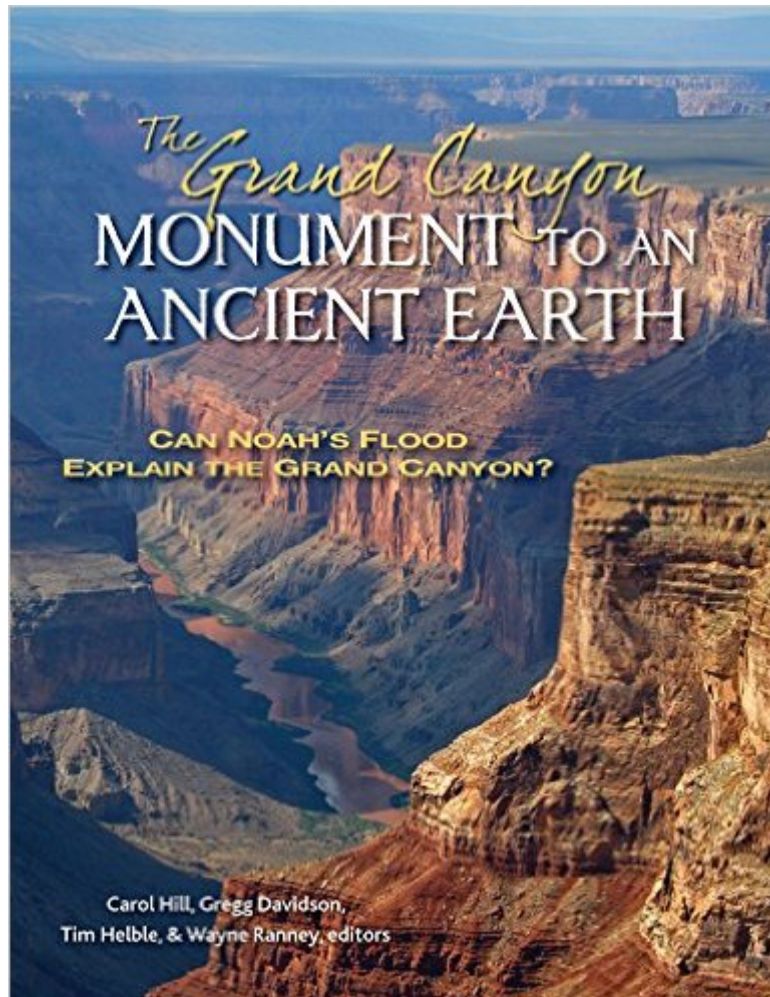


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# The Grand Canyon, Monument To An Ancient Earth: Can Noah's Flood Explain The Grand Canyon?



## Synopsis

Could the Grand Canyon's rock layers have formed in a single year of Noah's flood? Why are there no dinosaur, bird, or mammal fossils in the canyon's layers? How do we know that radiometric dating methods are reliable? How can we tell what happened in the unobserved past? How long did it take to carve out the canyon? Is Young Earth Creationism really biblical? Learn the answers to these questions and more to understand how the Grand Canyon testifies to an old earth. Insights from top geologists, highlighted by stunning photographs, provide a memorable guide to these ancient wonders of creation.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have been waiting for my copy of *The Grand Canyon Monument to an Ancient Earth* since I heard about it nearly a year ago. It arrived May 5th, and it was worth the wait. The first thing readers will notice is that this is a beautifully illustrated book. The efforts of Tim Helble and graphic designers Bronze Black and Susan Coman are proven on nearly every page. The second thing you will notice is that this book is an excellent short introduction to geology. This is true even ignoring the special focus on countering widely believed falsehoods about the Grand Canyon. The principle authors are professional geologists, and most are evangelical Christians. Over the years they became increasingly concerned at the distortions, and outright lies that are spread by young earth, *Flood Geology*. This book's title is in fact a counter to a popular creationist tract, *Grand Canyon Monument to Catastrophe* which

promotes the absurd idea that Noah's Flood deposited all the sediments, and carved the Grand Canyon in a single year just 4000 years ago. The authors show that this is not merely physically impossible, but that such an idea is unsupported by the Bible. There are an estimated 40 percent of Americans today who are being fooled by outfits like Answers in Genesis, or the Institute for Creation Research. These people are the intended audience for this book. As the last sentence in "The Grand Canyon Monument to an Ancient Earth" says, "Truth always matters."

This is a very attractive work with full color photographs of the Grand Canyon on nearly every page and is written at a general level so anyone can read it. The book deals with how the Grand Canyon came to be and looks at two basic positions: standard geology versus flood geology. Flood geology (which is a part of young earth creationism) is the view that most of the earth's surface is the result of a global, cataclysmic flood that occurred about 4,000 years ago as recorded within the pages of the Bible, specifically Genesis 6-9, and is also known as Noah's flood. Standard or modern geology sees the Grand Canyon rock layers as having been deposited at various intervals spanning over hundred of millions of years. The book is divided into 5 parts and 20 chapters. Although this sounds daunting but it comes in at a little over 200 pages. Part 1 consists of the first 4 chapters and outlines the two views, modern geology versus flood geology and delves into the time frames for each. The chapters in Part 2 dive into the science of how geology works and covers sedimentary rocks, dating methods, the geologic column, plate tectonics, and how rocks can fracture, fault, and fold. Part 3 tells the story of the fossil record of both plants and animals, and just as importantly, trace fossils. Part 4 is about how the Canyon was actually carved out. These chapters also show that each rock layer contains its own ecosystem, something that makes sense in light of modern geology, but cannot be explained in terms of flood geology. The last part consists of the last two chapters which tie everything together. Chapter 19 takes us on a 7 mile hike in narrative form with lots of photographs and hits on the various details from previous chapters showing why and how flood geology simply cannot explain the many and various features of the Canyon. Chapter 20 concludes with answering the question, is science and flood geology simply different worldviews or presuppositions when it comes to explaining how the Canyon came to be. The answer? Science is willing to follow where ever the data leads. And flood geology? It starts with the conclusion and seeks justification for its views. The data backs modern geology at every point. This book, to the honest reader, is devastating to young earth creationism and flood geology and is highly recommended.

This book came recommended by a friend and I purchased it soon after it was released. I didn't know what to expect other than that it was written by a Christian author and was described as being beautifully illustrated. What a surprise to find that it was written by no fewer than 13 geologists and other scientists, most of whom are Christian (like me)! I was blown away after reading their bios. These are some real heavy hitters in geology and many of them are members of Christian scientific organizations (not "Christian science", but rather organizations of professional scientists who are professing Christians). I love to read about science, and it's been a while since I've had the pleasure of reading a general-interest science book that's so richly illustrated without also being dumbed down. The photos and illustrations are well-matched, and they add clarity, rather than being chosen as filler. My reaction after reading this book is that the authors shared a common purpose to produce a work of the utmost quality. The book is written at a reading level of early high school, but I know many younger students who would devour this book, as the illustrations make it very approachable for just about any age group. The book opens with a foreward giving a brief history of the discovery and exploration of the Grand Canyon and of geology as a science. Did you know that the very first geologists were Christians who were seeking evidence of Noah's flood? The main part of the book is divided into five sections. Each section is comprised of two to eight articles written by pairs of authors with expertise in the area being addressed. The sections are:

1. Two Views. Here the authors describe, in fair terms, the tenets of "flood geology" -- the idea that most of the rock layers we see on Earth, including those in the Grand Canyon, were laid down during various phases of Noah's flood. They follow this up with the basics of modern geology as a science. I am personally familiar with both ideas and I've seen them compared before in a couple other books, but I've never seen these two models comparatively illustrated so well.
2. How Geology Works. Now the authors dive into quite a bit of detail about the science of geology, and not in a dry fashion. They pose very real questions that anyone might ask about WHY scientists reached the conclusions they do. Christians or otherwise! Why do they draw certain conclusions about these rock layers and their ages? What do they know, and not know? How do they approach the evidence? Whatever position you've taken, if any, before you pick up this book, you need to give this section a fair shake.
3. Fossils. What are the specific fossils found in the Grand Canyon and elsewhere? What ramifications do these have for flood geology?
4. Carving of the Canyon. So far they've covered how the layers were laid down, as described by both the geological sciences and by flood geology. Now they turn to the carving of the canyon itself. Was it done by a lot of time and a little water (relatively speaking), or a little time and a lot of water?
5. A Verdict on Flood Geology. Make no mistake, the authors are

supporting a specific argument. Does flood geology hold water? Can they back it up? And does geology as a science have any bearing on the Christian worldview?The book ends with many pages of references, author bios, and praise from other geologists and Christian theologians alike.Add me to the list of those who give praise -- but not to the book. To God who created this beautiful place.To the authors: thank you for capturing the Grand Canyon so beautifully, and with a very real heart for the Lord.

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