



CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CONSIDERATIONS

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Perry Atkinson and John Mittendorf

INTRODUCTION

For a believer, the selection of a college, university, or seminary, either for an adult or a sibling can be a daunting task as it is common knowledge that secular universities do not support the inerrancy of biblical scripture, particularly the Genesis account of Creation, the global flood, Noah's Ark, and the Bible in general. Therefore, when selecting a prominent *Christian college, university or seminary* it is often assumed the education will not only include a high degree of expertise in equipping a student for future success in modern society, but will also include a solid biblical foundation that is based on biblical inerrancy and a literal translation of scripture.

Although a Christian college/university/seminary may be highly qualified to graduate successful students in various fields of expertise, many of these schools are not graduating students with a firm understanding of biblical principles. This is a result of the integration of current scientific disagreements with the Genesis account of Creation, the increased emphasis of higher education to promote Darwin's account of evolution, and a steady decrease of the authority and importance of biblical Scripture. The end result of this dilemma is two fold as follows:

- Christian colleges/universities/seminaries can be Christian in name only and predominately focus on secular perspectives (see the book *Already Compromised* by Ken Ham and Greg Hall)
- Statistics show a large disconnect between modern young people and their church and Christian education due to an unbelief in the Bible and/or confusion between secular and biblical perspectives (see the book *Already Gone* by Ken Ham and Britt Beemer). As a result, a noteworthy percentage of young people are leaving the church

CRITERIA

When selecting a Christian college/university/seminary, what criteria are used to evaluate a particular school's curriculum – and specifically – does a particular school take a public stand for truth, teach the inerrancy of God's word, and also believe in a literal translation of biblical scripture. To assist in answering this important question, there are some websites that now list Christian colleges/universities/seminaries that do not compromise on God's word.

As an example, three prominent websites that list colleges/universities/seminaries that believe and teach biblical Creation and have signed the following Tenets of Creation are Answers In Genesis (answersingenesis.org/colleges-and-universities), Northwest Creation (nwcreation.net/colleges) and Christian Answers (christiananswers.net/q-eden/creationist-schools). However, it should be stated that changes in the faculty or administration of any school could affect a school's stand, and individual instructors can vary in their personal views. It is highly recommended that prospective students and parents personally check the school and its faculty, particularly its theological stand on relevant issues.

As the preceding websites are easily accessed, let's overview the answersingenesis.org/colleges-and-universities website and look at the how and why of their school recommendations.

ANSWERSINGENESIS.ORG/COLLEGES/COLLEGES-AND-UNIVERSITIES

The school President was asked to affirm their personal agreement with the following Tenets of Creation in writing. This site also shows the agreement/disagreement by the Academic Dean, Bible Chair and Science Chair:

I

We affirm that the scientific aspects of Creation are important, but are secondary in importance to the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ as sovereign, Creator, Redeemer, and Judge.

We deny that the doctrines of Creator and Creation can ultimately be divorced from the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for the teachings of Genesis are foundational to the Gospel and indeed to all biblical doctrines (directly or indirectly).

II

We affirm that the 66 books of the Bible are the written Word of God and that the Bible is the only book inspired by God. The Bible is divinely inspired and inerrant throughout. Its assertions are factually true in all the original autographs. It is the supreme authority, not only in all matters of faith and conduct, but in everything that it teaches.

We deny that the Bible's authority is limited to spiritual, religious or redemptive themes and we deny the exclusion of its authority from its assertions related to such fields as history and all scientific disciplines.

III

We affirm that the final guide to the interpretation of Scripture is Scripture itself. Scripture must be compared with Scripture to obtain the correct interpretation of a particular text, and clear Scriptures must be used to interpret ambiguous texts, not vice versa. We affirm that the special revelation of infallible and inerrant Scripture must be used to correctly interpret the general revelation of the cursed Creation.

We deny that uninspired sources of truth-claims (i.e., history, archaeology, science, etc.) can be used to interpret the Scriptures to mean something other than the meaning obtained by classical historical-grammatical exegesis.

IV

We affirm that no apparent, perceived, or claimed evidence in any field, including, archaeology and science, can be considered valid if it contradicts the Scriptural record. We also affirm that the evidence from such fields of inquiry is always subject to interpretations by fallible people who do not possess all information.

We deny that scientific "evidence" used to "prove" millions of years is objective fact and not heavily influenced by naturalistic presuppositions.

V

We affirm that the account of origins presented in Genesis is a simple but factual presentation of actual events and therefore provides a reliable framework for scientific research into the question of the origin and history of life, mankind, the earth and the universe.

We deny that Genesis 1-11 is myth, saga, or any other type of non-historical literature. We also deny that it is a parable or prophetic vision. It therefore should be interpreted with the same care for literal accuracy as other historical narrative sections of Scripture.

VI

We affirm that the genealogies in Genesis 5 and 11 are chronological, enabling us to arrive at an approximate date of Creation of the whole universe. We affirm that mankind is essentially as old as the whole Creation. While some

disagreement exists between young-earth Creationists over whether or not these are strict, gap-less genealogies (i.e., no missing names between Adam and Noah and Noah and Abraham), we affirm that Genesis points to a date of Creation between about 6,000-10,000 years ago.

We deny that millions of years of history occurred before Adam and Eve.

Therefore, we deny that the geological record of strata and fossils corresponds to long geological ages before man. We also deny the Big Bang and any other naturalistic theory of the origin and history of the universe. We further deny that the radiometric dating methods, which are claimed to give dates of millions of years, are trustworthy and can be used to overthrow or disregard the biblical teaching on the age of the Creation.

VII

We affirm that the days in Genesis do not correspond to geologic ages, but are six, consecutive, literal (essentially twenty-four hour) days of Creation. We also affirm that the entire universe including, but not limited to, the earth, sun, moon, stars, plants, animals, and Adam and Eve were created in six, consecutive, literal (essentially twenty-four hour) days of Creation.

We deny that the days of Creation are symbolic of long ages or that millions of years can be placed between the days or before the six days of Creation.

VIII

We affirm that the various original life forms (kinds), including mankind, were made by direct, supernatural, creative acts of God. We infer from the Bible that the living descendants of any of the original kinds (apart from man) may represent more than one species today, reflecting the genetic potential within a particular original created kind. Only relatively limited biological changes have occurred naturally within each kind since Creation.

We deny that there has ever been any evolutionary change from one of the original created kinds into a different kind (e.g., reptile to bird, ape to man, etc).

IX

We affirm the supernatural creation of Adam from dust and the supernatural creation of Eve from Adam's rib on the sixth day of Creation.

We deny that Adam was in any way made from a pre-existing hominid (or any other living creature).

X

We affirm that the account of the Fall of Adam and Eve into sin is a literal historical account and that the Fall had cosmic consequences. We also affirm that both physical and spiritual death and bloodshed entered into this world subsequent to, and as a direct consequence of, man's sin. We further affirm that this historic Fall is the reason for the necessity of salvation for mankind through the redemptive work of the "last Adam," Jesus Christ.

We deny that the account of the Fall was mythical, figurative, or otherwise largely symbolic. We deny that the judgment of God at the Fall resulted only in the spiritual death of man or only consequences for man but not for the rest of animate and inanimate Creation. We, therefore, also deny that millions of years of death, disease, violence, and extinction occurred in the animal world before the Fall.

XI

We affirm that the great Flood described in Genesis 6-9 was an actual historic event, worldwide (global) in its extent and extremely catastrophic in its effect. As such, it produced most (but not all) of the geological record of thousands of meters of strata and fossils that we see on the earth's surface today.

We deny that Noah's Flood was limited to a localized region. We also deny that the Flood was so peaceful that it left no abiding geological evidence.

XII

We affirm that all people living and dead are descended from Adam and Eve and that as such all people equally bear the image of God, their Maker. We, therefore, affirm that there is only one race of human beings and that the various people groups arose as a result of God's supernatural judgment at the Tower of Babel and the subsequent dispersion of the people families.

We deny that the so-called "races" have different origins and that any one "race" is superior to any other.

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A full list of schools that have signed the Tenets of Creation within Bible Institutes, Colleges, Universities and Seminaries can be found and downloaded as a printable PDF file at <https://answersingenesis.org/colleges>

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Northwest Creation.org
- Christian Answers.net