## Does the Bible Mean What it Says?

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." These are the first words and the foundation of the Bible. But do they really mean what they say? Can we trust scripture when it comes to the first chapters of Genesis? These are a very important questions, because if we cannot trust the first chapter of Genesis, what scripture can we trust? Can we trust salvation? Can we trust the love of God? Can we trust that God is truth? In this column we are going to look at various aspects of the creation story and ask the question, "can we trust the creation story?" We will look at the question from philosophical and scientific perspectives to see if there are any indications as to whether we can or cannot trust scripture. Although dealing with philosophy and science, the column will be understandable to the lay person.

The theory of evolution has been widely taught and accepted throughout the country and the world by scientists, theologians, and Christians. But is there any truth to evolution? If evolution is true, then God did not mean what a straightforward reading of Genesis 1 seems to indicate. Evolution says that everything occurred over millions of years. The book of Genesis tells us that God created everything in 6 days and that the earth is about 6 thousand years old. To accept evolution and Genesis, theologians try to explain away the obvious reading of scripture. But it doesn't quite work. We <u>can</u> trust the creation story in Genesis. Join us in this exciting journey as we grow our faith through science and learn critical thinking skills. Please participate by mailing your questions and comments to Creation Education Resources, P.O. Box 1853, Orange Park, FL 32067-1853 or call/fax (904) 269-9007. Thank you and may God bless you.