

3. When did God create?

a. The Genesis days of creation

Elsewhere (IBRI Report No. 12) the author of these class notes has analyzed the usage of the word "day" in Scripture, and has opted for the meaning which specifies that the six days of creation in Genesis 1-2 are particular 24 hour periods on which God pronounced his handiwork in one or more specific aspects essentially complete and good, and that these 24 hour periods fall into large aspect periods of creative activity comprising many 24 hour units of time.

Employing this proposal, a diagram of one possible structuring of the creation days and the creative events of Genesis 1 and 2 has been constructed and included in these notes (next page).

b. The age of the universe and of the earth

In view of the above mentioned proposal, the current scientific claim that the universe is some 10-20 billion years old, and that the earth is 4.5 billion years old, poses no problem as far as a correlation of the data from special revelation and the data from general revelation. Such an attempted correlation may be seen at the bottom of the diagram (next page).

4. How did God create?

What things did God create ex nihilo what things did He create immediately, and what things did He create mediately?

The following proposal should be read with one eye on the diagram (next page).