

**Mount Saint Helens**  
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[www.answersincreation.org/mountsainthelens.htm](http://www.answersincreation.org/mountsainthelens.htm)

Mount St. Helens has been one of the creationist's main focus over the last 15 years. There are rebuttals for all of these issues, and you can check out some of them with the links at the bottom of this page. However, old earth creationists don't need these rebuttals to show that Mount Saint Helens does not support a young earth. Here's why. There are two sides to Geology. They are:

Catastrophism – The belief that the past history of the earth and of living things has been interrupted or greatly influenced by natural catastrophes occurring on a worldwide or very extensive scale.

Uniformitarianism – The belief or principle that the past history of the earth and its inhabitants is best interpreted in terms of what is known about the present. Uniformitarianism explains the past by appealing to known laws and principles acting in a gradual, uniform way through past ages.

Naturally, young earth creationists believe totally in catastrophism, and the main cause of catastrophism is the Flood of Noah. When they look at Mt. St. Helens, they see catastrophic forces at work...and I agree. They view them as evidence of a young earth, because they can produce rock layers quickly through catastrophism.

What they fail to realize is that Uniformitarianism includes Catastrophism. Since we see catastrophic events in the present, we see evidence of catastrophic events in the geologic record. Yes, there is some evidence in the geologic record of catastrophic events, but most of the geologic record is not "catastrophic" in nature.

As an old earth believer, I believe in catastrophes...but they are the exception, not the norm. As such, Mount St. Helens provides no credible evidence for a young earth. Yes, you can claim Mt. Saint Helens as young earth evidence, but you are grasping for straws, and taking evidence out of context. Your handful of straw indicates "possible" evidences, but you ignore the millions of straws left in the haystack.

For specific Mt. Saint Helens claims, see the articles below.

Dacite Flow Dating

[http://www.talkorigins.org/indexcc/CD/CD013\\_1.html](http://www.talkorigins.org/indexcc/CD/CD013_1.html)

Rapid Canyon Formation

[http://www.talkorigins.org/indexcc/CH/CH581\\_1.html](http://www.talkorigins.org/indexcc/CH/CH581_1.html)