

18 The Doctrine of Creation

1689 LBC Chapter 4: Of Creation—1. _____ In the beginning it pleased God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for the manifestation of the glory of his eternal power, wisdom, and goodness, to create or make the world, and all things therein, whether visible or invisible, in the space of six days, and all very good.

1. Who Created?

a. Father

Genesis 1:1

b. Spirit

Genesis 1:2

Job 33:4

c. Son

John 1:1-3

1 Corinthians 8:4-6

2. Why Did He Create?

Colossians 1:15-16

Isaiah 43:7

Revelation 4:11

Proverbs 16:4

3. How Long Did He Take?

Reasons to believe in 6-24 hour days and thousands of years vs. millions of years:

a. P_____ Reading of the Text of Scripture Incompatible with Evolution/ Billions of Years

Genesis 1

b. Moses Understood Day as 24 hour period

Exodus 20:8-11

c. J_____ Believed In Real Historical Adam and Eve

Matthew 19:1-6

d. The A_____ Believed in a Historical Adam and Eve

Romans 5:12-15

1 Co 11:8-9

e. Great T_____ of Church History Believed in 6/24 hr days of Creation

Luther said, “We know from Moses that the world was not in existence before 6,000 years ago.” He also rejected Augustine’s view and said that “Evening and morning became one day” meant that Moses was “speaking of the natural day, which consists of twenty-four hours.”

Calvin believed that God’s creation was completed not in a moment but in six days. He concluded, based on Genesis 1:5, that God Himself took six days to accommodate His works to the capacity of men. Creation occurred little more than five thousand years in the past, not innumerable ages.

The Westminster Confession (1647) clearly affirmed that God created the world and all things in it “in the space of six days” (chapter 4, paragraph 1). “In the space of six days” was based on Calvin’s Genesis 1:5 comment. In Annotations upon All the Books of the Old and New Testament (the Westminster Annotations, 1645), the Westminster authors specified concerning Genesis 1:5 that in the latter part of the verse, the word day is the natural day, consisting of twenty-four hours. This Presbyterian Confession, with its traditional view of creation, was also adopted by British and American Congregational and Baptist denominations.¹

OBJECTIONS:

If you believe in evolution/billions of years:

¹ James Mook, <http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/am/v2/n4/early-church-on-creation>