

The Great Flood

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The three greatest events so far in the history of the world are:

1. Creation
2. The Great Flood
3. The first coming of Jesus

What was the first miracle that Jesus performed?

Answer; The creation of the world

What similarities / applications are there to end times?

Matt 24: 37 – 39 *As in the days of Noah, so will the world be at the time of His coming. As God saved Noah from the disaster, He will save us.*

2 Peter 3:5-6 (This is speaking about mockers in the last days.)

But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.

Background to The Great Flood

Genesis 1:31 *God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.*

But 1500 years after the creation we read that there was evil on the earth.

The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. (Genesis 6:5)

Noah was the only righteous person.

Noah found grace / favour in the eyes of the Lord. (Gen 6:8)

At this time Noah was 500 years old.

(Why did people live longer in those days? There was a progressive shortening of the life span from Adam onwards.)

Noah was 600 years old when he finished building the ark.

People ask: How could ancient people build such a massive structure?

History records many structures built by ancient people, e.g., Tubal-cai. See Wikipedia:

Genesis 4:22 says that Tubal-cain was the *"forger of all instruments of bronze and iron" (ESV) or an "instructor of every artificer in brass and iron" (KJV).*"

Other mighty structures: The pyramids; buildings of the Romans

Today we are riding on the back of 4,500 years of inventions. Technology is where it is today because of past knowledge.

The structure of the ark

- Made from gopher wood
- Made of processed solid ply wood
- Around 2000 BC shipwrecks were found that had used this process.
- Very strong
- War ships made in this way could ram through the enemy.

Size:

- Many rooms
- The size of 3 Olympic swimming pools connected end to end
- The height of a five-storey building
- 3 levels
- Plenty of height for the tall animals
- Would fit 54 of Captain Cook's Endeavour ship inside
- It had no sail because it was not going anywhere. (The whole earth would be covered with water).
- Would fit 125,000 sheep inside

Stability

- Stable in up to 350 km per hour winds
- More stable than the minimum requirements of US naval shipping
- The top level was for living (better ventilation and light)
- The other levels were for animals and food storage
- Ancient peoples were very good at preserving food

What went inside?

- Two of every kind of land animal
- Seven of every clean animal

Note: every KIND, not breed, therefore, only one wolf-like dog, only one type of cat etc.

The variety of animals we have today come from the large gene pool of animals that lived closer in time to the creation. Many animals on earth today have come about through adaption, (e.g., only the ones with the thickest fur survived in cold climates)

Only 11% of the animals aboard the ark were larger than sheep. The rest were babies or juveniles.

How did Noah take dinosaurs and dangerous animals like crocodiles aboard?

Answer: They were baby animals.

Two miracles

When Noah was 600 years old the Flood came. The ark was ready. God did two miracles:

1. He brought the animals to Noah.
2. God shut the door.

The catastrophe

Volcanoes and earthquakes were happening simultaneously
The earth's surface was torn apart.

Fast moving waters laid down sediments RAPIDLY. We see the evidence of this today in geological sites such as the Grand Canyon, which is 12 straight pancake layers, running for hundreds of kilometers. The layers were laid down *rapidly*, (*and not slowly* over millions of years). These layers were soft and wet, folding over like plasticine. If these layers had developed over millions of years, we would see erosion. But there is no evidence of it. Normally soft rock erodes over time. For example, the white cliffs on the south-east English coast are eroding at a rate of 1 metre per year. In 1 million years they would have eroded 1 million metres, (10,000 km). With 40 million years' worth of erosion there would be no England left!

How much of the earth was covered?

The Bible says that the mountain tops were covered.
Sea shell fossils are found today on the Himalayas as evidence.

Where did all the water go?

After 371 days God told Noah to leave the ark.
The water went into the deep valleys, which became the sea, leaving dry land.

World population

God said, "Be fruitful and multiply".
The earth's population today: 8 billion (2022)
If the human race had been around for millions of years the population would be much greater – at least 19,402 billion. The Biblical evidence supports the world population figure as it is today.

Evidence of a World-wide flood

Billions of fossils have been found, on a world-wide scale. For example:

- Jelly fish perfectly preserved (soft tissue)
- Fish buried alive, with some fossils found in the process of eating other fish
- One fossil of an ichthyosaur giving birth has been found
- Dinosaur bones found with soft tissue.

Fossils can be formed fast, and do not necessarily have to be formed over a long period of time.





What happened to the dinosaurs?

They became extinct like many other animals.

Genesis is history

What does Jesus say about the beginning of the world?

Mark 10:6

"But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.'

Adam was there at the beginning.

When we add millions of years prior to the 6,000 years that Bible history records, there are complications.

Do we believe that God could make the world in just six 24-hour days?

Do we believe the miracle of the feeding of the 5000?

Jesus produced fish ready to eat in seconds. He didn't need time to watch the fish grow and then cook it before giving it out.

What can we learn from the ark?

Noah was kept safe but the people outside the ark were not.

There was one door into the ark. Jesus said, *"I am the door, by me if any man enters, he shall be saved"*. John 10:9

The cross is the door into the ark. Our sins are washed away.

The boat had 3 levels which could represent:

Father

Son

Holy Spirit

The door was on the second level. (The Son)

Look at the ancient Chinese characters that make the word for boat. How would you explain this?

船

boat

舟 八 口
vessel eight people

The Discovery of Genesis, C.H. Keeg and Ethel Nelson, p. 35