

in the last few years. This *is* a possible interpretation of verses 9 and 10. Of course, these statements could also mean simply that God gathered the waters into their own places ("place" taken collectively), so that dry land could appear in its own place.

Event #7 (recorded in Genesis 1:11-13) -- The beginning of God's Immediate Creation of various "kinds" of land plants.

Here in these verses we have the first mention of the creation of living things. It is instructive to note that Moses makes no mention of Monerans and Protists, -- two whole kingdoms of very simple microscopic living plants. He speaks only of plants which grew on the land. Of course, it should be pointed out that if Moses, by means of a Special Revelation, had spoken in the inspired Scriptures of these microscopic creatures, no one reading his words at any time during the next three thousands years would have had the slightest notion of what he meant!

In verse 11-12 three general categories of plants are mentioned: "vegetation," "herbs which produce seeds," and "fruit trees which produce seed-containing fruit." The word "vegetation" and the word "herb" are quite general terms, and would appear to have a very wide range of applicability.

It is fascinating to note the fact that the creation of plants is mentioned before the creation of animals. Is this a mistake on Moses' part? Or is it merely a coincidence?

In reply to these questions, we must point out that plants are capable of manufacturing their own food, by means of photosynthesis. Green plants, which contain chlorophyll, take carbon dioxide and water, and using the energy from sunlight, break down these substances and synthesize their constituent elements into energy-rich sugar plus oxygen and water. Some animals eat these energy-rich plants, and thus obtain the energy needed to carry on life functions. Other animals eat these animals, which in turn have eaten energy-rich plants. And man eats both energy-rich plants and animals which (directly or indirectly) have eaten energy-rich plants. Thus we discover that, as far as utilizable energy for the carrying on of life functions is concerned, animals and men are dependent upon plants. It is therefore no mistake nor coincidence that Moses mentions plants as having been created before animals and man.