

The Physical & Biblical Evidence for Creation

VII. The Flood

Introduction

In 1961 *The Genesis Flood* was published by Whitcomb and Morris. This book is generally recognized as the catalyst for the beginning of the modern creation movement. Interestingly, the book didn't focus on creation; rather it explained the nature and power of the Flood. The authors argued that a cataclysmic flood better explained the creation of fossils and the rock layers rather than the long ages of uniformity. This was the theory proposed by Charles Lyell, who influenced Charles Darwin. Today more and more geologists accept the evidence for catastrophism. Some even call themselves "neo-catastrophists." However they still hold to long ages occurring between the layers.

1. The Flood...

- A. Who was Noah? He was the son of Lamech (Seth's line) and the grandson of Methuselah. His name means "rest."
- B. Who were the Nephilim? All the interpretations point to the further spiritual and moral _____ of humanity.
- C. Could Noah actually build a boat that would support all animals? God told Noah to bring in two of every "kind." The average size of all animals is about that of a _____.
- D. The word "flood" in Hebrew is $\text{ל} \text{ב} \text{מ}$ (*mabul*), and it refers to a violent, watery _____.
- E. What was the purpose of the Flood? Jesus tells us that the coming of the Son of Man will be like the _____ (Matthew 24.37-39). Peter clearly tells us that the purpose of the Flood was to keep us in mind of the final judgment (2 Peter 3.1-7).



2. Is the story of the Flood supported by geological evidence? The following is taken from <http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/am/v2/n4/geologic-evidences-part-one>

Evidence #1—Fossils of sea creatures high above _____ due to the ocean waters having flooded over the continents.

Evidence #2—Rapid _____ of plants and animals.

Evidence #3—Rapidly deposited sediment layers spread across _____ areas.

Evidence #4—Sediment transported _____ distances.

Evidence #5—Rapid or no _____ between strata.

Evidence #6—Many strata laid down in _____ succession.

3. Theistic evolutionists insist on interpreting the creation story as ancient mythology. One of the problems with this approach is knowing where to stop. Was Abraham mythical? Was Noah mythical? Theistic evolutionists consider Noah and the flood to be either a mythical story or the account of a _____ flood.

The idea of a local flood contradicts the text in several ways:

God said He would destroy man and beast from the face of the earth (6.7, 13, 17; 7.4);
All the fountains of the deep were broken up and the windows of heaven opened (7.11).
All flesh with the breath of life went into the ark (7.15)
Waters covered the mountains by 15 cubits (7.20).
All flesh died, and every man (7.21, 22-23).
If the flood were local, it would have made more sense for Noah to move.

Flood legends from around the world are probably derived from memory of the true flood.

Gligamesh Epic

BABYLONIAN	BIBLE
Take the seed of all creatures aboard the ship	Gen. 6:19 And of every living thing of all flesh you shall bring.
I boarded the ship and closed the door.	Gen. 7:1 Come into the Ark Gen. 7:16 The Lord shut him in.
I sent out a dove . . . The dove went, then came back, no resting-place appeared for it, so it returned.	Gen. 8:8 He sent out a dove...But the dove found no resting-place . . . and she returned.
Then I sent out a raven . .it was the waters receding, it ate, it flew about to and fro, it did not return.	Gen. 8:7 He sent out a raven, which kept going to and fro until the waters had dried up from the Earth.
I made a libation on the peak of the mountain.	Gen. 8:20 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord (on the mountain) an