Title: *The Genesis of Erroneous History*

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Thesis: The poetic genre of the Genesis account of creation was not intended to be historically informative, but instead, was intended as a counter argument for Yahweh against pagan beliefs.

Outline:

1. What is History? Is Genesis History?

In this section, the nature of history will be explored within its original context– its uses, its purpose and what it meant to the original author/intended audience. It will also discuss the problems with history and questions that it fails to answer.

As well, Biblical literature, particularly that of the Genesis account, will be compared to historical documents and a conclusion will be attempted at whether a historical interpretation of the Bible is justified or not.

2. Who were the ancient Hebrews and what did they believe? Reading Genesis in Context.

Emphasis will be placed on discovering the intentions of the human author – the historical events that informed his writing and the context in which he writes. This section will also compare the Genesis account of creation with other ancient near eastern creation accounts such as the *Enuma Elish*

3. The Literary Form of Genesis

This section will explore the structure, style and genre of Genesis and how these three elements were typically utilized during the time of its authorship.

4. Is Genesis history justified?

This section will outline arguments for and against the historicity of the Genesis creation account.

5. Modern day misinterpretations

This section will discuss popular Evangelical views of the creation account, including issues such as the young earth, the global flood and the fixation of species.

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