

## Starting Assumptions Determine Interpretations

The very first words in the Bible record God's creation of the Universe, Planet Earth, and everything that exists upon it. And we are told this occurred within a literal six-day timeframe:

*For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day.*

*(Exodus 20:11)*

That God created everything in six literal days, and later destroyed the Earth with everything upon it by means of a global flood, was the universal belief among Christians up until the 1700s.

After that period, some Church leaders began to compromise the plain teaching of Scripture to accommodate the Geological Ages and the millions of years required for the Theory of Evolution. They introduced into the Body of Christ the idea of an "Old Earth" and taught that the days of Creation in the Book of Genesis were not literal, but figurative for very long ages.

Fortunately, there were other Christian leaders of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century who refused to compromise. At the expense of their intellectual integrity, they held on to a literal reading of the Creation Account, insisting that if the Bible said it was true, then it was, whatever evidence to the contrary science may produce!

And right they were! Highly respected scientists of the twenty-first century brought forth some of the most compelling evidence in favour of a Young Earth. Their discoveries show that much of the Rock Records reveal signs of rapid catastrophic sedimentation, as opposed to long “uniformitarian” processes. Their research also reveals the notion of long ages for Earth’s history was developed by geologists whose ideas emerged from naturalistic, atheistic assumptions, and not from scientific observation!

## The Lamb out of the Picture

Some have argued that Scripture often uses the term *day* in a figurative sense, to mean years, or very long time periods. This is true. However, when this is the case, the biblical context where the word is used will give some indication of a non-literal interpretation, which is not found in the Genesis narrative.

But this aside, there is a much more important issue at stake in insisting the Genesis Account of Creation is not true literal history.

In the same chapter, we read that when God finished Creation on the sixth day, He called everything “*very good.*” But when we compromise on the historic value of Genesis by adding millions of years to Earth’s history, we are forced to admit that death and disease were part of God’s Creation before Adam sinned.

This is because the alleged millions of years of Earth’s history in the Fossil Record shows evidence of animals dying from disease and violence before man appears on the scene, and before sin and the curse.

Such an interpretation undermines the character of God and totally destroys the Bible's teaching on the full redemptive work of Christ!!