

Rough Draft

Such a conclusion would, of course, be quite absurd. The Bible, like all other literature, contains figures of speech. When ~~it~~ Jesus called Herod a fox ^(Sukol 13132) He did not mean that he was a four-footed beast. ~~When I read that the Lord is my shepherd~~ ^{Psalm 95:7} ~~We are the sheep of His pasture~~ ^{or bleat} do not mean that we supply wool like sheep. The meaning of these passages is perfectly clear. The figure of speech not only adds beauty, it also ~~adds clarity, it does if a figure like this expresses an idea,~~ much more briefly than could be done in literal language and every bit as clearly, ~~if not more so.~~ Figures of speech are like salt ~~if~~ on a dish. ~~They add~~ A sprinkling of salt adds spice to the dish, ^{but} if you pour ^{on} a whole bucket of salt ~~on~~ the ~~its~~ ~~it~~ food ^{it becomes} ~~it makes it~~ worthless. To interpret any portion of the Bible as completely figurative is apt to reduce it to nonsense, ^{but individual words or phrases must often be so interpreted.} ~~To interpret it as in individual word, however, the question is quite different.~~ In our present section, the question is, ~~Does this~~ ^{mean} a literal evening and a literal morning~~?~~, or does it ~~mean~~ ^{they} simply ~~a~~ ^{of the} beginning and ~~an~~ ^{the} ending ~~of the period.~~ ^{each}

If it means a literal evening and a literal morning the picture is something like this: There is a day, it begins with an evening, it ~~ends~~ proceeds on to a morning and the day ~~it~~ comes to an end. During this day which has the definite stages, God performs certain acts.

If this is what evening and morning mean then ~~we~~ ~~see~~ a good many questions are raised. The most vital of these is, "Where was God that He experienced an evening and a morning in this way?" When it is morning in Texas it is evening in China. Where was God? Was God in Texas or in China? The fact of the matter, of course, is that this first chapter is written not from the standpoint of an individual on a particular point of this earth so that the day begins and ends - when day would begin and end for him on that portion of the earth, but it is written from the standpoint of God, the Creator. There was no man to observe these