years is something which cannot be determined from the use of the word day or from the use of evening and morning in this context.

As a matter of fact, there is evidence ~~in the Scripture itself~~ quite in the chapter itself which looks ~~very~~ strongly in the direction of the day being ~~a~~ much longer than 24 hours. We find this in the ~~scripture~~ ~~where~~ connection with the description of the third and fifth and sixth days. We notice in connection with the third day that it does not say in verse 11 that God said, "Let the earth be covered with grass and trees", it says, "Let the earth bring forth grass" and then in verse 12 it says, "the earth brought forth grass". The picture is not one of God suddenly commanding that the earth be covered with all sorts of vegetation, but one of His causing that vegetation should slowly spread over the earth, and that many types of vegetation should come into existence over a period of time. We find similar language used in connection with the coming of the animals in the later chapters. It is stated that God instantaneously created the light and various other factors in the creation, but in ~~the~~ connection with these it is stated that He ordered that they should be brought forth. The language certainly suggests a long, slow process and fits much better with the idea of a long period of time than of a day being here only 24 hours.

A - Let us make clear that we are not insisting that the Bible teaches long periods of creation. We do ~~insist~~ that the Bible does not say #

[to 9R