



Concept - Considering Evidence

From

The Theology of Origins (YEC)

“Basics of the Biblical Creationist Perspective”

(Creation Apologetics 101)

Concepts of Part 1 – Concept of Truth, Valuing Truth & Foundational Belief & Apologetics in Biblical Creation

Concepts of Part 2 – The Fact of Evidence, the Role of Perspective & the Influence of Bias & Presuppositions;
Basis of Biblical Creation

By Rich Cloud, Chair of PPCF & Director Creation Sage Ministry





Creation Apologetics

Think for a moment – How would you define “What is Truth”?
(This is not an easy thing to define or describe)



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Why is the concept of Truth Important to the Subject of Biblical Creation?



If Biblical Creation lacks the foundation of Truth in what it says, this impacts –

- the factual act of Creation by God,
- the truth content for the remainder of Scripture and
- even the character of God Himself?



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Why is the concept of Truth Important to the Subject of Biblical Creation?

If Biblical Creation lacks the foundation of Truth in what it says, does this not impact –

- the factual act of Creation by God,
- the truth content for the remainder of Scripture and
- even the character of God Himself?

Spend a few minutes - Examining the Concept of Truth – Video
#1 “Veritology” from Truth Project (FOTF)

Truth focus here - **looking at why Jesus came**

Consider - applying Truth to the concept of Biblical Creation



Video portion of "Veritology" from the 'Truth Project, Video #1' (Focus on the Family); Host – Del Tackett [4:34]



“What is Truth”?

We recognize that ‘Truth is on trial’.



God’s Word is on Trial.



God’s Truth about Biblical Creation is on trial
(Genesis 1 to 11 is on trial)



Clearly important -- 1) Recognize & Discover; 2) Accept & Speak → the TRUTH



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Clearly important -- 1) Recognize & Discover; 2) Accept & Speak → the TRUTH

Continue w/ Truth Project Video & its application to Biblical Creation)
‘Cosmic Battle’ which seeks to be counter to God’s Truth in Genesis 1 to 11?

Illusio

THE COSMIC BATTLE



Video portion of "Veritology" from the 'Truth Project, Video #1' (Focus on the Family); Host – Del Tackett [3:44]



Video described this **COSMIC Battle** about --- “What is Truth”?



God’s Truth vs. The Lie (originates w/ Satan & rejects God)



The need to engage in **THIS BATTLE** for the **CREATION Truth**



This Battle calls into question both the Character of God & the Truth
Claims of His Word



Biblical Creation is about seeking to provide an apologia for God Word
(For those recorded accounts found in Genesis 1 to 11)



The COSMIC Battle is about --- “What is Truth”?

For example

If **Genesis 3 is not historically true** & accurate (as part of Genesis 1 to 11), then is there a truthful reality as to the basis of Sin or its origin?



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There are consequences to what we believe & what is in fact true!



Creation Apologetics – What Does God's Word Say?

Think for a moment – How would you define “What is Truth”?
How does Scripture define & describe Truth? --- OT



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How does Scripture define & describe Truth?

OT – Hebrew emet – is the **principal Hebrew word** in OT to signify ‘Truth’

- Emet is used frequently of God in denoting ***His Faithfulness***
- Emet carries the inclusive meaning of – continuance, firmness, stability, security, sureness, reliability & integrity → ***reliance & integrity of character***
- Emet infers within its usage the concepts of belief & trust
- Thus at its basis, Emet → speaks to the key importance of character as assigned to both the concept Truth & the person about whom it is expressed (especially God)



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Psalm 138:2 – A Key verse to describe the above

I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word. (ESV)



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NT – Greek aletheia 622 -- is the primary Greek work to signify ‘Truth’

- Aletheia is frequently used to describe Christ and key aspects of His character & purpose (John 1:14, 17; John 8:32; John 14:6; John 17:7)
- Aletheia contains in its basic meaning the concepts of – *what is real & reality; what is factual, what truly exists (in a factual sense) → the opposite of falsehood; what is correct & accurate; integrity & rectitude of character; Transcendent truth & True truth*
- In NT passage, aletheia speaks to the factual sense & the reality of truth as applied to examining one's life experience - in both our personal thoughts and in what we do



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When Jesus was being questioned by Pilate, He said “In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth.” (John 18:37) [Jesus is the WORD]



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Do I/you testify to the Truth? -- It is incumbent upon us to seek the Truth of God's Word in all things & in every area of our life experience.



Q & A / Thoughts about the Concept of Truth



What does buying a house have in common with buying a new car?



What does buying a house have in common with buying a new car?

- High Cost
- Debt to service via Loan
- Insuring the purchase

Each of the Expresses
value & responsibility

But there is another
common aspect ---

negotiation



What does Buying a house have in common with buying a new car?

We **do not want to pay** the list price for the car or the asking price for the house.

We want to **'negotiate'** a new (lower & less costly) price.



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Do you, do I/we seek to 'negotiate' w/God's Word? Do you, do I **NOT** want to pay the asking price for what **The Word** says (not take/accept it at "face value")?



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Do you 'negotiate' God's Word? Do you NOT want to pay the asking price for what it says (the asking price = taking it at face value)?

What do I mean? Do I seek to accept its (God's Word) content for what it says or do I 'edit' God's Word to fit my own personal perspective(s)?



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Do you 'negotiate' God's Word? Do you not want to pay the asking price for what it says (taking it at face value)?

What do I mean? Do I seek to accept it content or do I 'edit' God's Word to fit my personal perspective(s)?

If in doing so --- do I, do we lessen the Truth claims of God's Word?



What does Buying a house have in common with buying a new car?

We do not want to pay the list price for the car or the asking price for the house.

We want to 'negotiate' a new (lower) price.

We often seem willing to 'negotiate' God's Word.

But we seem less willing to 'negotiate' the claims of science, especially 'big picture' science (we allow the Story-telling to continue).

The fact is that all science, even operational (experiment & observation) produces or examines evidence, must be 'interpreted' or understood.
Evidence does not speak, the scientist speaks for it.



Q & A / Thoughts on the Concept of -- **How do I view the Authority of God's Word?**

To negotiate with or to edit = lessening its authority

How do I view the Authority of Science.



-

How Do we apply the concept of Truth to
our Christian Experience

(especially in the area of Biblical Creation)

Examining the concept of
Apologetics (Creation Apologetics)



Creation Apologetics (how do you/I 'Testify to the Truth' – John 18:37)

The Importance of Apologetics to **1) Discovering, 2) Knowing & 3) Speaking Truth**

1 Peter 3:15 – “... but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,...” (ESV)



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Always prepared – always, ongoing / ready, prepared (being intentional)

Make a Defense (to defend) – [665 - apologia]- answer, reply, reason, accounting
(logical & rational argument to provide understanding)

Reason (3364 - The Word) – reason, discourse, expression, saying → (Speak TRUTH)



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1st Priority – about Christ and His completed work for us – testimony (John 18:37)
& 2nd (principle of sharing truth) – all of the recorded content & truths contained in
God's Word



Creation is of God

Christ's "Role" as Creator – the Artist, the Sculpturer, the Engineer, the Doer

John 1:1-3 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. (ESV)



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Laws of Science are related to God's 'upholding' the universe (Col 1:17, Heb. 1:3)

Col. 1:17 - all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Heb. 1:3 - He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.



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The key point here – That the **Truth of Scripture** (about Origins) is interwoven into & with the **Truth about Science** (in both Origins & unto the Present day)



What is Creation Apologetics

(The Defense, The Answering, The Applying Biblical Truth}

Creation Apologetics → Both Creation Theology & Creation Science

Creation Theology (right hand) ↔ Creation Science (left hand)



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Creation Theology = Genesis 1-11

The Creation, Origin of Sin, Flood, Genealogies, Dispersion
(1st 2000 years of History) as Recorded in Scripture



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Creation Science = Origins Science (Physical Universe)

Fields of Science to include: Astronomy, Archeology, Biology, Biochemistry,
Botany, Genetics, Geology, Paleontology (Chemistry, Physics, Engineering)
(physical outcome of 1st 2000 years of History)



Q & A / Thoughts the Concept of Creation Apologetics

Break

2nd Part follows



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& Apologetics, Valuing Truth

Concepts of Part 2 – The Fact of **Evidence**, the Role of
Perspective & the Influence of **Bias & Presuppositions**;
Teaching Basis of **Biblical Creation**

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'Considering the Evidence' of Origins

Via

The Perspective (the Mindset) We Hold about the
Related Concepts of -

- Science
- Theology



The Perspective We Hold –

Q. -- Do Creationists & Evolutionists have Different Evidence?

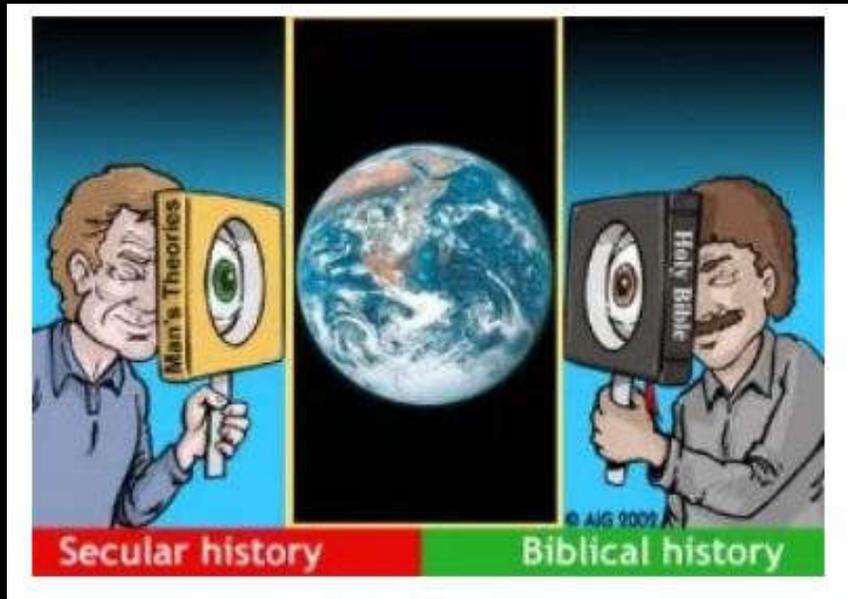


The Perspective We Hold – Do Creationists & Evolutionists have Different Evidence?





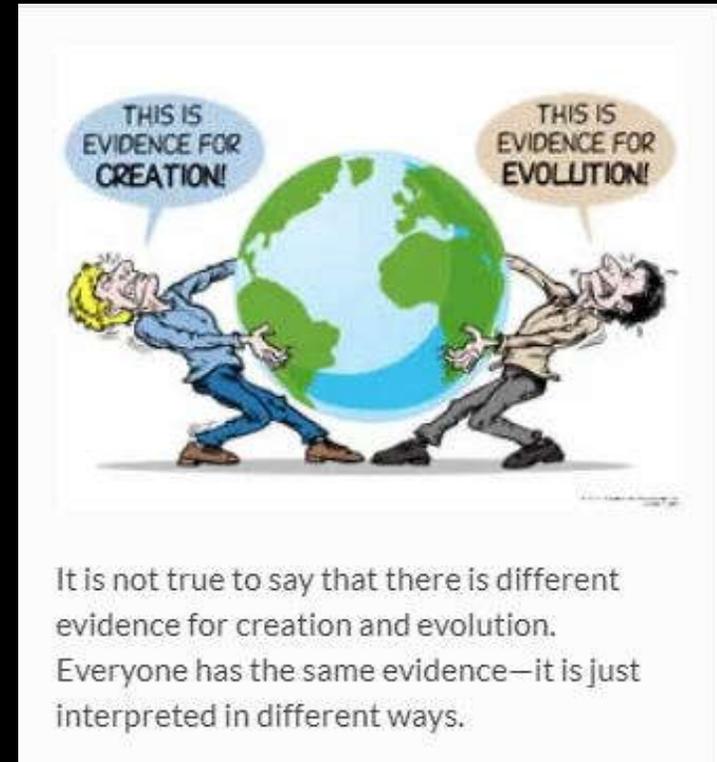
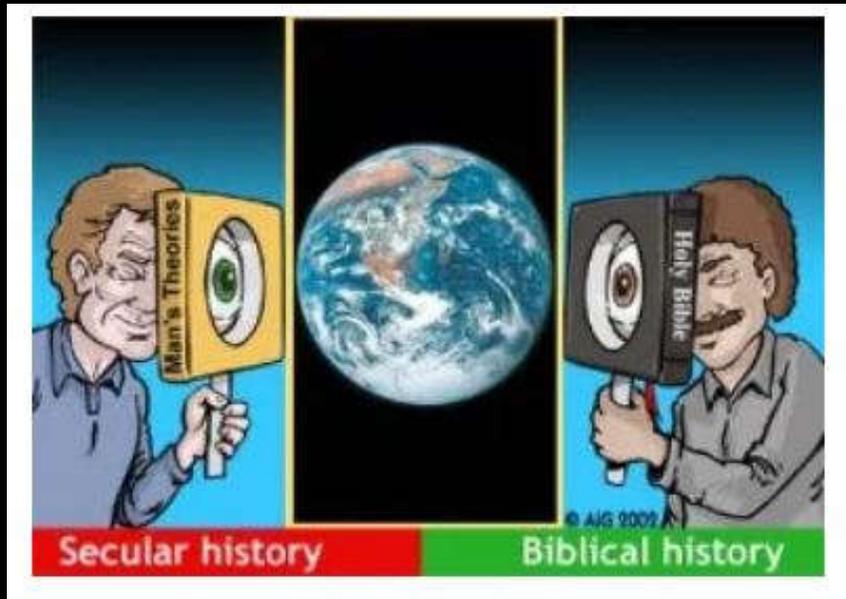
The Perspective We Hold – Do Creationists & Evolutionists have Different Evidence?



View of History & Time → applied to Origins Science
View of History & Time → applied to Creation Theology



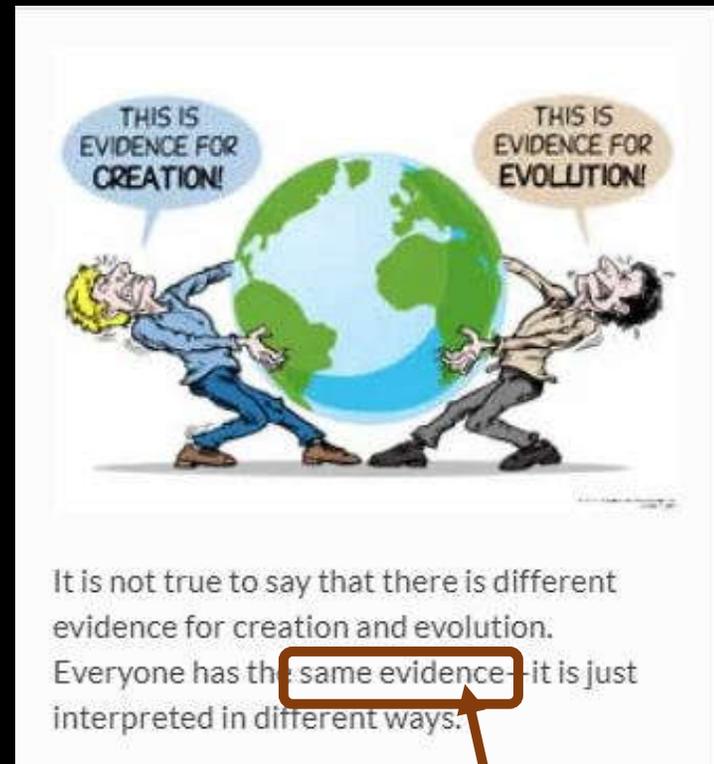
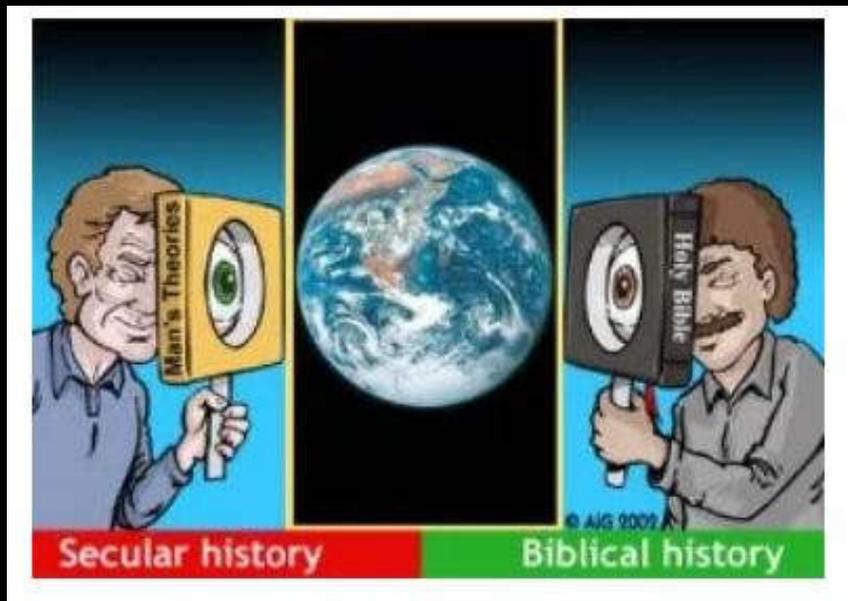
The Perspective We Hold – Do Creationists & Evolutionists have Different Evidence?



View of History & Time → applied to Origins Science
View of History & Time → applied to Creation Theology



The Perspective We Hold – Do Creationists & Evolutionists have Different Evidence?



Ex / Fossil Evidence & How it is interpreted?

As it exists in the 'present'



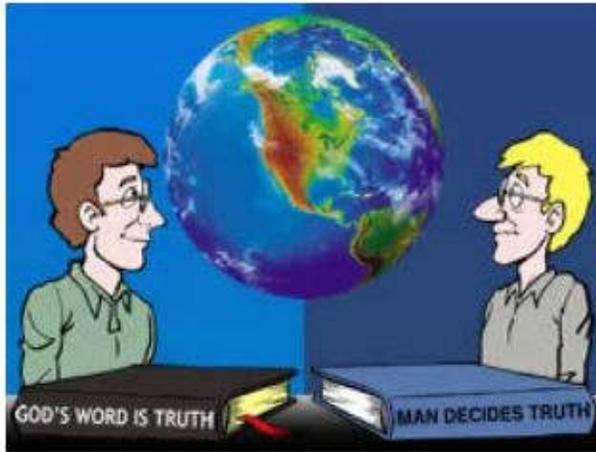
The Perspective We Hold –

Q. -- Do Creationists & Evolutionists have Different Presuppositions?



The Perspective We Hold – Do Creationists & Evolutionists have Different Presuppositions?

Definitely! When the evidence is Origins-based

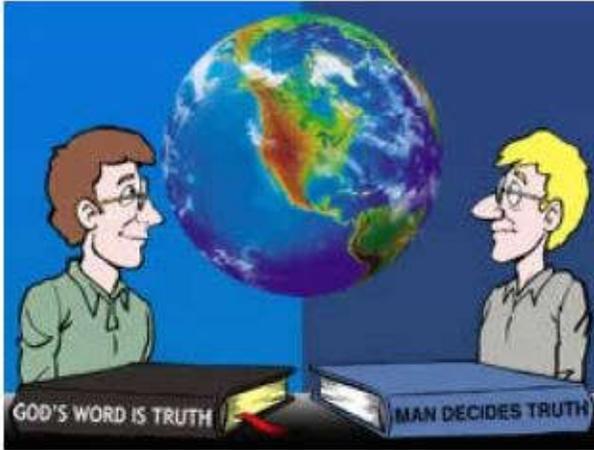


It is important to recognize that people's presuppositions influence the way they interpret evidence. Evolution is based on a reasoning process that rejects God. Creation starts from the authority of God's Word. Your presuppositions are like a pair of glasses that you wear to look at the world around you.



The Perspective We Hold – Do Creationists & Evolutionists have Different Presuppositions?

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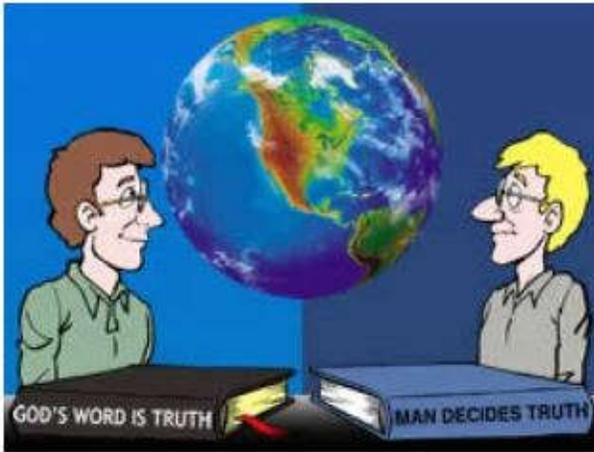
Presuppositions are the **core beliefs** we accept as true.

Presuppositions are not evidence.

Evidence is what exists.

The Perspective We Hold – Do Creationists & Evolutionists have Different Presuppositions?

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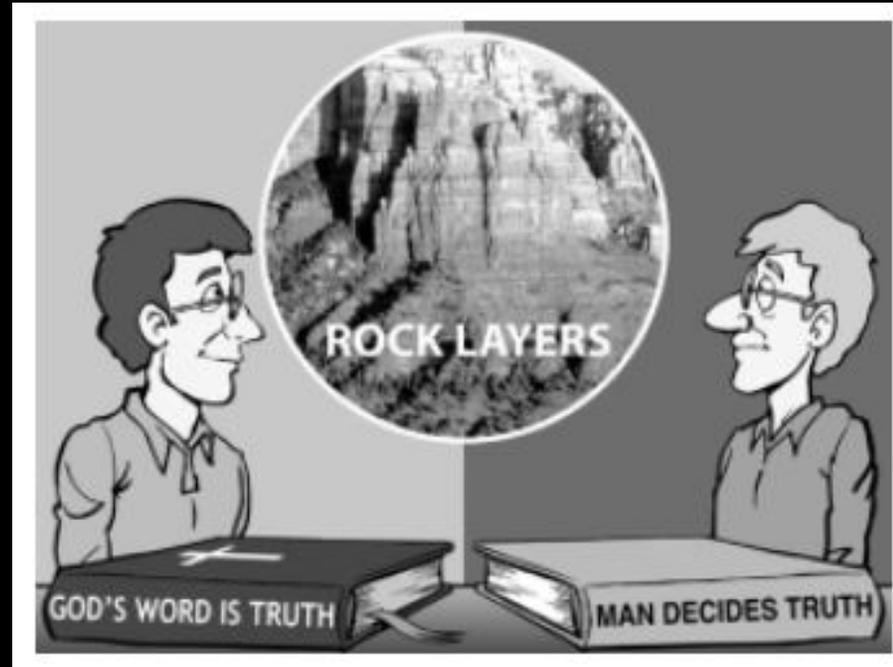


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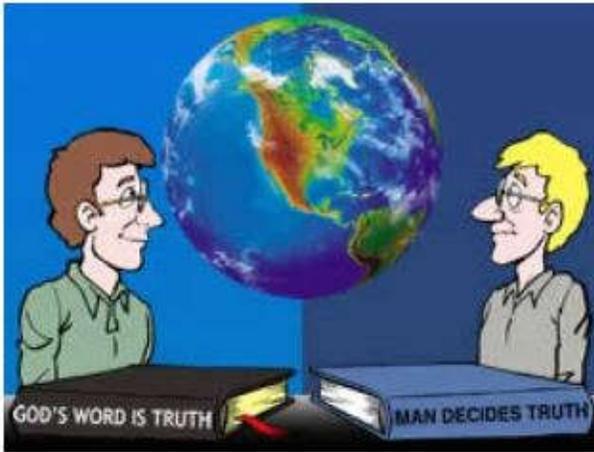
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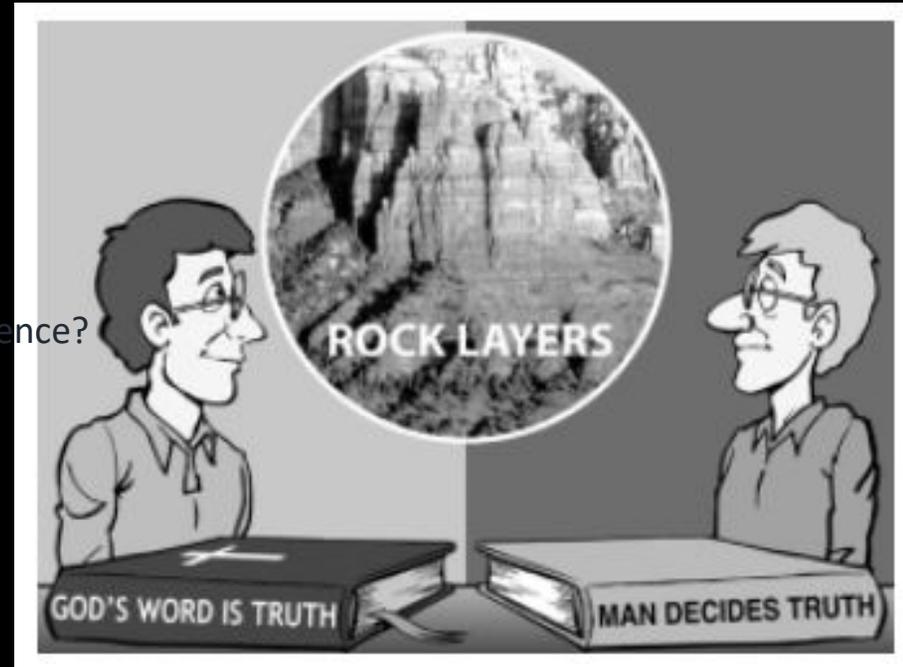
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About the same evidence?

Presuppositions are not evidence.

Evidence is what exists.



Consider the Perspective we hold about ***One-Time*** Events?



Q. -- Do you accept the premise that there can be bias when examining scientific evidence (or any source of evidence)?

Q. -- If so, how can you counter the influence of bias?



'Considering the Evidence' of Origins

Via

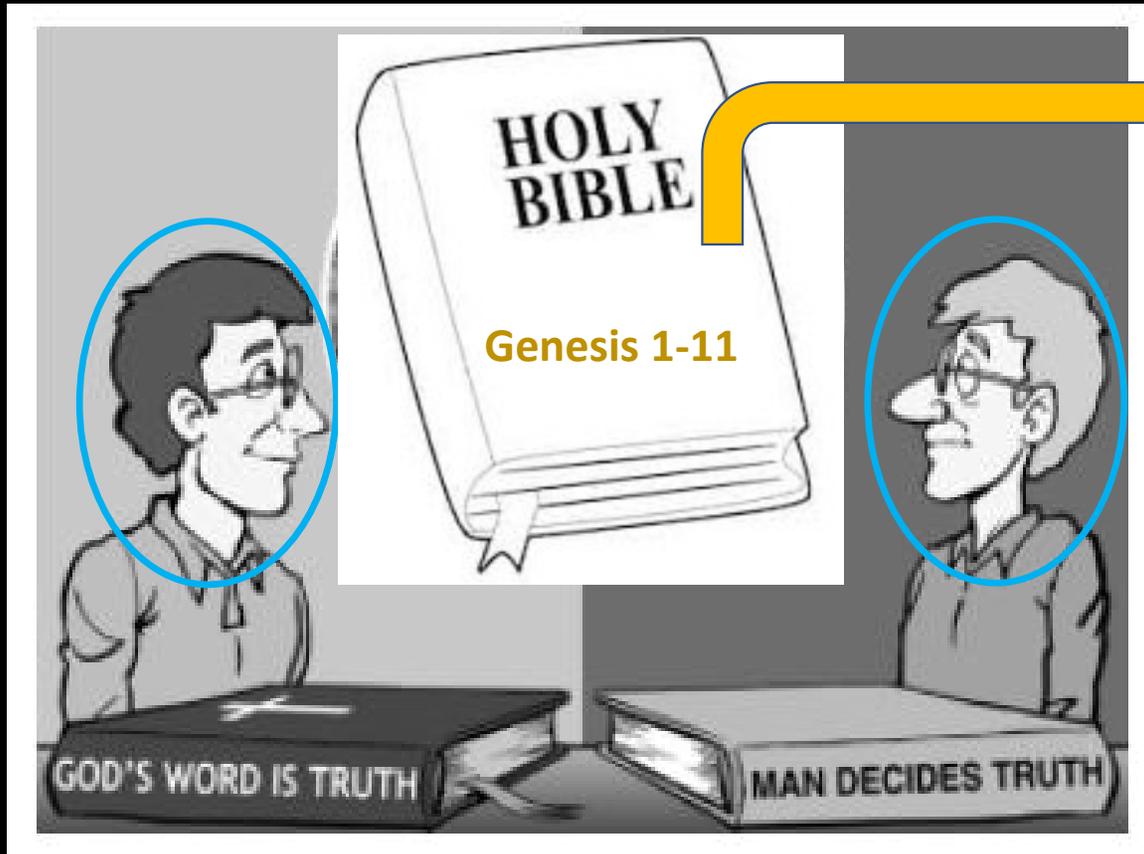
Evidence Diagrams

The Perspective of Scriptural Evidence



The Perspective We Hold –

How then do the Presuppositions of Creationists & Evolutionists lead to Different Perspectives (of God's Word)?



Constructing an Evidence Diagram
(Collecting the aspects of - considering & examining the evidence)



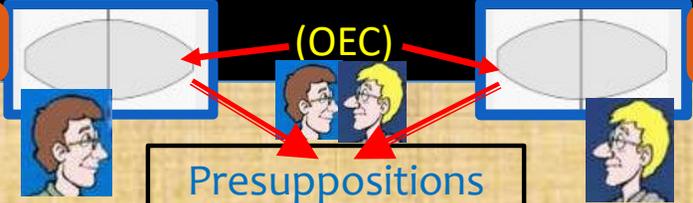
Considering Evidence (Origins – Scripture & Science)

Biblical Creation

Naturalism / Evolution

Presuppositions (Core)
Assumptions (Developed)

1
2



Presuppositions
&
Assumptions

Context (one-time)???
Background, history,
timeline of evidence

4

Evidence (context)

Evidence
Genesis 1 - 11



Evidence
Is what actually exists

3

Interpretations
&
Conclusions

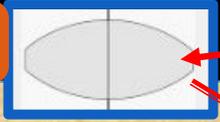
Interpretations
Conclusions

5
6



Considering Evidence (Origins – Scripture & Science)

Biblical Creation



(OEC)



Naturalism / Evolution

Presuppositions (Core)
Assumptions (Developed)

1
2

Concept #1
Truth OR just a Story?

Concept #2
From God OR from man?

Presuppositions
&
Assumptions

Evidence (context)

Context
Background, history,
timeline of evidence

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Evidence
Genesis 1 - 11



Evidence
Is what actually exists

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Interpretations
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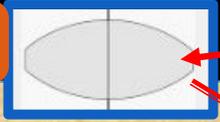
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Considering Evidence (Origins – Scripture & Science)

Biblical Creation



(OEC)



Naturalism / Evolution

Presuppositions (Core)
Assumptions (Developed)

1
2



Concept #1
Truth or just a Story?
(Correct History & Time)
Concept #2
From God or from man?
(Correct View of Origins)



Evidence
Is what actually exists

3

Presuppositions & Assumptions



Evidence (context)

Evidence
Genesis 1 - 11



Interpretations & Conclusions

Context
Background, history, timeline of evidence

4



Interpretations & Conclusions

5
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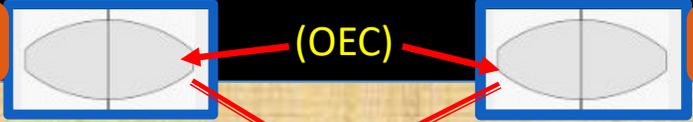




Considering Evidence (Origins – Scripture & Science)

Biblical Creation

Naturalism / Evolution



(OEC)

Presuppositions (Core)
Assumptions (Developed)
1
2

Concept #1
Truth or just a Story?
(Correct History & Time)
Concept #2
From God or from man?
(View of Origins)

Presuppositions & Assumptions
↓
Evidence (context)

Context
Background, history, timeline of evidence
4

Observations of ???
Role of Bias & Understanding ???
Correct Perspective [B, H, T]

Evidence
Genesis 1 - 11



↓
Interpretations & Conclusions

Evidence
Is what actually exists
3

Interpretation ?'s
Conclusions ?
5
6



'Considering the Evidence' of Origins

Q & A / Thoughts

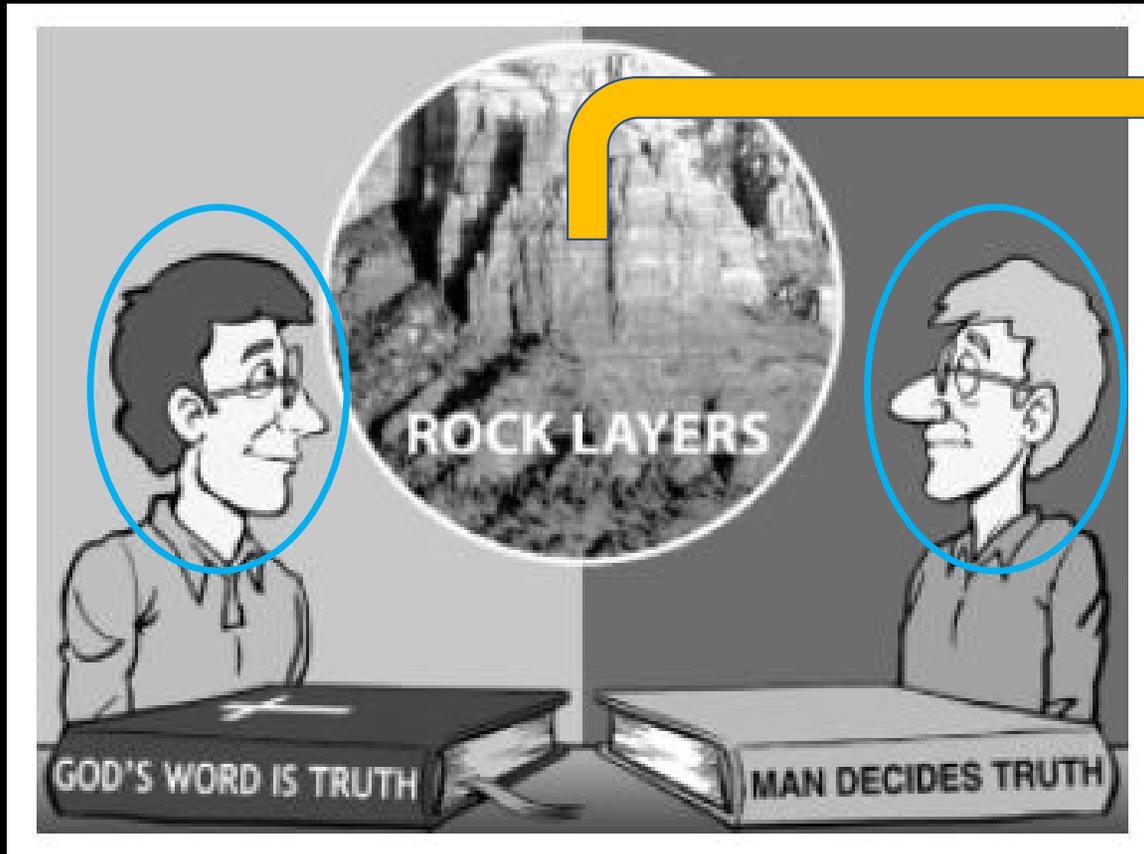
Via

Evidence Diagrams

The Perspective of Scientific Evidence



The Perspective We Hold – How then do the Presuppositions of Creationists & Evolutionists lead to Different Perspectives (of Origins Science)?



**Constructing
an
Evidence
Diagram**
(Collecting the
aspects of -
considering &
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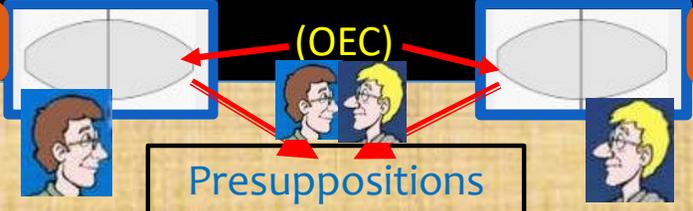
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Biblical Creation

Naturalism / Evolution

Presuppositions (Core)
Assumptions (Developed)

1
2



**Presuppositions
&
Assumptions**

Context ???
Background, History,
Timeline of evidence

4



Evidence (context)



**Evidence
(Rock Layers)**



**Interpretations
&
Conclusions**



Evidence
Is what actually exists

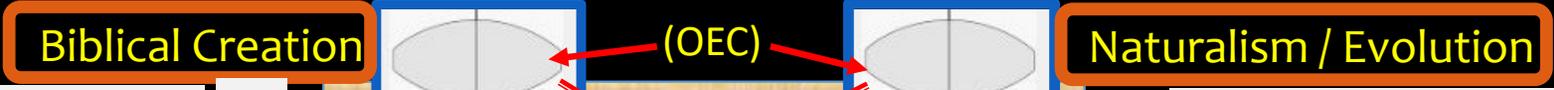
3

**Interpretations
&
Conclusions**

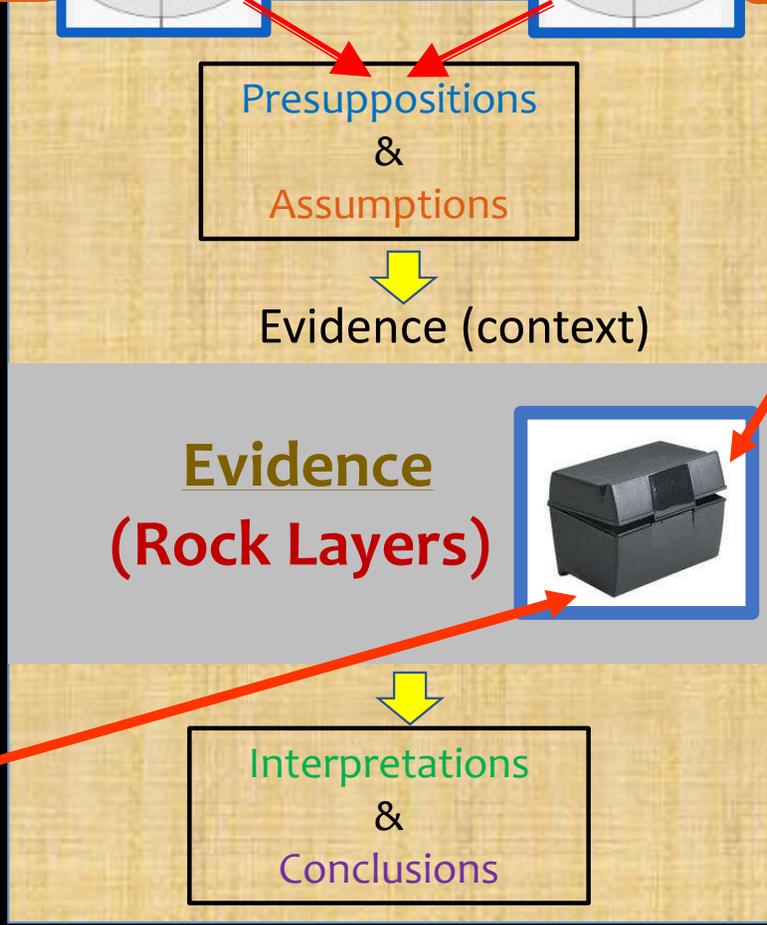
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Considering Evidence (Origins – Scripture & Science)



Presuppositions (Core)
Assumptions (Developed)
1
2



Context
Background, History,
Timeline of evidence
4



Perspective = Presupp. & Paradigm) APPLIED TO THE CONTEXT IN INTERPRETING IT
during examination [B, H, T].

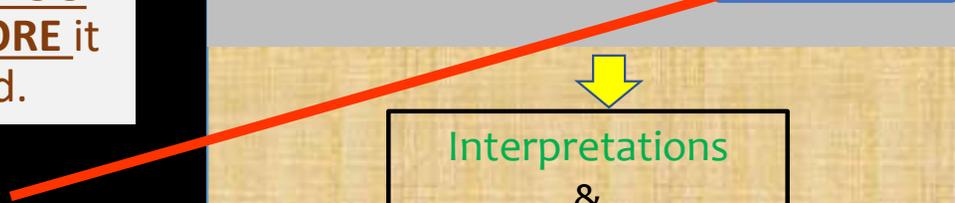


Interpretations
Conclusions
5
6

Core Beliefs & Ruling Paradigm APPLIED TOO THE EVIDENCE BEFORE it is even examined.



Evidence
Is what actually exists
3

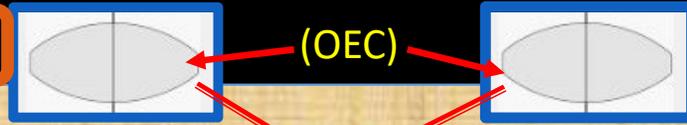


Considering Evidence (Origins – Scripture & Science)

Biblical Creation

(OEC)

Naturalism / Evolution



Presuppositions (Core)
Assumptions (Developed)

1
2

Biblical Catastrophism
Waves of H2O w/ sediment from World-Wide Flood of 371 days

Naturalism - Uniformitarianism
Layers accumulate slowly w/ some catastrophic events in 570 million years

Presuppositions & Assumptions

Evidence (context)

Evidence (Rock Layers)



Interpretations & Conclusions

Context
Background, History, Timeline of evidence

4

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Interpretations & Conclusions

5
6

Core Beliefs & Ruling Paradigm applied to the EVIDENCE BEFORE it is even examined.

Evidence
Is what actually exists

3



Q & A

More thoughts about - Perspective as applied to

Both Scriptural evidence & Scientific evidence



Considering the Evidence – Recognizing Truth

The Meaning of Pikes Peak (relative to Faith & Scripture)

[What is the **Truth** about Noah's Ark & the Flood Waters]

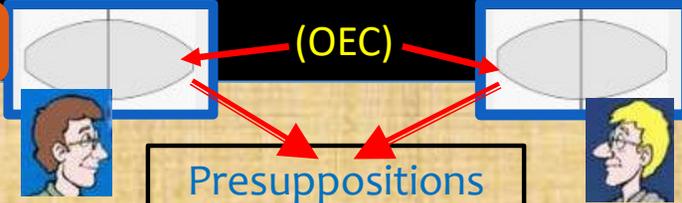
Sciences of Hydrology, Geology & Physics



Considering Evidence (Origins – Scripture & Science)

Biblical Creation

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Presuppositions (Core)
Assumptions (Developed)

1
2

Context
Background, history,
timeline of evidence

4

Concept #1
Reality of the Flood?
Vs. Uniformitarianism?
Concept #2
Truth of Scripture?
Vs. Naturalism?

**Presuppositions
&
Assumptions**

Evidence (context)

Evidence #1
**Pikes' Peak &
The Flood**



Observations ???
Genesis 7:19 +++
Vs. Story (Local)
& Understanding ???
Water above Mountains
Vs. Possible?

Evidence
Is what actually exists

3

**Interpretations
&
Conclusions**

Interpretations ?
Conclusions ?

5
6



Specific Facts Related to This Evidence

- Fields of Science - Geology, Hydrology, Physics

Genesis 7:19 - ¹⁹ And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. ²⁰ The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep.



Specific Facts Related to This Evidence

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- Amount of water 'available' $\approx \sim$ 8000 - 9000 ft depth on 'smooth' earth
- **Truth issue of Scripture** – compromise & malleability of Scripture – Local Flood



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What Scripture says about *extent of flood*

- **Verses & Words** → describing the **absolute nature of destruction** of the earth and/or destroying all of life (except those safely on the ark) – Genesis 6:13, 17, 19; 7:4, 18-20, 21-23; 8:21; 9:11, 15 (**13 verses & 20 words** describing complete destruction)



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My Testimony – physics of water, faith issue, 1+ days after belief
(False) Perspective → Earth 'unchanged' ---- earth 'reformed' from before to after Flood



Specific Facts Related to This Evidence

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Genesis 7:19 - ¹⁹ And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. ²⁰ The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep.

- Pikes Peak & Other Mountains, like Mt. Everest, **did not exist before the Flood**
- The probable Topography of the earth consisted of plains, ranges and hills, with limited mountains, to a maximum height of ~7000 ft above sea level

- **Something like the above must be True for God's Word to be True**
 → **Genesis 7:19** & other Flood verses
 21-23; 8:21; 9:11, 15 (13 verses & 20 words describing complete destruction)

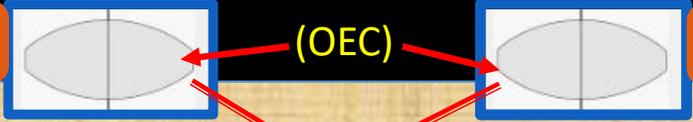
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Considering Evidence (Origins – Scripture & Science)

Biblical Creation

Naturalism / Evolution



(OEC)

Presuppositions (Core)
Assumptions (Developed)

1
2

Concept #1
Reality of the Flood? (!!!)

Concept #2
Truth of Scripture? (!!!)

Evidence
Is what actually exists

3

Presuppositions & Assumptions

Evidence (context)

Evidence #1
Pikes' Peak & The Flood



Interpretations & Conclusions

Context
Background, history, timeline of evidence

4

Observations ???
Genesis 7:19 +++ (true) & Understanding ???
The destruction of the Flood was so great that the earth was fully resurfaced / new topog. (structurally new)

Interpretations ?
Conclusions ?

5
6



Q & A

More thoughts about - Perspective as applied to

Pikes Peak & Flood



The following content describes the Principles by which
Biblical Creation Teaching is Defined .

The intent is to hold to the Truth and not to lessen its
meaning



Principles of PPCF & CSM Ministries (Brief)

Psalm 138:2 –

I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word. (ESV)



Principles of PPCF & CSM Ministries (Brief)

Psalm 138:2 – God's Character (Name) & His Word (Scripture) above all
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Educational Outline for Biblical Creationist (BC) Teaching

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(Scripture provides the foundational basis for applying the discovered scientific understanding)



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God says what He means & He means what He says.

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Do you Really Believe that what you believe, is Really Real? (TP-video #1, ‘Veritology’ ending)