

THE GREAT GLOBAL FLOOD – PART 4

REMOVING THE FLOODWATERS CONTINUED

The Drying of the Earth

Genesis 8:13-14 ~ Now it came about in the six hundred and first year, in the first month, on the first of the month, the water was dried up from the earth. Then Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and behold, the surface of the ground was dried up. 14 In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry.

- Using another time marker in v. 13 (601st year on first day of first month), the text indicates that the surface of the ground dried up
- Noah removed the “covering” (the roof) of the ark to verify this...and for the first time in nearly a year, he saw dry land
- However, even though the surface was dry, the ground underneath the surface needed more time to dry out
- So, Noah waited another 56 days (601st year on the 27th day of the second month) before leaving the ark
- They had all been on the ark for over a year...377 days...a lesson in patience and waiting on the Lord
- Human nature is to push forward and get beyond the situation...but Noah demonstrated complete trust in God, not knowing how long he would be on the ark
- He serves as an illustration of waiting on the Lord in the face of uncertain circumstances and an unknown future

Disembarking from the Ark

Genesis 8:15-19 ~ Then God spoke to Noah, saying, 16 “Go out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. 17 Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you, birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, that they may breed abundantly on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” 18 So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him. 19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out by their families from the ark.

- At that point, God instructed Noah to exit the ark with his entire family and all the animals
- God “spoke to Noah” (v. 15)...because he was the spiritual leader of his family
- Just as he led his family onto the ark, and led them during the year-long voyage, so too was he to lead them off of the ark
- The animals were to exit the ark and to “be fruitful and multiply on the earth,” the same way in which God blessed them originally to do on day 5 of creation
- This was all part of God’s plan to repopulate the earth after the flood

Genesis 1:22 ~ God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”

- Verse 18 records Noah’s absolute and entire obedience to the Lord’s commands
- This must have been a monumental moment for Noah and his family
- They obeyed God completely...despite whatever fears they might have had entering a new land and an entirely renovated earth
- True faith always obeys God – not reluctantly, but right away, all the way, with a joyful heart

- By this time (over two months since the dove returned with the olive leaf), much vegetation would have sprouted on the post-diluvian world, providing plenty of food for the animals and Noah's family
- "Meat eaters could likewise find food without needing to wipe out other species just off the Ark. For example, they could catch fish trapped in pools left behind by the retreating Floodwaters, as many carnivores will do today. They could also exhume the ample buried carrion – indeed even animals that normally hunt will often prefer carrion to save energy."¹

THE POST FLOOD WORLD

- Although no one recorded what the post-flood world was actually like, it is possible to develop models based on the facts of God's Word and God's world

Significant Changes

- The world after the flood would have looked vastly different than Noah's pre-flood world
- The earth was likely quite unstable due to the massive events of the flood, probably requiring centuries for it to completely settle down
- Supervolcanoes belched ash into the sky and massive earthquakes continued to rock its surface
- The climate of the earth had to transition from being very warm and wet to the more moderate weather we experience today
- The volcanic activity during the flood had probably left the oceans very warm...possibly 86 degrees F in contrast to the 39 degrees F average temperature today
- Warm oceans next to cold continents was a recipe for strong storms
- "[H]ypercanes,' similar to Jupiter's Great Red Spot, persisted for decades. These storms drew water from the oceans and rapidly dumped it onto the land. The water quickly filled the depressions in the continents, and these temporary lakes burst through their barriers, cutting deep canyons in their wake. The intense rains saturated the newly laid sediments, allowing groundwater to blast miles of caves in days."²
- After the animals left the ark, they multiplied and spread out across the entire globe
- Within just a few years, animals reached every continent, including Antarctica, which was still warm
- Descendants of the original pairs ended up on different continents thousands of miles apart, resulting in the great variety within species that we see today
- Each animal kind on the ark had the capacity to produce offspring with different designs to suit them for different environments
- Different species within each kind arose which were perfectly adapted to their environments
- None of that variety is the result of human engineering, but rather the information was all there, right from the beginning
- Continuing catastrophes after the flood also resulted in more animal deaths
- Such deaths resulted in some of the fossils that are seen today

¹ Jonathan Sarfati, *The Genesis Account*, 576.

² <https://answersingenesis.org/geology/catastrophism/post-flood-world/>



POST-FLOOD WORLD . . .

Starting with the facts of God's Word and world, we fashion models to know God and see His truth.

GOD'S WORD

God preserved every kind of land animal on Noah's Ark.

"[Noah] shall bring two of every sort into the ark, to keep them alive . . . of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind" (Genesis 6:19–20).

Every kind of land animal spread over the earth from Noah's Ark.

"Go out of the ark . . . and bring . . . every living thing . . . with you . . . that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth" (Genesis 8:16–17).

After the Flood, catastrophes decreased in destructive power.

"I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you: the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth" (Genesis 9:9–11).

The surviving animals and the rocks tell us about God's handiwork in the past.

"Now ask the beasts, and they will teach you; and the birds of the air, and they will tell you. Or speak to the earth, and it will teach you. . . . Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this?" (Job 12:7–9).

GOD'S WORLD



Declining geological intensity through the Tertiary rock layers.

Today we find evidence of massive volcanoes that deposited thick ash over millions of square miles, earthquakes that moved whole mountain ranges, and massive lakes that drained to carve deep canyons. Amazingly, these geological events follow a clear pattern of declining intensity in the geologic record. From a time of global catastrophe and continent-wide deposits (in the layers known as the Primary and Secondary), we find smaller and smaller catastrophes in the upper layers (known as the Tertiary), until we reach today.



Widespread examples of different species that can interbreed.

Today biologists are discovering that all sorts of animals on different continents can be bred to produce young. For example, Asian camels can breed with South American llamas, African zebras with North American horses, and Bengal tigers with African lions.



Rapid biological change within "kinds."

Archaeological evidence indicates that modern species have been stable and unchanging for nearly four thousand years. Yet plants and animals found in Tertiary sediments show evidence of rapid changes.

Consider horses as an example. The lowest fossil is a horse, but it is unlike any horse species alive today. The same is true for many other "kinds," such as camels, elephants, palm trees, and oaks. In each case, new species appear suddenly with a full set of complex designs and no evidence of "transition" from other species. These well-designed species then disappear.

No current, slow biological processes could explain such a pattern. But it is consistent with a brief time of transition after the Flood, when God's created designs were revealed in rapid succession to fill the earth and restore creation's diversity.

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The Ice Age

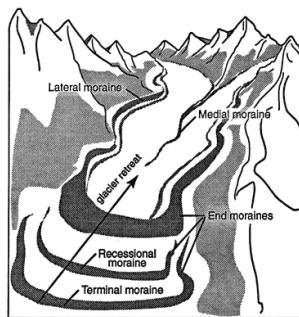
- Much evidence exists that there was an Ice Age, where there was extensive glacial activity when more of the land was covered in ice
- It appears that an ice sheet covered 30% of the land surface at one point, including almost all of Canada and the northern US
- Many geological features point to such an ice age



³ <https://answersingenesis.org/geology/catastrophism/post-flood-world/>



Lateral moraines



Terminal moraines



Glacial striation

- The present-day glaciers and two great ice caps (Greenland and Antarctica) are remnants of this ice age
- Some 4 million square miles of North America and 2 million square miles of Europe show evidence of glaciation
- Also, thousands of valley glaciers existed in mountains where today there are none

The Secular View of the Ice Age

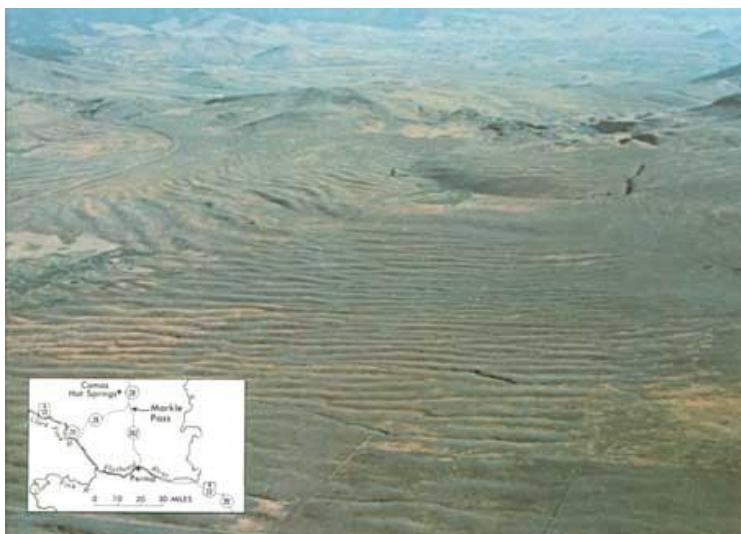
- Uniformitarian scientists vary in their beliefs concerning the number of ice ages
- They range from holding to four ice ages during the past few million years to 30 or more ice ages
- They hold that each ice age over the past 800,000 years lasted about 100,000 years
- Additionally, they believe that there were four “ancient ice ages” occurring hundreds of millions to several billion years ago, with each ice age lasting tens to hundreds of millions of years
- As a result, most secular scientists hold to the idea of multiple ice ages
- Despite proposing dozens of hypotheses, no uniformitarian model accurately accounts for the ice age
- “Evolutionists find the cause of the Ice Age a mystery. Obviously the climate would need to be colder. But global cooling by itself is not enough, because then there would be less evaporation, so less snow to form the glacial ice sheets. How is it possible to have both a cold climate and much evaporation?”⁴

The Biblical View of the Ice Age

- There are a couple possible references to the ice age in the Bible
 - Job 37:10** ~ From the breath of God ice is made, And the expanse of the waters is frozen.
 - Job 38:22** ~ Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, Or have you seen the storehouses of the hail
- Creationists have proposed that the Ice Age was triggered by the flood and resulted in only one Ice Age, rather than many
- The flood could have resulted in two ingredients required for an Ice Age:
 - **Tons of Precipitation/Snow** – When all the “fountains of the deep” broke up, much hot water and lava would have poured directly into the oceans, significantly warming them and greatly increasing evaporation

⁴ Jonathan Sarfati, *The Genesis Account*, 587.

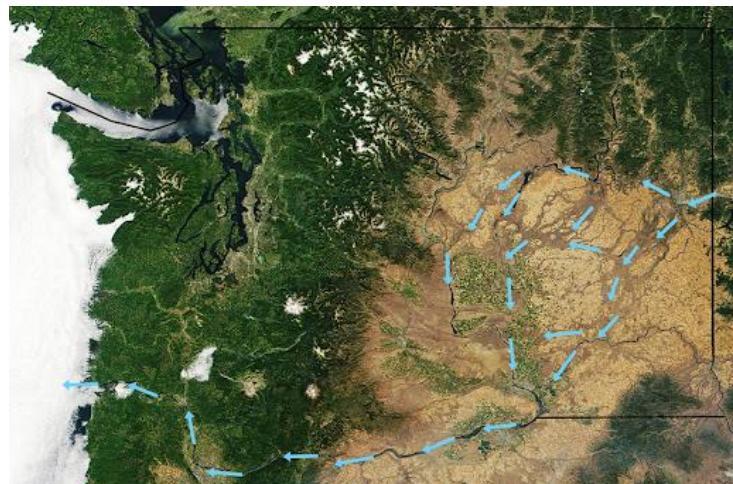
- **Cool Temperatures** – Huge volcanic eruptions would have released massive amounts of ash and gas into the air after the flood which would have blocked out much of the sunlight, cooling the land
 - ➔ The eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in the Philippines on June 15, 1991 illustrated the cooling effect of volcanoes. It was one of the largest eruptions in modern history, estimated at being 10 times larger than the 1980 eruption of Mt. St. Helens. It ejected 2.4 cubic miles of matter into the atmosphere and sent up an ash cloud 13 miles high. It also forced 15-30 tons of sulfur dioxide into the stratosphere where it reacted with water and oxygen to form sulfuric acid which stayed in aerosol form for about three years. Both the ash and acid reduced the level of sunlight reaching the earth's surface by about 10% and dropped the average global temperature over the next two years 0.7 degrees F.
- “So the Flood would have produced the necessary combination of lots of evaporation from the warmed oceans and cool continental climate from the volcanic ash and aerosol ‘sunblock.’ This would have resulted in increased snowfall over the continents. With the snow falling faster than it melted, ice sheets would have built up. This ice buildup would probably have lasted several centuries.”⁵
- This ice buildup would have likely been thousands of feet, if not miles, thick
- In North America this ice surged under its own weight, spreading out and scraping the earth’s surface
- The ice age eventually came to an end when the seas gradually cooled, resulting in much less evaporation
- At the same time, as the ash settled out of the atmosphere, it would allow sunlight through, warming the earth and creating less snowfall
- Thus, the ice sheets began to melt, starting about 500 years after the flood
- This would have resulted in large lakes, which would have been contained by natural ice dams for a while
- Eventually, though, the ice dams would break and huge torrents of water would have burst through
- Such catastrophic water flows would have had tremendous destructive power
- Probably one of the greatest examples of this was likely what happened when ancient Lake Missoula broke through an ice dam in Idaho, releasing 500 cubic miles of water, an amount of water 10 times that of all the rivers in the whole world



- Glacial Lake Missoula was formed when water built up behind a 2,500 foot ice dam in N. Idaho, forming a lake covering 3,000 square miles (containing as much water as Lake Erie and Ontario combined)
- When the water reached a depth of about 2,000 feet, the ice dam catastrophically failed
- At a rate of 386 million cubic feet per second (60 times that of the Amazon), the lake would have drained in only a few days
- Water moving at 30 to 50 miles per hour raced across eastern WA and northern Oregon on their 430-mile journey to the Pacific Ocean
- It eroded 50 cubic miles of sediment and bedrock and carved the Channeled Scablands in eastern WA, creating the Grand Coulee (60 miles long, 1-6 miles wide, up to 900 feet deep) and the Columbia River gorge

⁵ Ibid., 587.

- The catastrophic floodwaters carved an immense channel system across eastern WA
- Most of eastern WA is either farmland or mountains, but there are large swaths of the landscape where only barren bedrock is seen
- These “scablands” are not suitable for farming
- They are known as the "Channeled Scablands" because they are crisscrossed by long channels cut through hard basalt and granite



- This was first theorized by a geologist named J Harlen Bretz in 1923
- His theory was very controversial and other geologists thought he was nuts
- It was not until the early 1970's that his mega flood theory was finally accepted, with the help of NASA's satellite imagery that clearly revealed the network of channels carved out by the mega floods
- In addition to the network of channels, the most dramatic evidence of the Missoula Floods is Dry Falls and Palouse Falls



- “Although a major mystery of uniformitarian history, the Ice Age is readily explained by the climatic consequences of the Genesis Flood – it was a short Ice Age of About 700 years, and there was only one Ice Age. We do not need the hundred thousand years for one ice age, or the few million years for multiple ice ages, as claimed by uniformitarian scientists.”⁶

The Wooly Mammoth

- Millions of mammoth remains have been found in Siberia, Alaska, and the Yukon Territory
- Mammoths were a variety of elephant adapted to cold environments
- They likely lived and died during the post-Flood ice age
- “[T]here must have been sufficient time for the mammoths to have repopulated these regions after the Flood. The post-Flood Ice Age provides an explanation for the mystery of the woolly mammoths, as well as many other Ice Age mysteries. The mammoths spread into these northern areas during early and middle Ice Age time because summers were cooler and winters warmer. The areas were unglaciated (just the mountains glaciated) and a rich grassland. However, late in the Ice Age, winter temperatures turned colder and the climate drier with strong wind storms. The mammoths died by the millions and were buried by dust, which later froze, preserving the mammoths.”⁷

⁶ <https://answersingenesis.org/environmental-science/ice-age/where-does-the-ice-age-fit/>

⁷ Ibid.