

our purpose in doing so. We decided on this procedure so as to enable us to concentrate on the more obvious and simple methods of understanding the record in nature. It is hoped that this method will result in showing us at least several examples of God's record which can be accepted and understood within a Biblical framework by using little more than common everyday forms of thought and understanding. Geologists and biologists may consider the results of such a procedure to be minimal, because the greatest ages can not be demonstrated by it. Nevertheless, it is our conviction that it is sometimes better to obtain minimal results which are positive and thoroughly acceptable than a set of maximal results which seem to rely too heavily on theory, or on techniques which our readers find difficult to understand. And of course it is true that radiometric dating often leaves us in the realm of uncertainty, due to the fact that it frequently has to depend upon one or more presuppositions which defy our efforts at verification.

The reader will find it advantageous to make use of the footnotes (found at the end of each chapter), especially because a number of definitions and explanations are found therein. Most of the other definitions needed can be found by consulting the index for pages defining the terms. For those wanting more information, most of the sources are readily available in any university library, and several are available in moderate to large sized public libraries.

It is hoped that no reader will misinterpret our extensive use of materials based on research done by petroleum geologists. We are not in any way trying to promote any particular segment of American industry. It is only that a high percentage of the information which will reveal nature's time record comes from deep drillings; and the petroleum industry is the main source of such drilling records.

The Biblical quotations in this book are from the New American Standard Bible.