

WEA Secretary General Visits Museum of the Bible

On a recent trip to Washington, DC, WEA Secretary General Thomas Schirmmacher visited the Museum of the Bible, enjoying a guided tour and meeting with Chief Executive Officer Harry M. Hargrave. This museum, which opened four years ago, offers a variety of exhibits and experiences aimed at making the Bible more accessible to Christians and non-Christians alike.

After the tour, Schirmmacher commented, 'The museum is really not meant for the pious—although they won't be disappointed! Rather, it is made for everyone, so that the ordinary American or international visitor who comes to see Washington's many famous museums might increasingly include the Museum of the Bible in their list of "must-see places".'

Schirmmacher noted the museum's unique contribution in helping Christians and non-Christians better understand the history of the Bible itself and also the story of salvation it contains. He expressed his appreciation to the Green family, owners of the Hobby Lobby retail stores, for their vision and long-term commitment to the Bible and its trustworthiness.

The eight-story, 430,000-square-foot museum is located three blocks from the US Capitol. In addition to its own exhibits and immersive, personal experiences, the museum contains a number of pieces on loan from the Vatican museum and the Vatican library. The Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) has a 20-year agreement with the museum to supply artifacts for the fifth-floor exhibit space, marking the first time the IAA has agreed to a permanent exhibit of artifacts outside Israel. An entire floor of the museum is dedicated to the notable role of the Bible in the history of the United States.



Thomas Schirmmacher in the replica of old Bethlehem © WEA/Timothy K. Goropevsek

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