

REVELATION AND REALITY

*The Issue of Origins:
Biblical, Philosophical and Scientific Perspectives
Concerning
The Truth about What is Real*

**Origins and Reality
according to
*Infallible Scripture and True Science***

Lecture #1. Foundations: The Battle of Authority

Lecture #2. The Primordial Cosmos: Part 1

Lecture #3. The Primordial Cosmos: Part 2

Lecture #4. The Young Solar System

Lecture #5. Carbon-14 Dating and True Science

Lecture #6. Deep Rocks Crush Deep Time

Lecture #7. The Noahic Flood

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Summer 2020

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REVELATION & REALITY ...
... concerning the Flood

Revelation: The Flood –

- ❖ a cataclysmic event of global extent
- ❖ an event described in terms of unique words
- ❖ a unique action of divine judgment
- ❖ an event that occurred ≈ 4400 – 4500 yrs. ago

Reality:

- ❖ Geological evidence abounds of a catastrophic upheaval
 ... an upheaval altering the crust of the planet on a global scale
- ❖ A world-wide destruction of plant and animal life
 occurring less than 6000 yrs. ago
- ❖ Tribal flood legends abound among early cultures ...
 wide-spread legends of cataclysmic destruction by a
 flood of vast scale
- ❖ Rejected as myth by many (most!) in science and the
 humanities ... and, sadly, even by many in theology

The Unique Nature of the Noahic Deluge
The Biblical Description

- ❖ The Noahic Flood is described by a unique Hebrew word in the O.T.

Special word: “*mabbool*” = “a deluge”

“... and never again shall the water become a flood
 (Heb., *mabbool*) to destroy all flesh.” *Gen. 9:15*

General word: “*zerem*” = “a gush of water; overflowing”
 (e.g., *Isa. 28:2*)

- ❖ The Noahic Flood is described by a unique Greek word in the N.T.

“For as in those days which were before the flood (Gr., *kataklusmos*)
 ... until the day Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand
 until the flood (Gr., *kataklusmos*) came and took them all away, ...”

Matt. 24:38-39

“... and [God] did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah,
 a preacher of righteousness, with seven others,
 when He brought a flood (Gr., *kataklusmos*)
 upon the world of the ungodly.” *II Pet. 2:5*

“... the world at that time was destroyed being
flooded (Gr., *katakluzmo*) with water.” *II Pet. 3:6*

“*katakluzmo*” = “to deluge; to dash down and over”

“*kataklusmos*” = “an inundation”

The Global Nature of the Noahic Deluge

The Biblical Description

- ◆ Gen. 6:13. "... The end of *all flesh* has come before Me:
I am about to destroy them *with the earth*."
- ◆ Gen. 6:17. "... I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth,
to destroy *all flesh ... everything* that is
on the earth shall perish."
- ◆ Gen. 7:4. "... I will blot out from the face of the land
every living thing that I have made."
- ◆ Gen. 7:19 "And the water prevailed ... so that *all* the high mountains
everywhere under the heavens were covered."
- ◆ Gen. 7:21-23. "And *all flesh ...* on the earth perished ... and *all mankind*;
and *all* that was on the dry land ... died.
Thus He blotted out *every living thing ...* only Noah was left,
together with those that were with him on the ark."
- ◆ Gen. 8:21. "... I will never again destroy *every living thing*,
as I have done."
- ◆ Isa. 54:9. "For this is like the days of Noah to Me;
when I swore that the waters of Noah
should not *flood the earth* again."
- ◆ Luke 17:26-27. "And just as it happened in the days of Noah
... the flood came and destroyed them all (i.e., all not in the ark)."
- ◆ II Pet. 3:5-6. "... *the world* (the whole earthly biosphere) at that time
was destroyed, being flooded with water."

The Global Nature of the Noahic Flood Arguing from Revelation

- ❖ The Scriptures teach emphatically that the Noahic Deluge was truly global in its extent.

“And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and *all* the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, *were covered.*” *Gen. 7:19* (KJV)

- ❖ The Rainbow Covenant is meaningless if the Noahic Deluge was a local event.

“... *all* flesh shall *never again* be cut off.
... *never again* shall the water become a flood to destroy *all* flesh.” *Gen. 9:8-17*

- ❖ The construction of the ark is useless if the Noahic Deluge was a local event.

Noah was given a 120 yr. period to migrate to a ‘safe’ area. (*Gen. 6:3*)

- ❖ The great size of the ark was unnecessary if all air-breathing animals were not destined for destruction.

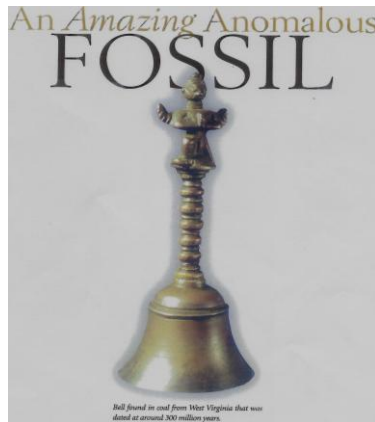
- ❖ The duration of the waters upon the earth is excessive for a ‘local’ disaster.

The ark was afloat for 150 days; and mountains became visible to Noah after 224 days. (see *Gen. 8:3-5*).

- ❖ The Lord Jesus Christ spoke of the Noahic Deluge as a real event of true history. (see *Matt. 24:37-39; Lk. 17:26-27*)

The Global Nature of the Noahic Flood Arguments from Reality

- ❖ ¹⁴C Evidence
 - ◆ global extinction ≈ 4500 – 6000 yrs. ago
- ❖ All Mountain Ranges Show Evidence of a Flood
 - ◆ marine fossils appear on many mountain tops
 - ◆ sedimentary rocks appear at high altitudes above sea level
 - ◆ fossils of land-based animals appear on sea mounts
- ❖ Sedimentary Rocks Abound in the Earth's Crust
 - ◆ most formed underwater or deposited by water
 - ◆ many exhibit layering with gross deformations
(most likely explanation → deformed while soft)
 - ◆ human artifacts are found in sedimentary rocks ... even coal beds



- ❖ Existence of Fossils
 - ◆ vast fossil graveyards distributed widely over earth's surface
 - ◆ preservation of skeletons requires rapid burial
 - ◆ 'inconsistencies' in vertical order abound – evidence of a cataclysmic upheaval + ordering by habitat, mobility, size, etc.
- ❖ Ocean Basins are Young
 - ◆ low volume of sediments in the ocean
 - ◆ low salt (and nickel, etc.) content in the ocean

The Global Necessity of the Noahic Flood Arguments from Population Statistics

Avg. Life Span = 5 gens 5 gens @ 100 yrs/gen [500 yr. life span]	Number of Children per Family 8	# of generations to achieve a population of ≈ 3 billion 15 15 gens @ 100 yrs/gen = 1500 yrs
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Avg. Life Span = 5 gens	Number of Children per Family	Population after 15 generations
	6	42.9 million
	7	405 million
	8	2.86 billion
	9	16.1 billion
	10	76.3 billion

Avg. Life Span = 5 gens	Number of Children per Family	Population after 10 generations
	10	24.4 million
	12	145 million
	14	659 million
	16	2.45 billion
	18	7.85 billion
	20	22.2 billion

A Reflective Consideration:

Per the infallible text of *Gen. 5*, sons were born to families
when the fathers' age ranged from 65 to 500 ... fathering children
over a span in excess of 400 years.

Suppose spouses had a child only every 5 years over a 400 year span,
they would then be progenitors of at least 80 children.

Conclusion: The Flood was by necessity a global cataclysm!

Origin of the Flood Waters

1. Rain

- “floodgates of the sky” (*Gen. 7:11*)
- rained continuously for 40 days & nights (*Gen. 7:12*)
 - ◆ Ques. Rain before the Flood? (*Gen. 2:6*)
 - ◆ Ques. Rainbow before the Flood? (*Gen. 9:13-14*)

Note:

- ❖ present atmosphere → average of 2 inches of H₂O over the surface of earth
- ❖ pre-flood atmosphere → atmospheric stability studies show that the maximum H₂O sustainable in a vapor canopy could not exceed about 3 ft. of water in liquid form

Note:

- ❖ present oceans cover ≈ 70% of earth
- ❖ avg. depth of ocean ≈ 2.4 mi. (≈ 12,600 ft.)
- ❖ avg. height of continents ≈ ½ mi. (≈ 2600 ft.)
- ❖ current oceans contain enough water to cover a flat earth to a depth of ≈ 8800 ft.

“In the 600th year of Noah’s life, in the 2nd month, on the 17th day of the month, on the same day *all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky (windows of heaven) were opened.* And the rain fell upon the earth for 40 days and 40 nights.” *Gen. 7:11-12*

Ques. From whence came all the rain?

40 days + 40 nights @ ½ in. per hr. → 40 ft

Observe:

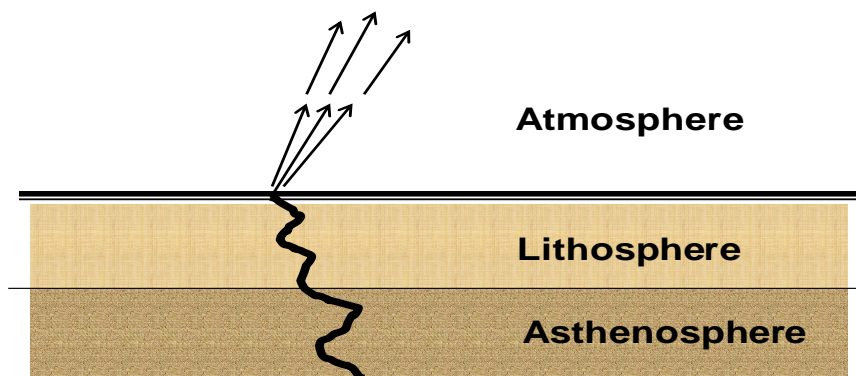
- ❖ “*floodgates of the sky*” is set in a connective position to the “*fountains of the great deep burst open*”

2. Subterranean Waters

- “fountains of the *great deep* burst open” (*Gen. 7:11*)
 - ◆ *Heb. “t^ehom rabbâh”* → great abyss, great depth
 - ◆ “*t^ehom*” → “deep” (*Gen. 1:2*)
 - ◆ “burst open” → broken up (KJV); *lit.*, cleaving open
- “Or who enclosed the sea with doors, when bursting forth, it went from the womb?” (*Job 38:8*)
- “The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; ... By His knowledge the deeps were broken up ...” (*Prov. 3:19-20*)

Ques. From whence came the rain?

Ans. Quite likely from steam jets jetting high into the atmosphere from the cleaved crust of the pre-flood earth – a source of sustained, heavy rainfall of global extent.



Ques. From whence came the water covering the earth?

Ans. From a cleaving of the crust of the earth on a global scale.

The Flood involved a voluminous source of water triggered by a Divine action of stupendous ferocity and global scale

The Receding of the Waters

Ref. Gen. 8:1-5:

- ◆ "... and the water subsided."
- ◆ "... the water receded steadily from the earth"
- ◆ "... the ark rested upon the mountains of Ararat"
- ◆ "... the water decreased steadily ..."

The water level over the continents decreased *rapidly*
(*i.e.*, decreased *rapidly* on geological time scales)

Ref. Ps. 104:5-9:

"The waters were standing above the mountains, ..."

- ◆ "... they fled;"
- ◆ "... they hurried (hasted) away."
- ◆ "The mountains rose; ..."
- ◆ "... the valleys sank down."

The continents and mountains rose up *rapidly* ... and
the ocean basins sank down *rapidly*

Point of fact:

the mountains rose up and the ocean basins
sank down *rapidly* on geologic time scales

Paraphrase of vs. 8: "*The mountains rose up and
great basins sank down.*"

Psalm 104:7-8: Comparison of Translations

NASB	Geneva
<p>"At Thy rebuke they fled; at the sound of Thy thunder they hurried away. The mountains rose; the valleys sank down to the place which Thou didst establish for them."</p>	<p>"But at Thy rebuke they flee: at the voice of Thy thunder they hast away. And the mountains ascend, and the valleys descend to the place which Thou hast established for them."</p>

Psalm 104:8

Hebrew	יָעֲלוּ	הַרִימִים	יַרְדּוֹ	בְּקַעֲוֹתָ
Romanised	ya'alu	hariyim,	yerdu	bheqa'oth
English	rise	mountains,	sink	valleys

*Transliteration and translation of original Hebrew text.
(reading left to right, although Hebrew is read right to left.)*

αναβαινουσιν	ορη	και	καταβαινουσι	πεδια
anabainousin	orē	kai	katabainousi	pedia
rise	mountains	and	sink	valleys

Transliteration and translation of the Greek Septuagint text.

LUTHER'S GERMAN

Die Berge gingen hoch hervor

the mountains went high forth

*und die Täler setzten sich
herunter. . .*

and the valleys put
themselves down

MENGE'S GERMAN

Da stiegen Berge empor

there rose mountains upwards

und Täler senkten sich . . .

and valleys sank
themselves

FRENCH PROTESTANT BIBLE

Les montagnes s'élevèrent

the mountains raised themselves

et les vallées s'abaissèrent

and the valleys lowered
themselves

ITALIAN EDIZIONE PAOLINE

emersero i monti

came forth the mountains

si abbassarono le valli . . .

themselves lowered the valleys

SWEDISH PROTESTANT

Berg höjde sig

mountains raised themselves

och dalar sänkte sig

and valleys lowered themselves

SPANISH REINA VALERA

subieron los montes

rose the mountains

descendieron los valles

descended the hills

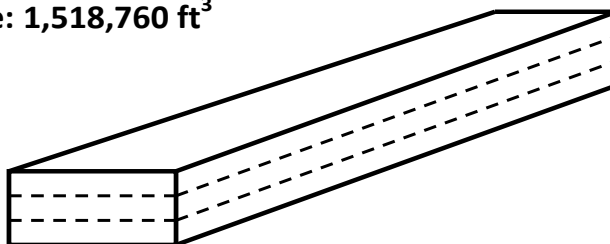
*Some German, French, Italian, Swedish and Spanish
translations, with word-for-word English equivalents.*

The Structure of the Ark

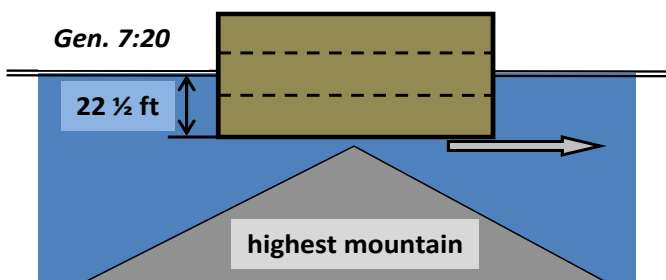
Ref. Gen. 6:15: Dimensions of the Ark (1 cubit ≈ 18 inches)

300 cubits long ... 50 cubits wide ... 30 cubits high
450 ft long 75 ft wide 45 ft high

- ◆ Enclosed Deck Area: 101,250 ft²
- ◆ Enclosed Volume: 1,518,760 ft³

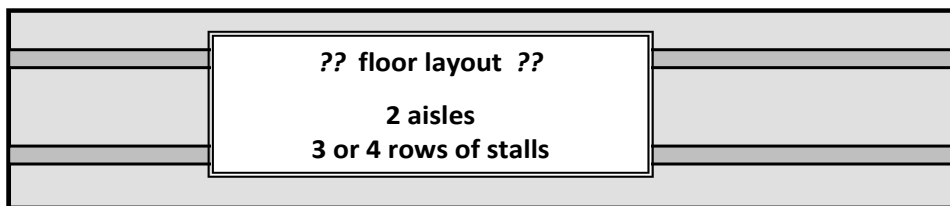


◆ Loaded Weight: 23,692 tons



Volume: ≈ 500 RR cars
 Weight: ≈ 316 RR cars

Plan View



2 aisles ... 6 ft wide 28,350 ft² living space per deck

- ▶ capacity: 567 nests per deck @ 50 ft² per nest (1134 @ double-bunk)
 - ▶ 50 ft² area x 15 ft high = 750 ft³ per nest
 - ▶ estimated average animal size ≤ a small sheep (some estimate the avg. size ≈ a kitten)

Best Estimates: No more than 16,000 animals needed on the ark.

Further Considerations about the Extent of the Flood

Ques. What about the destruction (*alt.*, preservation) of marine life during the Flood?

Ques. How many different 'kinds' of creatures were preserved aboard the ark during 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 will perish.***”
Gen. 6:17

“For after seven more days, I will send rain on the earth 40 days and 40 nights; and I will blot out ***from the face of the land*** every living thing that I have made.”
Gen. 7:4

“All flesh that moved on the earth perished, birds and cattle and beasts and every swarming thing that swarms upon the earth, and all mankind; all that was on the dry land, all in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, died.
Thus He blotted out every living thing that was ***upon the face of the land, ...***”
Gen. 7:21-23

Ans.

- ◆ All kinds that dwelt on “**the face of the earth**” were taken aboard the ark ... all air breathing kinds that “move and have their being” on the land.
- ◆ Marine life was NOT taken aboard the ark – some (substantial) marine life survived in spite of dramatic changes in temperature, salinity and turbidity in the waters.