

Creation and Intelligent Design



Week 9

The Flood, Geology, and the Dinosaurs

Greg Nordstrom
Bruce Zupa

*Then the flood came upon the earth...
And all flesh that moved on the earth perished.*

Genesis 7:17, 21



Flood Facts

- More than **270 flood legends** worldwide
 - Most are similar to the **Genesis** account
- Noah's ark built to **float**, not **sail**
 - **Barge-shaped**, not a pointed "boat" shape
 - Greatly increased **cargo capacity**
 - No mast or sails—much less **torsional stress**
- Length-to-width ratio of **6:1**
 - Often used by shipbuilders **today**
 - **Best ratio** for **stability** in stormy weather (God the engineer!)
- Noah told to bring two (or seven) of each **kind**, not **species** or **variety**
 - "Kind" closer to our modern **family** division in taxonomy
 - Would **greatly reduce** number of animals on the Ark
 - Animals have **diversified** into many **varieties** since the Flood
- Noah didn't have to go get the animals
 - God **sent** them to him (Gen 6:20 "...[they] will come to you")



"Those woodpeckers have to go!"



Flood Facts (cont)

- Animals did not need to be full grown, just alive
- Many animals **sleep**, **hibernate**, or become **inactive** in bad weather
- All animals (and people) were **vegetarians** before and during the Flood according to Gen. 1:29-30
 - Food would be easy to **store** for long periods of time
 - Eating **meat** began with **Gen. 9:3**
 - That's when animals were made **afraid** of man
- Bible says highest mountains were covered by **15 cubits of water** (half the Ark's height)
 - The Ark was **safe** from scraping bottom at all times
- Top 3,000 feet of Mt. Everest (26,000-29,000 ft) is **sedimentary rock** packed with **seashells** and other **ocean-dwelling animals**
 - Sedimentary rock found **all over the world**
 - Sedimentary rock is formed in **water**

Flood Facts (cont)

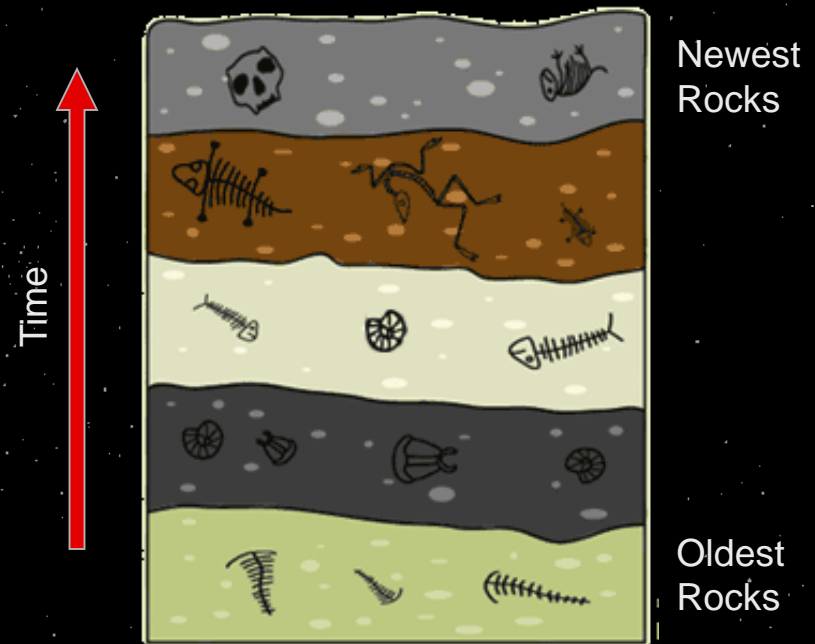
- Enough ocean water today to cover the earth **8,000 feet deep** if the surface of the earth were **smooth**
- Large mountains did not exist until after the Flood when "*the mountains arose; the valleys sank down*" (Ps. 104:5-9, Gen. 8:3-8)
- Two schools of thought about actual site of the Ark
 - Some believe the Ark is on **Mt. Ararat**, covered by snow (CBS documentary on this)
 - Others believe the Ark is seventeen miles south of Mt. Ararat in "**The Valley of Eight**" (8 souls on the Ark)



Mt. Ararat, from Khor Virap Monastery, Armenia

Flood Facts (cont)

- Apparently the continents were not separated until 100-300 years **after the Flood** (Gen. 10:25)
 - People and animals had time to migrate globally
- Bent **rock layers**, **fossil graveyards**, and **poly-strata fossils** are best explained by a **gigantic flood**
- People choose **not** to believe in the Flood because it speaks of God's **judgment** of **sin** (2 Pet. 3:3-8)



Ideal geologic column

Flood Facts (cont)



Why the Flood?

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. The LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them."

Gen 6:5-7

Why Save Noah?

...[God] did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;

2 Pet 2:5

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:16 (NIV)

Very Encouraging!

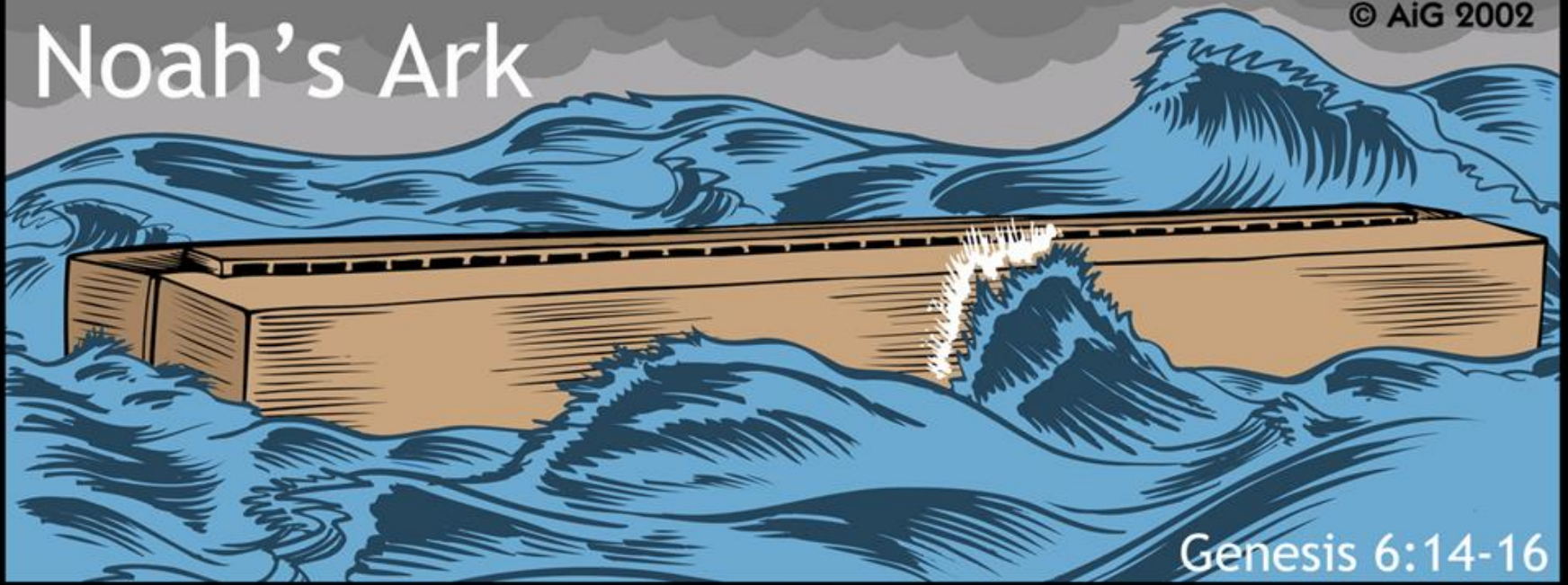
The Ark

- In Hebrew **ark** means **box** or **coffin**, not boat
- Gopher wood (**cypress** or **cedar**)
- **Rooms** inside; **roof** on top
- **Window** one cubit from top
- **Door** on side of ark
- Covered with **pitch**, inside & out
- 300 cubits (437 ft) long
- 50 cubits (73 ft) wide
- 30 cubits (44 ft) high
- Cubit (elbow to finger tip)
 - Commonly 17.5"
 - Babylonian "Royal" cubit: 19.8"
 - "Long" cubit (cubit+handbreadth) of Ezek 43:13 was about 22"
- Three decks below top covering
 - Floor space = 95,700 ft²
 - Total volume of Ark = 1,390,000 ft³



Noah's Ark

© AiG 2002



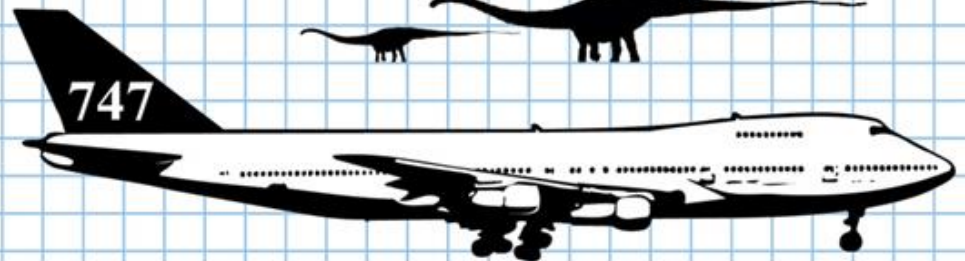
Genesis 6:14-16

437 feet long

73 ft wide



44 ft
high



AiG CREATIONS

www.AnswersInGenesis.org

The Flood

Behold, I, even I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth, to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life, from under heaven; everything that is on the earth shall perish.

Gen 6:17

Arguments against localized flood:

- Ark **size** (or even the *need* for an ark)
- Ark **cargo**
 - Animals scattered over much of the earth by now
 - Only a worldwide flood could destroy them (clearly God's intent)
- **Fossil** record
 - Marine fossils commonly found on mountain tops the world over
- World **geology**
 - Cataclysmic changes to earth can be seen in all parts of globe
- **Scripture** (see Gen 7:21-23)

Noah Told to Fill the Ark

- Male and female of every **kind**
 - “Divinely-established lines of demarcation”
 - **Creeping** things
 - **Birds** of the air (by sevens)
 - **Clean** animals by sevens
 - **Unclean** animals by twos
- Eight people
 - **Noah** and his **wife**
 - Noah’s **sons** and their **wives**
- Could the ark hold all these animals?
 - At **most** 35,000 individual vertebrates
 - “Kind” would require **many less**
 - Kind would diversify into many varieties
 - Enough space for **522 railroad cars!**



- One rail car can hold:
- 25 full-grown cattle,
 - 75 hogs, or
 - 240 sheep (two decks)

Clues in Language

- Classic **Chinese** dates back to 2500 B.C.
- Language uses **pictograms**
 - Symbols and **combinations of symbols**

*making
music*

singing



Happiness



Marital Bliss

Clues in Language

- Classic **Chinese** dates back to 2500 B.C.
- Language uses **pictograms**
 - Symbols and **combinations of symbols**



Clues in Language

- Classic **Chinese** dates back to 2500 B.C.
- Language uses **pictograms**
 - Symbols and combinations of symbols

船

Boat = eight person vessel

園

garden

土 + 口 + 𠂔 + 口 = 園

*dust breath two enclosure garden
persons*

魔

tempter

厶 + 儿 + 田 + ノ = 鬼
secret man garden [alive] devil

鬼 + 林 + 广 = 魔
devil trees cover tempter

義 — Sheep
— I or
me

Righteousness

丿 + 土 + 儿 = 先
alive dust man first

Dinosaurs



Dinosaurs in the Ark?



- Much evidence that dinosaurs lived
 - “*God cannot lie*”
- Key issue: Dinos and man living together
- Old earth
 - Dinos died out long before man appeared
 - John Clayton, others makes a strong case for this
 - Conclusion: No dinosaurs in the Ark
- Young earth
 - Dinosaurs created on day five (ocean) and six (land)
 - Man created on day six--must have lived together!
 - Lyons and Butt, others make a strong case here
 - Conclusion: Dinosaurs in the Ark



Greg, you're not being very helpful here...

Prior to 1990, sauropods were *always* depicted as having smooth backs!



Acambaro Dinosaur Figurines from W. Julsrud collection of 1955 (believed age of figurines is 2500 B.C.)



www.bible.ca



Some of the 11,000+ carved Ica Burial Stones from the Cabrera collection
(The Ica Indians predate the Incas)



www.bible.ca



www.bible.ca



www.bible.ca



www.bible.ca

Stegosaurus?

Ta Prohm Temple Monastery (built 1186 A.D.)

Christians and the Flood

- Flood shows God is willing and able to remove sin from His creation
- Rainbow as a sign of no more floods
- However, earth *will* be destroyed:



But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.

Christians and the Flood

...the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you--not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience--through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

1 Pet 3:20-21

The message of the Flood:

- Be holy in conduct
- Be Godly people
- Look for/forward to the “coming Day of God”
- God can save us from destruction