

THE GAP THEORY

According to this theory there was an undefined length of time between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. During this time God created a perfect heaven and earth including a pre-Adamic race and animals, including dinosaurs. Something happened to corrupt it, most likely the fall of Satan (Isa. 14:12-15). As a result, God sent a great judgment (possibly a flood) and the earth became without form and void. At this point, God started all over again in Genesis 1:2. Advocates of this theory say that the terms “without form and void” represents judgment (Isa. 45:8). Also the word “darkness” in verse 2 is another indication of judgment. They further point out that God told Adam “replenish the earth.” This indicates it had been occupied before this time.

OBJECTIONS TO THE GAP THEORY

The Gap Theory presents the following problems:

- Romans 5:12 says that sin entered into the world by one man—Adam. These lets us know that sin was introduced into the world by Adam, not by some Pre-Adamic race.
- If something important had happened between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2, the Lord would have told us.
- Genesis 1:31 says that God’s creation was “very good.” This could not be true if evil had already been present in the world.