

WAS OR BECAME?

HARLEY HITCHCOCK
PO Box 310 Mt Ommaney
Australia 4074

"Was or became?"

Is there a time gap between the first two verses of the Bible?

As always, we'll let the plain English of the Authorized Bible, to tell us what it means as we study to show ourselves approved to no-one but God himself ([2Tim2:15](#)).

Which of the following is correct?

*And the earth **WAS** without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. ([Gen 1:2](#))*

or

*And the earth **BECAME** without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*

A major argument of the gap theorists is that the second is correct. Of course, this means that they must change the clear and plain reading of the Authorized Bible – the King James, to fit their doctrinal position.

As we have stated in a previous tract, the second verse of the Bible begins with the Hebrew conjunctive *waw* which is a **disjunctive**, and that means, the second verse is simply a **description** of the first verse.

On this evidence alone, there is **no** room whatsoever, for sequential action of a **becoming** to occur in verse two.

In fact the three uses of the word 'and' in **And the earth, and darkness** and **And the Spirit of God** in this verse, are all, and only, descriptions of [Gen 1:1](#).

Verse two is simply describing the condition of the earth after it was created.

But the Hebrew word "hayetha" can be translated various ways can't it?

Correct, but this doesn't mean that it should be. Let's look at the possibilities:

“Strong’s Number **1961 hayah** – a primitive root - was, come, to pass, came, has been, were happened, become, pertained, better for thee”.

In writing a Master’s Thesis on the topic of Christianity and Evolution, E.K. Gedney surveyed **twenty** leading Hebrew scholars in the USA, and ask them if there was any grammar evidence that would support the gap theory of [Gen 1:2](#).

They all said there wasn’t – they all said that the word ‘hayetha’ is correctly translated ‘was’ **not** ‘became’.

‘**Hayetha**’ is normally and simply translated as ‘**was**’, such that, of the **264** times the Hebrew word ‘hayetha’ is used in the OT, it is translated as ‘was’ in **258** occurrences.

The **other six** clearly show why the context demands why ‘hayetha’ must be translated as ‘became’.

(a) Examples of ‘hayetha’ translated as ‘was’

The same grammatical construction of ‘hayetha’ being translated as ‘was’ is found in the following:

[Gen 2:25](#)

*And they **were** both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

Adam and Eve **were already** naked, they didn’t become naked.

[Gen 3:1](#)

*Now the serpent **was** more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said,*

The serpent didn’t become more subtil, he **was already**.

[Jonah 3:3](#)

*So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh **was** an exceeding great city of three days’ journey.*

Obviously, when Jonah went unto Nineveh, it **was already** an exceeding great city. It did not become a great city after Jonah had entered it.

[Gen 41:56](#)

*And the famine **was** over all the face of the earth: And Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold unto the Egyptians; and the famine waxed sore in the land of Egypt.*

By the time Joseph opened all the storehouses, the famine **was already** in the land of Egypt – not after his opening them.

Ex 1:5

*And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph **was** in Egypt already.*

Judges 9:51

*But there **was** a strong tower within the city, and thither fled all the men and women, and all they of the city, and shut it to them, and gat them up to the top of the tower.*

There **was already** a strong tower in the city to which they fled.

Zech 3:3

*Now Joshua **was** clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.*

When Zechariah saw Joshua, he **was already** clothed – he didn't become clothed.

(b) Six examples of 'hayetha' translated as 'became'.

Gen3:22

*... God said, Behold, the man is **become** as one of us, to know good and evil:...*

Gen 19:26

*But his wife looked back from behind him, and she **became** a pillar of salt.*

Clearly, Lot's wife became a pillar of salt **after** she looked back. She wasn't already a pillar of salt before she did.

Gen 21:20

*And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and **became** an archer.*

Ex 7:19

*And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and stretch out thine hand upon the waters of Egypt, ... that they may **become** blood; ...*

Ex 8:17

... for Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth, and it **became** lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land **became** lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

Ex 9:10

*And they took ashes of the furnace,...and Moses sprinkled it up toward heaven; and it **became** a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast.*

Text without context is pretext

With [Gen 1:2](#), there are no immediate words in the surrounding text that would even hint at the suggestion, that the word 'hayetha' should be translated 'became'.

As verse two is the description of verse one, the use of the word 'was' allows the text to flow smoothly and without interruption, and is

one, that does **not** represent a change of condition of the earth.

For the gappists to use the word 'became', simply highlights the old adage, that a verse out of context is pretext.

The Greek Game

Those familiar with the Greek Game, will recognize this version of it, whereby you can look up the different meanings of a word in the back of a concordance and select the appropriate one for you. Of course, this will entail your substituting the King James word already in use.

In this case, the gappist, in order to support the theory of a gap between [Gen 1:1-2](#), simply inserts the word 'became' for 'was'.

The NIV has 'became'

If we need any reminding as to the incorrect translation of 'hayetha', we need look no further than the NIV. In true satanic style of posing a question, the foot-note attached to the word 'was' in [Gen 1:2](#) reads as follows:

"Or possibly *became*"

There we have it folks, straight from the mouth of the enemy.

CONCLUSION? ... There is no gap!

And doesn't satan just hate the plain reading of the Authorized Bible!

The evidence is legion as to why there is no gap between [Gen 1:1-2](#).

You the need the following tracts on:

1. **Freemasonry, Gnosticism** and **Hindu Cosmic Cyles** being at the heart of the Gap Theory
2. The use of the word **'and'** as a **waw disjunctive** beginning [Gen 1:2](#) that merely **describes** the [Gen 1:1](#)
3. The use of the words **'create'** and **'made'** as synonymms



Australian Bible Ministries, PO Box 5058 Mt. Gravatt East 4122 Qld, Australia
www.AustralianBibleMinistries.com