

Islands That Deceive?
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Two articles of interest on the Answers in Genesis website are very interesting deceptions. They concern two islands that were recently formed by volcanic activity. The articles are:

Tulumán — A test of time, author unknown¹
The Lesson of Surtsey, by Edgar Andrews²

The article on Tulumán Island tells of an island that "looks" old, yet it was formed in 1960-1961 from a volcanic eruption. The article claims that the layering of the cliff faces would make most people assume a millions of years old date for the island.

While that is interesting, this is merely an attempt to sling mud at the average "geologist." Do young earth creationists suppose that geologic dates are arrived at by the "looks" of a rock? Yet that is what they imply in this article, thus making the reader see the geologist as a person that operates by guesswork, and not by established scientific experimentation. Just because you can point to an 8-year-old island and say it looks old proves nothing! Even the use of the word "Test" in the title is deceptive. Nowhere in the article are any "tests" referred to. Exactly how is this a "test" of time?

The article on Surtsey Island is very similar in its suggestions, using the same layering of the cliff-faces argument. Again, it is implied that geologists give ages to the rocks they investigate by making an arbitrary "guess" based on looks.

It is no secret that young earth creation theorists have such a dislike of geologists. With such a misunderstanding of geological principles, they have cast off any hope of ever winning these people to Christ. Geologists are people to be won for Christ, not people to be trampled down and insulted.

The central theme of this and similar deceptions is...if you can't provide evidence to defeat the old earth theory, then sling some mud on the old-earthers so they will look unbelievable. Unfortunately, the Answers in Genesis website (and others) is full of this type of article. The end effect is this...to the uneducated believer willing to accept these weak arguments at face value, they appear to see a wide, deep ocean. However, to the person who is willing to investigate further and see if these things are true, this person discovers that the ocean is only an inch deep.

It is interesting to note that the Bible tells us to love our enemies," not "make your enemies look bad and insult them." Why young-earth creation theorists cannot live in peace with old-earth creationists is beyond my comprehension.

¹ answersingenesis.org/docs/4032.asp

² answersingenesis.org/docs/3517.asp