



Catastrophe: The Flood

Scripture: Genesis 6:5-7:2; Hebrews 11:7; 2 Peter 2:5

It is important, from the standpoint of understanding past history and being able to defend our faith that we understand the events that took place in Noah's day.

- The majority of scientists claim there never was a global flood. They claim that Noah couldn't have fit all the animals on board the ark.
- The "bathtub" image that many have of the Ark may contribute to the rejection of the Bible's account of the flood?
- To the majority of modern intellectuals, Noah is merely a legendary character and the Ark and its animals nothing but a story for children.



There are flood legends from all parts of the world (Most have similarities to the Genesis account)

All over the earth there is evidence of Noah's flood

- The physical feature of the earth's terrain clearly indicates a catastrophic past (canyons, fossils, etc.)

1. God saw the wickedness of man – Genesis 6:5-6

- The wickedness of man was great in the earth (vs.5a)
- Evil thoughts continually (vs.5b)
- The earth was corrupt before God (vs.11a)
- The earth was filled with violence (vs.11b)

The Downward Spiral – Genesis 6:1-5

A. Multiplying on the earth – vs. 1

Long life-spans as indicated in chapter 5 lead to a large increase in the world's population

B. The sons of God and daughters of men – vs. 2-4

Various views as to the sons of God and daughters of men:

- 1- The sons of God were the descendants of the godly line of Seth who co-inhabited (or intermarried) with the descendants of Cain
 - This would have weakened the good influence of the faithful and increased moral depravity in the world
- 2- The sons of God were angels who co-inhabited with women on earth
- 3- The sons of God were powerful rulers who were indwelt by fallen angels

- It may be that fallen angels left their habitation and inhabited bodies of humans, the mighty ones of the earth
- 4- The sons of God were men who were leaders of the day (Chiefs, kings, sheiks and tyrants) and were wicked and violent
- Vs.4 – "Giants" Probably 9 to 10 feet tall

2. God's response – Genesis 6:6b, 7

A. God saw and it grieved Him at His heart – vs. 5, 6, 12

According to Henry Morris - The first mention of the word "heart" occurs here, connecting the evil in man's heart with the grief in God's heart.

B. "It repented the Lord" – vs.6, 7

"Repented" does not imply that God changed His mind, for He is changeless God was sorrowful

C. Judgment – vs. 7,13, 14a - Judgment by the flood

3. The man, Noah – Genesis 6:8

- Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord (vs.8)
- Noah was a just man (vs.9a)
- Noah walked with God (vs.9b)
- Divinely warned by God of things not seen (Hebrews 11:7)
- Noah was a preacher of righteousness – 2 Peter 2:5

4. Confirmation of the historical account of Noah

- The prophet Isaiah wrote of Noah- Isaiah 54:9
- The prophet Ezekiel mentioned Noah – Ezekiel 14:14, 20 (More than 1,700 years after the flood)
- Jesus referred to Noah – Matthew 24:37-39 (About 2,400 years after the flood) He also likened the days before the flood, to what life would be characterized by just before His return.
- Luke lists Noah on the genealogy of Christ- Luke 3:36
- The writer of Hebrews confirmed Noah's existence – Hebrews 11:7
- The Apostle Peter wrote of both Noah and the flood – 2 Peter 2:5

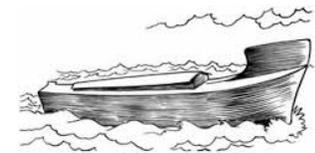


5. Timeline

Year 0 – Creation (Genesis 1, 2)

Year 1056 – Noah was born (Genesis 5)

Year 1536 – Proclamation of judgment by God (Genesis 6:3)



Year 1581-1601 – God instructs Noah to build the Ark and Noah begins building and preaching

Year 1656 – God instructs Noah to prepare to enter the Ark, Noah enters with his family and the animals, God shuts the door, the flood begins

40 Days – Rains fall and fountains of deep break open

110 Days – Water covers the earth, then begins to recede; Ark rests on a mountain

74 Days – Waters continue to decrease; tops of mountains seen

40 Days – Noah sends out a raven, which does not return

7 Days – Noah sends out a dove, which returns

7 Days – Noah sends out a dove, which returns with an olive branch

7 Days – Noah sends out a dove, which does not return

29 Days – Noah removes the cover from the Ark

56 Days – Noah, his family and the animals leave the Ark



Year 1657 – The flood is over; God instructs Noah to leave the Ark

Noah was on the Ark for 371 Days