

## **RIGHTING AMERICA AT THE CREATION MUSEUM**

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### **A Concise Overview**

- The Creation Museum is the crown jewel of the Answers in Genesis apologetics enterprise, an impressive and sophisticated visual argument on behalf of young Earth creationism and a highly politicized fundamentalism.
- More than anything else, the Answers in Genesis enterprise (including the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter) is best understood as a Christian Right site that relentlessly and aggressively promotes a highly ideological and radically politicized young Earth creationism as true Christianity, and that aims its attacks on – in particular – academics, feminists, gays/lesbians, and political and religious liberals.
- The Creation Museum and Answers in Genesis seek to shape, prepare, and arm millions of American Christians as uncompromising and fearless warriors for what it understands to be the ongoing culture war in America.
- To understand how American politics got to be where it is in 2016 -- where Donald Trump is the Republican presidential nominee, and where "facts" seem to have little bearing on his popularity -- one very good place to start is the Creation Museum.
- At the Creation Museum and (of course) Ark Encounter the Flood of Genesis 6-8 is very important: not only is it used to explain away mainstream geology, but it also describes an overwhelmingly violent past Judgment that prefigures the future Judgment that will result in slaughter and eternal damnation of billions of people not in the camp of True Christians.
- As bizarre as it may seem – with its claim that the God of the Bible created the universe in six consecutive 24-hour days less than 10,000 years ago – the Creation Museum lies squarely within the mainstream of the American cultural, political, and religious right.
- The “object” of the Creation Museum is not creation science, but – ostensibly – the inerrant and incontrovertible Word of God.
- Despite claims to the contrary, there is very little “science” at the Creation Museum, even by the Museum’s own definition of what constitutes science
- Despite claims that the Museum holds to a plain reading of the Word of God, the Museum is not only loose in its treatment of the Bible, but when it comes to cosmology it imposes a modern universe onto the text of the Bible (thus leaving itself open to claims that it is not sufficiently literal in its reading of the Word).
- There is very little reference to Jesus (except to say he was the sacrifice required to bear God’s wrath for human sin) in either the Creation Museum nor in Answers in Genesis materials; one will look long and hard to find anything from the life and teachings of Jesus, anything pertaining to the Sermon on the Mount, or anything related to Jesus’ repeated calls for us to care for those who exist on the bottom rungs of the social ladder.