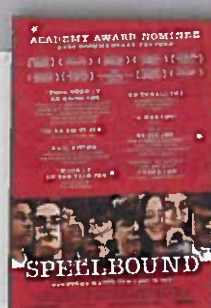




6 Of the Best Conservative Documentaries



BY TROY ANDERSON

WHILE CONSERVATIVE DOCUMENTARIES ARE OFTEN PANNED BY Hollywood critics and seldom garner film festival awards, many draw impressive crowds to theaters, and have exerted a significant impact on culture and politics.

For instance, film industry experts say *2016: Obama's America* helped lay the groundwork for the election of Donald Trump as president and helped other conservatives win other important elections.

Newsmax has compiled its own list, and here we present the top 6 conservative documentaries of all time. Our criteria was simple: We judged films by their success at the box office and whether they had made a significant impact on Americans. Here then, is our list of the top 6.

1 In Search of Noah's Ark

(1976) — This film brought in a whopping \$55.7 million at the box office and inspired many people to take up the search for the biblical ark that Noah and his family built to escape the deluge.

The documentary explores the theory that Mt. Ararat in Turkey is the final resting place of Noah's Ark, and lays out the political complications that prevent further examination. It would have been a certified blockbust-

er in today's dollars, raking in nearly a quarter billion dollars, after adjusting for inflation.

2 2016: Obama's America

(2012) — In this documentary based on *New York Times* best-selling author Dinesh D'Souza's book *Obama's America: Unmaking the American Dream*, D'Souza examines the question, "If Barack Obama wins a second term, where will we be in 2016?" D'Souza also lays out Obama's

agenda and how it has impacted the American way of life. The film grossed \$33.4 million, becoming the second highest-grossing political documentary of all time.

3 America: Imagine A World Without Her

(2014) — D'Souza has long been a champion of questioning D.C. dogma. Based on his best-selling book of the same name, D'Souza explores the landscape of a world in which America had lost the Revolutionary War. The film examines the "shaming of the U.S. through revisionist history," along with the lies and omissions by educational institutions, political organizations, and progressives designed to destroy the country.

4 Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed

(2008) — American writer, lawyer, and actor Ben Stein examines academic freedom

Culture

and decides there is little when it comes to the debate over intelligent design.

The film argues that the scientific establishment suppresses those who believe in intelligent design and that the contemporary evolutionary consensus is part of a “scientific conspiracy to keep God out of the nation’s laboratories and classrooms.”

5 Spellbound (2002) — This film follows eight determined teenagers on their quest to win the 1999 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

It garnered numerous film festival awards and a nomination for an Academy Award for best documentary feature. The International Documentary Association listed it as fourth among the “IDA’s Top 25 Documentaries” of 2007.

6 Waiting for Superman (2010) — Conservatives and school-choice advocates found their box-office champion in this sobering and inspiring documentary that follows ambitious kids trying to navigate a failed public school system. *Waiting for Superman* was nominated for the Sundance Film Festival’s Grand Jury Prize but won the Audience Award on its way to many industry accolades.

The film had such an impact with audiences that then-U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said, “This movie is going to create a sense of outrage, and a sense of urgency.” □

For the complete list of Newsmax’s top Conservative documentaries, go to NEWSMAXBEST.COM

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BOOK REVIEW

Biblical Truths ‘Etched in Stone’

BY DAVID PATTEN

BOOKS EVALUATING THE EVIDENCE THE BIBLE IS TRUE TEND TO FALL into one of two categories.

Those written by Christian believers tend to be heartfelt and inspired, but sometimes lacking in authoritative sources. Those written from a secular perspective, tend to be chock full of academic references, but often appear more interested in deconstructing belief systems than in objectively considering them.

As the Bible itself might say, they are like “vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes.” What’s been sorely missed is a book that examines all sides — that’s what makes a new book by Lisette Bassett-Brody so remarkable. Despite her solid Christian credentials — she earned a master’s degree in biblical studies from Capital Bible Seminary — she’s written a book laying out in a simple, straightforward manner the archeological support for the Bible’s factual assertions.

Etched in Stone: Archeological Discoveries that Prove the Bible is like a beautiful antique that remains as functional as it is attractive.

King David, King Herod, Pontius Pilate, Megiddo of Armageddon fame — the archeological evidence is pretty much all here — and with pictures no less.

Brody tells Newsmax she cites secular academic sources whenever possible “because they’re forced, in a sense, to agree that the Scriptures are true after all.”

Her book reinforces the argument that the Bible is in fact the most thoroughly scrutinized, analyzed, and validated historical account known to human antiquity.

The book’s genesis stems from a visit to the Israel Museum Brody made in Jerusalem in October 2000. As she strolled through its corridors, she found exhibit after exhibit that reinforced the veracity of biblical accounts. Her eyes opened wide, her curiosity was ignited, and she sought to learn more.

“I went straight to their bookstore,” she tells Newsmax in an exclusive interview. “I figured they would have a book on the various artifacts on display there, and they didn’t.”

So she decided to write *Etched in Stone*, which presents the archeological evidence for key biblical accounts. Her book reflects her view that the best way to help someone to deepen their faith is to listen, encourage, and provide objective information as needed. That helpful-but-impartial tenor has contributed to a book that avoids dogma and theology in favor of just laying the facts out there so readers can form their own interpretation. □



PROVEN SOURCES

In her new book, Bassett-Brody lays out the facts for the Bible — and encourages believers and deniers to explore.