



The Days of Creation

- What kind of Days?
 - The Gap Theory
 - The Pictorial Day Theory
 - Day Age Theory
 - “The Framework hypothesis”
 - Literal 24-hour days

The Gap Theory

- Old and out-dated
- Scofield Reference Bible
- Six literal days in which God restored from chaos the original creation
 - Order: creation (1:1)
 - Chaos: (between 1:1 and 1:2)
 - Restoration & recreation (1:2ff)
- Argument:
 - “was” can mean “become”
 - “without form & void”; cf., Is. 45:18

The Pictorial Day Theory

- “Day” = a day of revelation, a day on which God revealed to Moses a certain aspect of His creative activity
- The activity took vast amounts of time.
- Telling it to Moses took seven days
- Not popular today

Day Age Theory

- Each day is a vast period of time during which natural evolution progressed to approximately the state assigned to each day
- Argue that Scripture uses the word day in various ways—sometimes for indefinite periods (cf. Gen. 2:4).
- Theistic evolutionists
- The progressive creation view

“The Framework hypothesis”

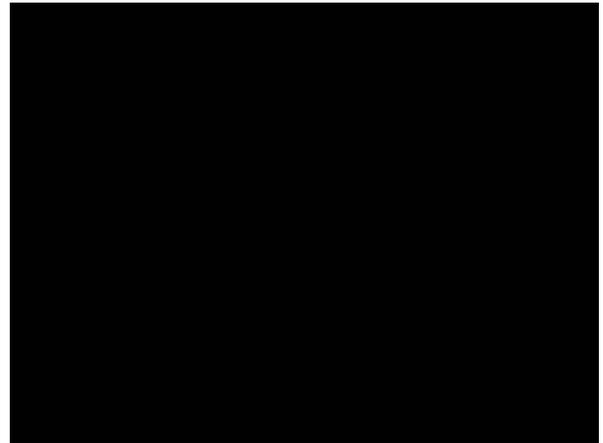
- “Day” = overlapping stages of a long evolutionary process.
- Not chronological at all.
- A metaphorical tool to describe the creative process to our finite minds
- Dr. Meredith Kline of Westminster Theological Seminary
- God’s providence supervised the process of evolution.

Literal 24-hour days

- Most common use of the Hebrew word, *yom*, or *day*
- Ex. 20:11
 - *Yom* in the plural (608x in OT) always refers to ordinary days.
- "Morning & evening" indicates a literal day-night cycle throughout the OT.
- *Yom* with a cardinal number never refers to anything but a literal day.
- Same language for days 1-3 and 4-6
- Hebrew has a word for age or an indeterminate period of time (*'olam*).
- God uses the creative week as a pattern for man's cycle of work and rest (Ex. 20:11; 31:17).

Application

- The amazing knowledge of creation provides us with a constant reason for worship.
- Creation itself worships God (Ps. 19:1-4; 50:6; 89:5; 98:7-9; 148:1-14; Is. 55:12).
- We are called to worship (Neh. 9:6; Job 38-41; Ps. 8:3-9; 33:6-9; 95:3-7; 146:5-6).
- Unregenerate men refuse (Rom. 1:25).
- In eternity we will continue to praise God for his creation (Rev. 4:11; 14:7).



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The Days of Creation

- **Day 1: time, space, matter, light (1-5)**
- **Day 2: atmosphere (6-8)**
- **Day 3: earth, vegetation (9-13)**
- **Day 4: luminaries: sun, moon, & stars (14-19)**

Interesting Parallel

- Day 1: light
- Day 2: atmosphere & sea
- Day 3: dry land
- Day 4: luminaries
- Day 5: fish & birds
- Day 6: land creatures & man

