fossils, we thus cannot postulate that God created such limestones ready-made.

Attempts to postulate that a super-rapid growth of lime-secreting organisms between the time of Adam and Noah produced most of the world's limestones are unsatisfactory, because they fail to reckon with the actual amounts of biogenic limestone to which we have referred above, and also fail to recognize that the chemical and physical laws by which biological growth is made possible are stable--not erratic. The Book of Genesis leads us to believe that biological growth processes during Adam's life were necessarily similar to what they are now. Even today, when a group of aquatic organisms begins to reproduce too rapidly they soon choke themselves with their own waste products, and their dead bodies then pollute the entire area. A further problem for rapid-growth hypotheses is that, if we postulate that the great thicknesses of limestone were produced during the short time between the creation of Adam and the Flood, there would be no way to account for the thick formations of terrigenous sandstones, siltstones, and shales which are intercalated between the limestone formations.

The Selective Distribution of Fossil Types in the Earth's Sedimentary Strata

A very significant characteristic of the earth's sedimentary cover is that many kinds of fossils appear only in the lower rock systems (for example, in Cambrian and Ordovician strata, but not in Triassic or Jurassic), whereas other distinct kinds are found only in the upper rock systems. It has sometimes been assumed by creationists that there is no particular order of fossil distribution such as this. However, every petroleum geologist is well aware of the distinction between fossil types in the local geologic columns of the various oil fields. In fact, the lower rock systems (often very deep in the oil fields) contain many species--and sometimes whole families and orders--of fossils which are not present in the upper systems, apparently having become extinct. If all the strata had been laid down during the Flood this isolation of fossil types from each other would not have been achieved, unless some sorting mechanism had operated to carry it out. However, no possible sorting mechanism for this is known, since the isolation of types is found almost everywhere <u>without</u> any evidence of a difference in density, size, or shape of the sets of fossils involved.

We will here cite and briefly explain two examples of this distinctive distribution, namely, microfossil types, and coral types.