This Week's Creation Moment

Easter Island Heads – Not Just Another Pretty Face

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. – 2 Timothy 2:15

Today on Creation Moments we bring you a bit of old news. I mean really old news. Though this news is nearly a hundred years old, few people even today know that the massive stone heads on Easter Island are actually sitting atop tall stone bodies buried in the ground.

The statues – carved from volcanic rock between A.D. 1100 and 1500 and put in place by Polynesians on Easter Island – range in size from 3 feet to a towering 33 feet in height. The largest statue – named El Gigante – tips the scales at about 165 tons.

In 1919 pictures of the first excavations to Easter Island revealed that some of the heads were full sized. But over the following decades, the discoveries were gradually forgotten. Since 2010, the Easter Island Statue Project has been excavating two of the buried bodies. According to the project director, most people think the statues are only heads because there are 150 of them buried up to the shoulders on the slope of a volcano, "and these are the most famous, most beautiful and most photographed of all the Easter Island statues."

Think of it – if archaeologists had never dug deeper, they would not have uncovered the whole truth about these massive stone statues. Similarly, if we want to get a more complete understanding of what the Bible teaches, we need to dig deeper. In-depth Bible study takes time and work. But it is well worth the effort!

Ref: Natalie Wolchover, "Do the Easter Island Heads Really Have Bodies?", LiveScience, 9/25/12.

Photo: Courtesy of Aubrina. (PD)

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