

scientific theories on this point. Scientific theories as to length of time consumed in the creation of the universe may be right or may be wrong. The Bible does not say anything about the time. There are many other things about creation which can be very definitely learned from Genesis 1, but the length of time involved in it cannot be gathered from this chapter.

A Every time that I present this material in my classes someone raises the question: Can we not be sure that this, a 24-hour period because of the fact that in connection with each of the days, the ^{reference to evening and morning is made} statement is made and the evening and the morning were on the first ^{in the Hebrew reads: "and it became evening and it became morning one day." In answer I ~~must~~ raise another question: day and so on. This statement indicates that there was an evening and a morning in the day. If these were literal evening and morning it surely would look very strongly in the direction of a 24-hour period.}

We must ask ourselves, however, are these literal evenings and mornings? Is it possible that the word evening and morning here are used not in a literal sense but in a figurative sense.

The so-called spiritualization of prophecy is a very pernicious tendency. If we make everything in the ^{or section of} Old Testament symbolic and figurative, it ^{generally} ceases to be a witness to anything. I have constantly stressed this in my classes. A few years ago I found that the result of my stressing this was to lead some students to go to the opposite extreme and to ^{conclude} insist that I ^{thought} said that everything in the Scripture ^{word} must be taken literally. Such a conclusion would, of course, be ^{should} ~~quite~~ absurd. We must take the words in exactly the sense in which they

are intended. If a word has more than one sense in Scripture, we must see which sense fits the particular context. If we cannot be sure, then we can be sure that it is one of them, and we have an area of meaning of which we can be certain, but we may not know as to the

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