

records of astrophysics, geology, and paleontology? First of all, on the basis of astrophysics, we postulate a pre-earth period of time which stretches back to the Ex Nihilo Creation of primal matter. This pre-earth period would correspond with our Pre-Day 1 creative-aspect period. Day 1 would then fall near the beginning of the Precambrian, and Day 2 farther on in the early Precambrian. Day 3 would fall in the later Precambrian, and Day 4 near the close of the Precambrian. The sixth creative-aspect period would then begin with the paleontologic record in the Cambrian, and Day 5 would correlate with the Jurassic Period of the Mesozoic Era. The seventh creative-aspect period would begin in the Silurian Period of the Paleozoic, and Day 6 would fall in the Quaternary Period of the Cenozoic Era. Day 7 would then begin after the appearance of humans upon the earth, during the Pleistocene Epoch of the Quaternary Period. This conceptual structure can no doubt be grasped with greater ease if seen in the Diagram of One Possible Structuring of the Creation Days and the Creative Events of Genesis 1 & 2, noting especially the correlation with geology and paleontology.

In this third lecture, then, we have attempted to raise and to answer two important questions. The first question had to do with the chronological meaning of the term *yom*, with particular reference to the Creation Days of Genesis. We have proposed literal, 24-hour Creation Days, separated by intervals of varying length, and marking the stage of essential fulfillment in overlapping creative-aspect periods (i.e., periods of time during which God accomplished some aspect of His creative activity).

The second question which we raised had to do with the correlation of the Creation Days and the creative events of Genesis 1-2 with the combined records of astrophysics, geology, and paleontology. We have proposed a correlation which, although it does not answer all questions which might be raised, yet does attempt to show that the scriptural record and the record of the rocks are not, at any essential point, in conflict, but rather are beautifully in agreement with one another.

Of course, we must confess that this is exactly what we expected, not only because we have constructed this synthesis, but primarily because we are convinced that God's inspired revelation of Himself in Scripture is true, and that this revelation in Scripture cannot conflict with God's revelation of Himself as Creator in nature! It is one and the same God who has revealed Himself as Creator in Scripture and in His creation!