



## Disclaimer



This series represents the personal views of scientists who attend Grace Chapel.

Our understanding of science continually changes with new data and so will our views.

Therefore, the views we will be presenting should not be taken as absolute truth.

Alternative views on science and faith are not only possible but expected as well as encouraged.

# **Genesis 1: A Concordist Approach**

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**Most of the information in this talk was derived from  
resources available from Reasons to Believe (RTB)  
Website --- [www.reasons.org](http://www.reasons.org)**

# God's Two 'Books'

## Special Revelation

**Scripture**

**Biblical  
Method**

### Interpretation

Context – all aspects  
Original language  
Integrate all scripture

**Theology**

## General Revelation

**Natural Record**

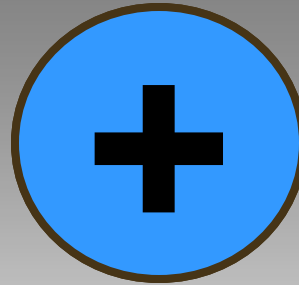
**Scientific  
Method**

### Interpretation/Model

*Frame of reference  
& Initial conditions;  
Test & verify model*

**Science**

**Same Author  
Should Agree**



# Genesis 1:1-2

1:1 “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”

Hashamayim ve ha'ereṣ= the totality of the physical universe  
Frame of reference→ God transcendent to universe

1:2 “The earth was **without form** and **void**, and **darkness** was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the **waters**.”

Earth 4 initial conditions= no life, unfit for life, dark and water world  
Frame of reference shift→ God hovering over waters

Corroboration by other creation accounts- Job 38:1-12; Psalm 104:5-9

# Genesis 1:2-Earth's Primordial Conditions

Frame of Reference (@ surface of the waters):

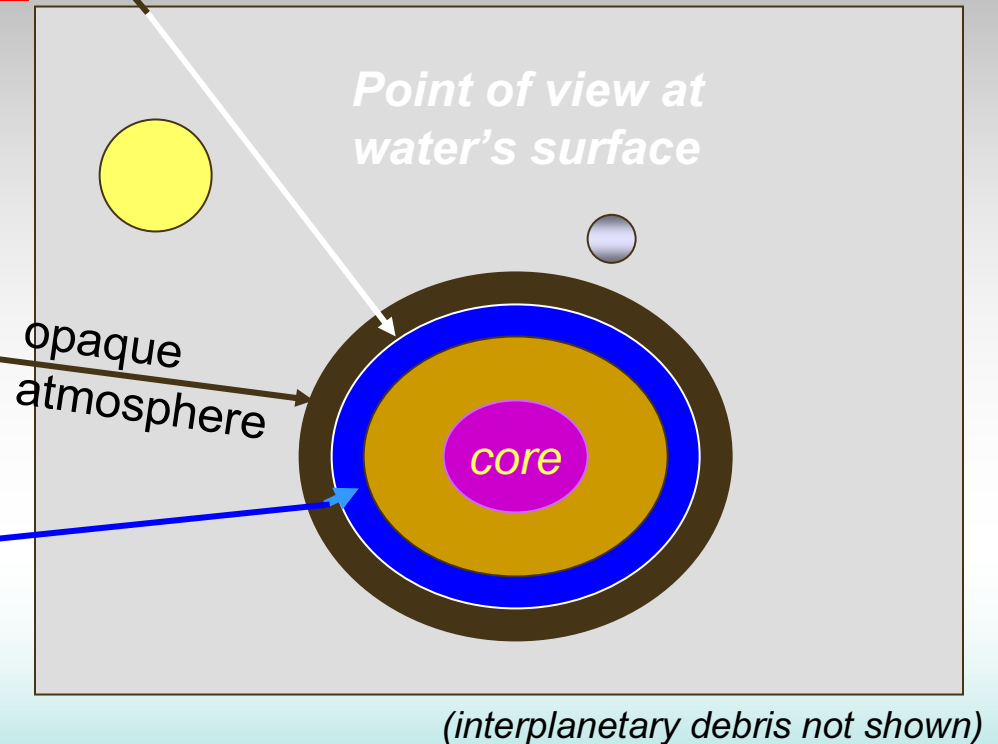
-Holy Spirit hovering over the waters

4 Initial conditions, Gen 1:2

-Darkness (Job 38:9)  
when I made the **clouds** its  
garment and wrapped it in  
thick darkness.

-Void of life  
-Unsuitable for life  
-**Water world**

**(Psalm 104:6)**



From 'Matter of Days', Hugh Ross, Navpress, 2004, p233.

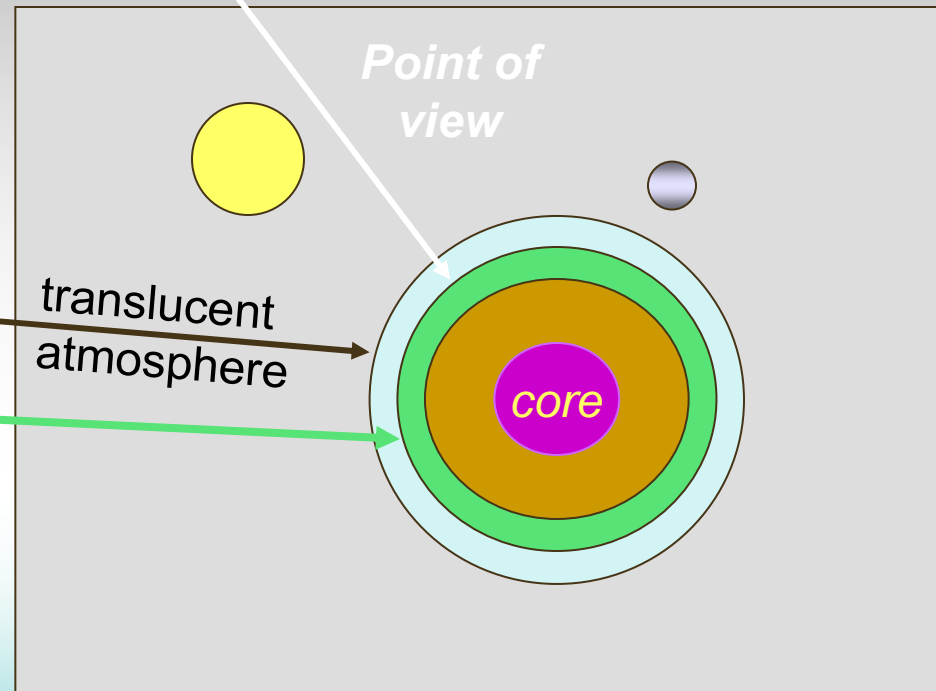
# Genesis 1:3-5

## Day (Yom) 1 – “Let there be (*haya*) light”

-Holy Spirit hovering over the waters (Job 38; Psalm 104; Proverbs 8; Deut. 32:11)

### Conditions:

- Translucent atm
- Water world
- Conditions suitable for simple life



(interplanetary debris not shown)

From 'Matter of Days', Hugh Ross, Navpress, 2004.

# Genesis 1:6-8

## Day (Yom) 2 – Waters above and below

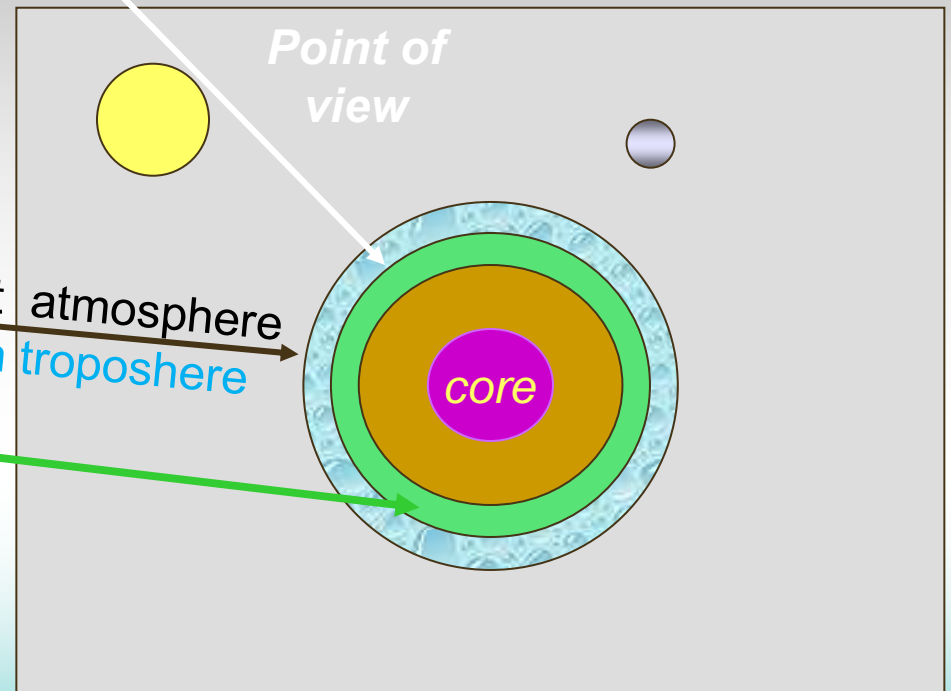
-Holy Spirit hovering over the waters (Job 38; Psalm 104; Proverbs 8; Deut. 32:11)

“Waters above the skies”=troposphere  
Psalm 148:4

### Conditions:

- **Stable water cycle**
- **Water world**
- **Conditions ‘suitable’ for ‘simple’ life**

Job 36:27,28; Eccl 1:7 describe evap/  
condensation cycle



(interplanetary debris not shown)

From ‘Matter of Days’, Hugh Ross, Navpress, 2004.

# Genesis 1:9-13

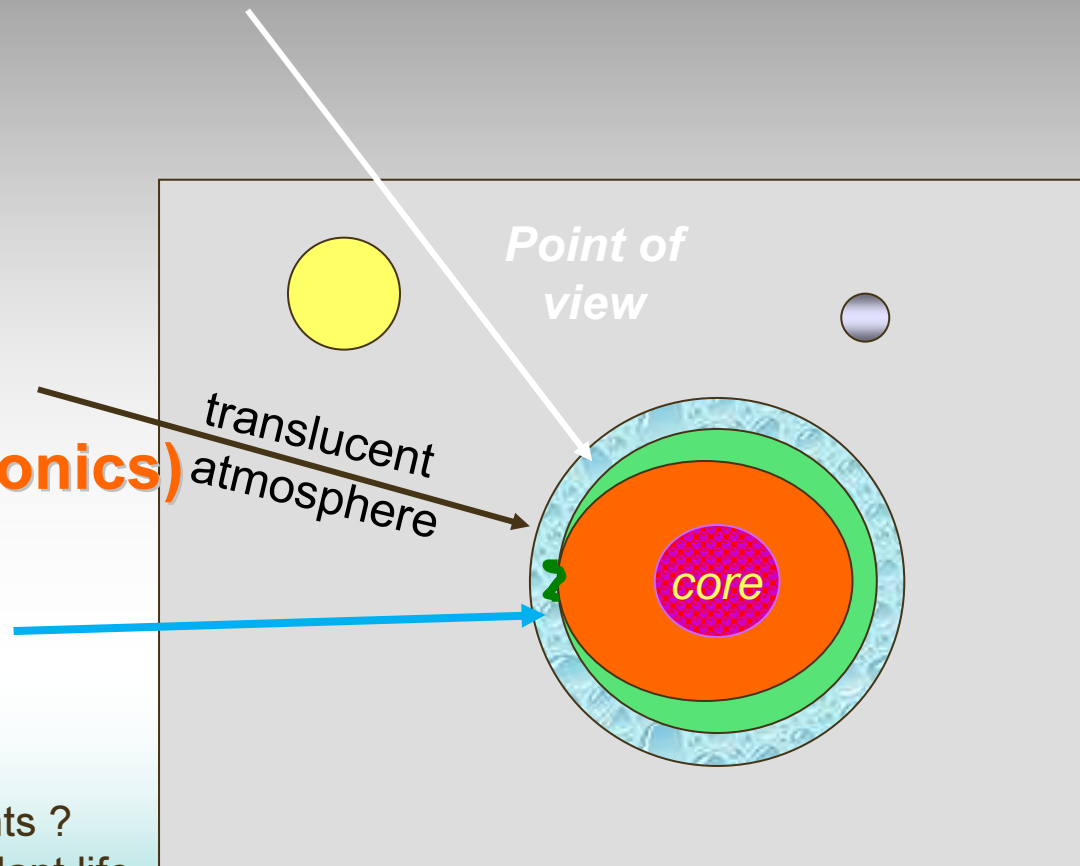
## Day (Yom) 3 – Dry land (1) and Vegetation (2)

-Holy Spirit hovering over the waters (Job 38; Psalm 104; Proverbs 8; Deut. 32:11)

### Conditions:

- **Dry land (plate tectonics)**
- **Vegetation ?**
- **Stable water cycle**
- **Single cell life**

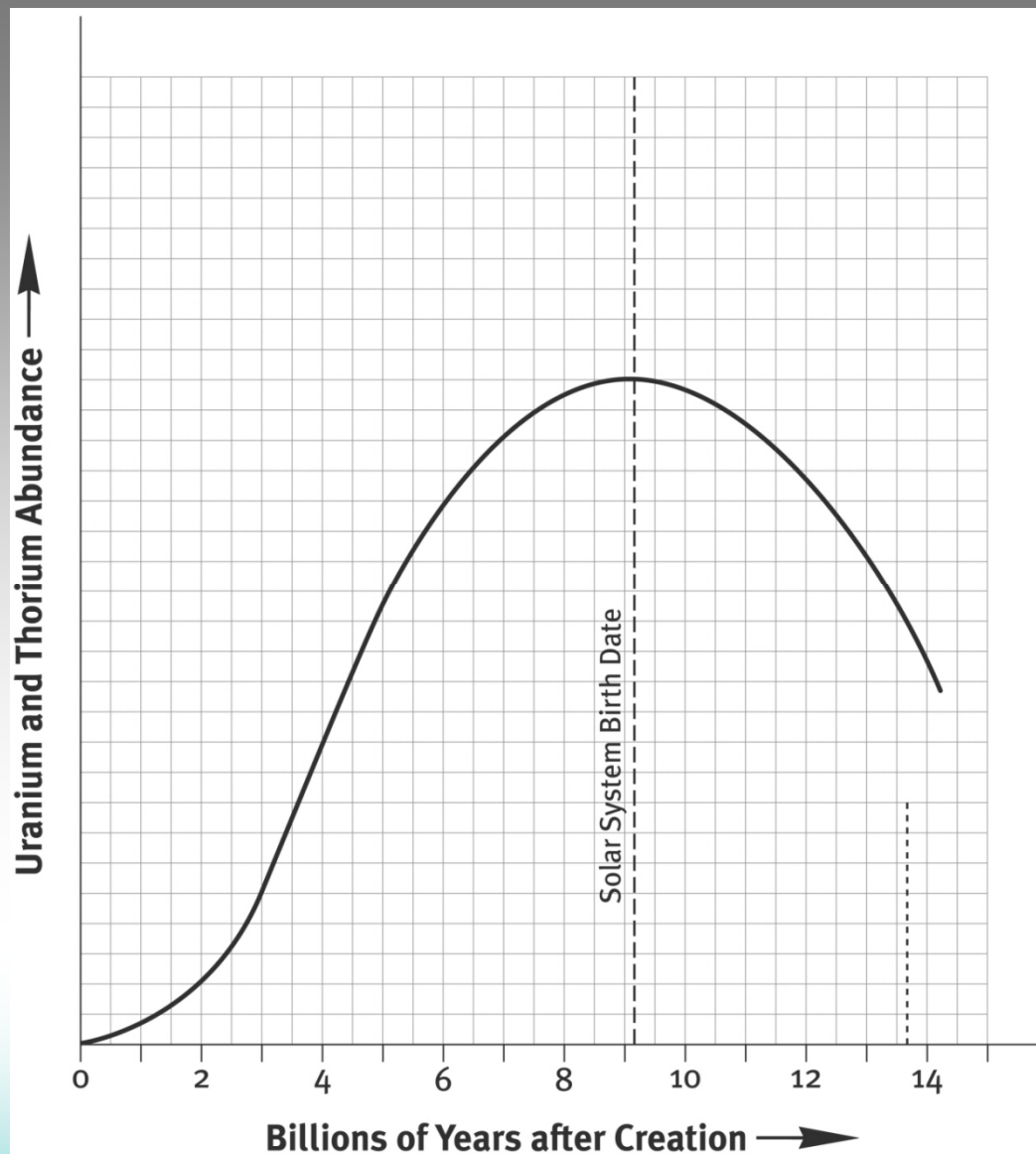
Zera', peri, 'es → primitive plants ?  
Deshe → vegetation or green plant life



(interplanetary debris not shown)

From 'Matter of Days', Hugh Ross, Navpress, 2004.

**Figure 5.7: Uranium and Thorium Abundances in the Milky Way Galaxy**



Supernovae deliver uranium and thorium to interstellar medium.

Supernovae eruption rate declines as the universe ages.

Delivery rate fails to keep pace with radiometric decay.

Earth formed when the cosmic abundance of those elements reaches a peak.

**Critical for plate tectonics and earth's magnetic field**



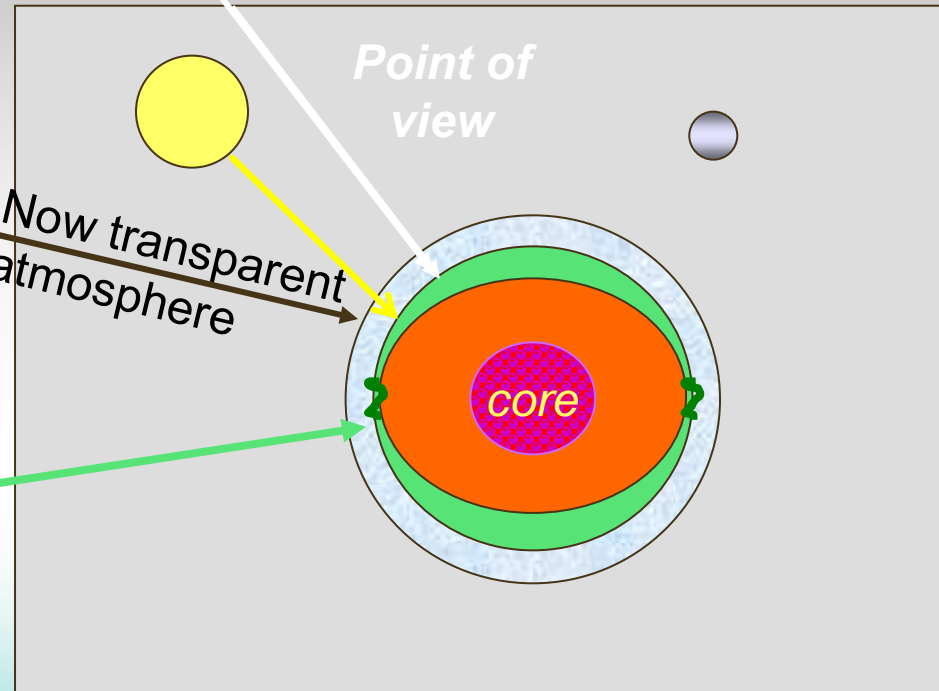
# Genesis 1:14-19

**Day (Yom) 4 – Let sun, moon, stars, appear (haya).**

-Holy Spirit hovering over the waters (Job 38; Psalm 104; Proverbs 8; Deut. 32:11)

## Conditions:

- **Sun, moon** visible
- **Vegetation** ?
- **Dry land**
- **Stable rain cycle**
- **Single cell life**
- **Multi-cellular life ready**



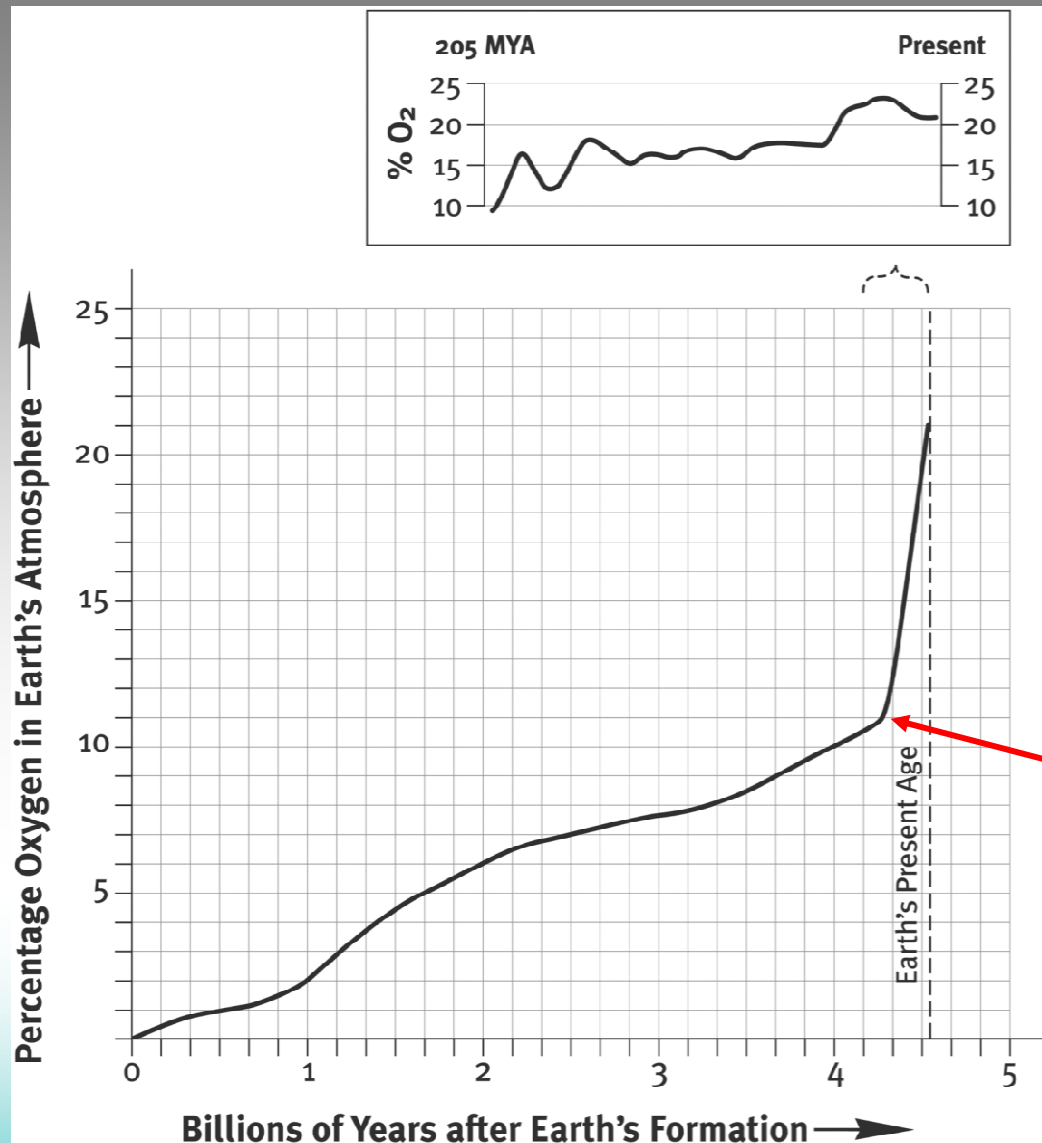
*From 'Matter of Days', Hugh Ross, Navpress, 2004.*

## Figure 7.4: Oxygenation History of Earth's Atmosphere

The larger graph shows the increasing abundance of oxygen in Earth's atmosphere over the past 4.1 billion years.

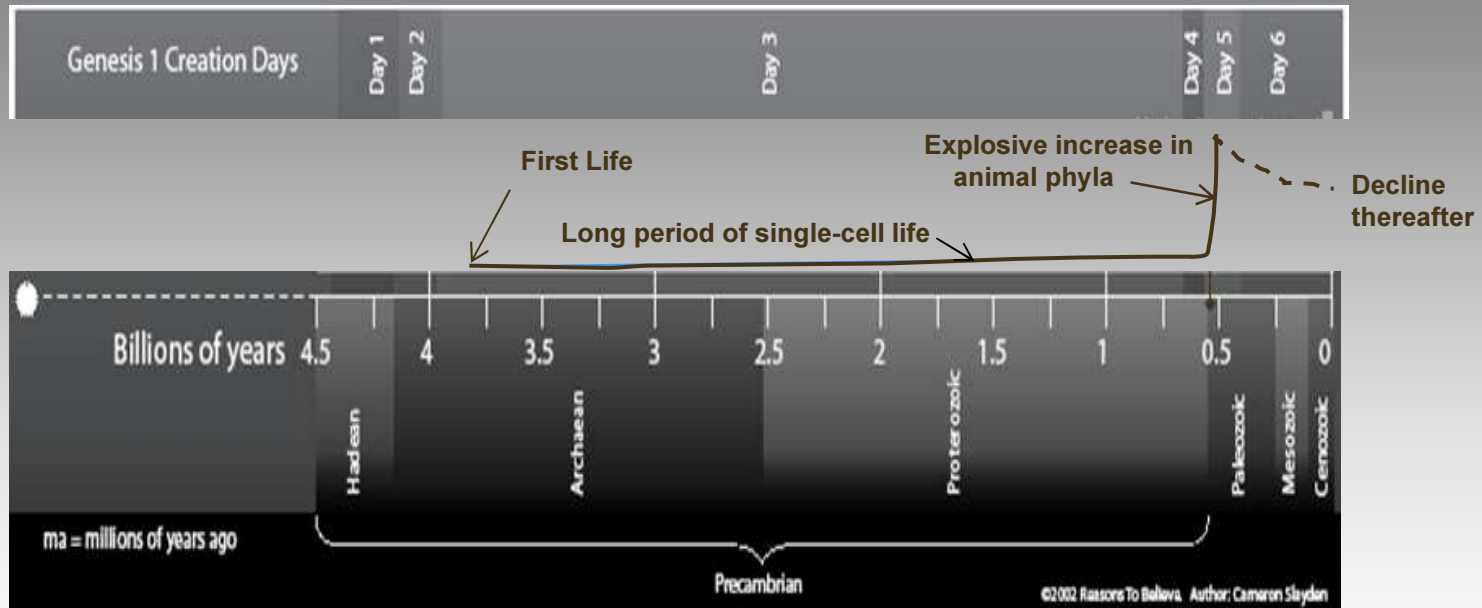
The insert shows the increase over the past 200 million years.

Note that the explosive emergence of complex, large-bodied animals coincides with the increase of oxygen to a level adequate for the support of such creatures.



# Cambrian Explosion- Big Bang of Biology

Day (Yom 5) - Gen 1:20 - “Let the waters teem with sea creatures.”



- Cambrian event dated 545 mya ( present debate about how explosive)
- Recent find reported 7/9/12 of Ediacaran (rangeomorphs) creatures dated 580mya
  - No relationship to Cambrian animals
  - Authors, “diversification came about in an Ediacaran explosion.. that may have mirrored the profusion of new life forms we see in the Cambrian.”

# Cambrian Quotes

**Richard Dawkins-** “The Cambrian strata..\_appear fully formed in an advanced state of evolution..as though they were just placed there without any evolutionary history. Needless to say, this appearance of sudden planting has delighted creationists....the only alternative explanation of the sudden appearance of so many complex animal types in the Cambrian era is divine creation...” (1986)

**Stephen J. Gould-** “The Cambrian explosion occurred in a geological moment ,...all major anatomical designs may have made their evolutionary appearance at that time, ...not only the phylum Chordata itself, but also all its major divisions, arose within the Cambrian explosion. Contrary to Darwin’s expectation that new data would reveal gradualistic continuity with slow and steady expansion, all major discoveries of the past century have only heightened the massiveness and geological abruptness of this formative event.” *Nature*, Vol.377,26 10/95, p.682

**Richard Monasterasky- ed. of Science News-** “The remarkably complex forms of animals we see today suddenly appeared.....This moment, right at the start of the earth’s Cambrian period...marks the evolutionary explosion that filled the seas with the earth’s first complex creatures. .... ‘This is Genesis material,’ gushed one researcher.” *Discover*, p.40, 4/93

## Day (Yom) 5 part 2

- **Creation of birds and sea mammals-**
  - Verse 21 uses both “asah” (manufacture) and “bara” (create something brand new)
  - “Nephesh” soulish-creatures, possess mind, will and emotions

## Day (Yom) 6 part 1

- **Creation of three specific types of land mammals**
  - Late (but not first) “land” mammals
  - Nephesh creatures capable of interacting with (future) humans
  - Behema; long-legged quadrapeds easy to tame (agriculture)
  - Chayya; long-legged quadrapeds difficult to tame (pets)
  - Remes; short-legged quadrapeds that move on the ground (clothing)



## Yom 6 part 2

- **Adam and Eve created in the “image of God”**
  - Again “asah” and “bara” used
  - Bara for the “spirit” dimension of being as a gift from God-NOT evolved
  - Moral awareness, rational thought, propensity to seek a higher being...

## Yom 7

- **God rests from creative activity**
  - Number of passages suggest we are in God’s 7th day- Psalm 95:7-11, John 5:16-18, and Hebrews 4:1-11
  - Animal speciation rate before day 7- ~1 per yr
  - Animal speciation rate during day 7- 0 per yr

# Summary

- A Concordist model of Genesis 1 that agrees with modern science (excepting evolution) has been presented that
  - Reads Genesis 1 as historical narrative
  - Integrates all “creation” scripture
  - Relies on original language meaning
  - Requires understanding frame-of-reference
  - Remains open to re-proof and correction
- **Romans 1:20-** “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities-his eternal power and divine nature- have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.”

# Genesis 1 Events

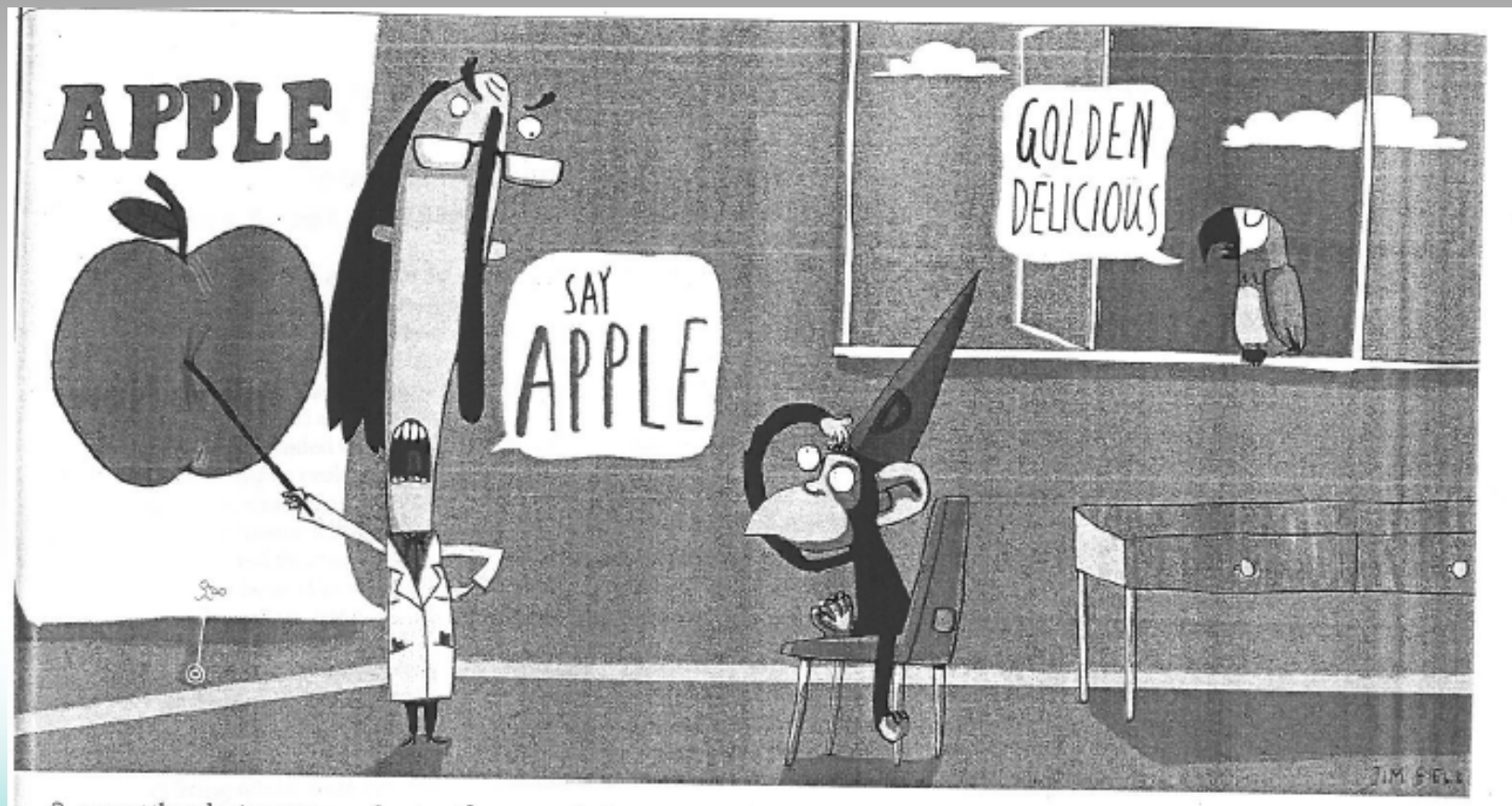
Order of Genesis 1 Events	
1.	God created, by fiat miracle, the entire physical universe (10 spacetime dimensions, matter, energy, galaxies, stars, planets, etc.). <i>Note:</i> Earth is empty of life and unfit for life. Earth's atmosphere and interplanetary debris prevent the light of the Sun, Moon, and stars from reaching the surface of Earth's ocean. The ocean covers the whole surface of Earth.
2.	God cleared away most interplanetary debris and partially transformed Earth's atmosphere (making it translucent) so that light from the heavenly bodies could penetrate to the surface of Earth's ocean.
3.	God formed the troposphere with just-right conditions to establish an adequately abundant and stable water cycle.
4.	God formed ocean basins and continental land masses.
5.	God produced plants on the continental land masses.
6.	God transformed the atmosphere from translucent to (occasionally) transparent.
7.	God produced swarms of small sea animals.
8.	God created, by fiat miracle, birds and sea mammals.
9.	God created, by fiat miracle, land mammals capable of interacting with the (future) human race.
10.	God created, by fiat miracle, the human species (specifically Adam and Eve).

Table 21.1. Order of Genesis 1 Events

# Why I Do Not Believe God Used Evolution

- **No naturalistic origin of life scenario possible-**
  - No time, no soup, no (lab) environment, no chirality
- **Abrupt appearance, stasis and extinction-**
  - Edicaran and Cambrian events one time only no precursors
- **Genomic Similarities-**
  - Common ancestor or common designer ?
- **Myth of junk DNA-**
  - Recent “ENCODE international consortium” results raises functional DNA significance from 1.5% to 60-80%
- **Mutation/natural selection limited in producing new functional forms-**
  - Microevolution yes: Macroevolution no





8. monkey at the selection process of the Golden Delicious