

4 Questions about the Genesis Flood & Noah's Ark

- 1) Why would God send a flood? It seems like overkill.
- 2) Was it a global flood?
- 3) Where did all the water go?
- 4) How did all the animals fit into the Ark?

In the Beginning...

Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

“...it was good.”

“God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and morning, the sixth day” (Genesis 1:31).

Creation, Fall, Judgment, Redemption

Gen. 1 - God creates the Universe ex nihilo

Gen. 2 - (6th day) God provides Adam with Eve 'the mother of all living' (3:20)

Gen. 3 - Satan tempts, mankind falls

Gen. 4 - Cain murders Abel & God begins to Redeem (4:25-26)

Gen. 5 - Genealogy

Gen. 6 - Man's wickedness increases exponentially & God declares judgment (all Hell breaks loose)

Gen. 7 - The Flood comes, only 8 survive

Gen. 8 - The Flood subsides

Gen. 9 - God vows never to send another Flood

Flood Legends: Epic of Gilgamesh

As noted above, the flood accounts in the Gilgamesh Epic and Genesis have many common elements. Merrill F. Unger proposes that both accounts share the following characteristics:

- (1) state that the deluge was divinely planned,
- (2) agree that the impending catastrophe was divinely revealed to the hero of the deluge,
- (3) connect the deluge with defection in the human race,

Flood Legends: Epic of Gilgamesh

- (4) tell of the deliverance of the hero and his family,
- (5) assert that the hero of the deluge was divinely instructed to build a huge boat to preserve life,
- (6) indicate the physical causes of the flood,
- (7) specify the duration of the flood,
- (8) name the landing place of the boat,
- (9) tell of the sending forth of birds at certain intervals to ascertain the decrease of the waters,

Flood Legends: Epic of Gilgamesh

- (10) describe acts of worship by the hero after his deliverance, and
- (11) allude to the bestowment of special blessings upon the hero after the disaster.

Merrill F. Unger, *Archaeology and the Old Testament*, 3rd ed., Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, pp. 55-65, 1956; in Whitcomb and Morris, p. 38. <http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/csggeg/the-flood-accounts>

K.A. Kitchen: A series of basic general similarities suggests a definite relationship between the two traditions; but there are also many detailed differences.

K.A. Kitchen, *Ancient Orient and Old Testament*, Inter-Varsity Press, 1966; reprint, Wipf and Stock Publishers, Eugene, p. 90, 2001.

<http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/csggeg/the-flood-accounts>

Flood Legends from Around the World

Check out these links:

www.rockymountbaptistchurch.com/questions/science.html

www.nwcreation.net/noahlegends.html

Flood Legends Around the World

- Greek: Zeus destroyed the wicked human race except for 2 people
- Babylonian Enuma Elish: The gods sent a flood - only one family survived
- Epic of Gilgamesh: “When the seventh day arrived, I sent out a dove. The dove went out, but came back. There was no resting place.”

1. Why send the Flood? *Overkill?*



1. Why send the Flood? Overkill?

*“Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight, and the earth was filled with violence.
12 And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. 13 And God said to Noah, “I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 Make yourself an ark...” (Gen. 6:11-14a)*

*1. Why send the Flood **Overkill?***

- God is holy and hates sin (Gen. 6:6; Isaiah 6:3; Revelation 21:8).
- God is just and will punish sin (Ex. 23:7).
- God does not tempt or cause anyone to sin (James 1:13-15).

Q#1 Could it be that our own sin, as well as our culture that excuses sin, has diluted our sense of justice?

Q#2 Could it be that God's sense of justice is more refined than ours?

Clay Jones, "We don't Hate Sin so we don't Understand What Happened to the Canaanites"

"Skeptics challenge God's fairness for ordering Israel to destroy the Canaanites, but a close look at the horror of Canaanite sinfulness, the corruptive and seductive power of their sin as seen in the Canaanization of Israel, and God's subsequently instituting Israel's own destruction because of Israel's committing Canaanite sin reveals that God was just in His ordering the Canaanite's destruction. But Western culture's embrace of "Canaanite sin" inoculates it against the seriousness of that sin and so renders it incapable of responding to Canaanite sin with the appropriate moral outrage.?"

Fact: What we find when we dig...

...Billions of dead things

Q# How do fossils form?

- a. Millions of years
- b. Quick burial

“Are Fossils the Result of Noah’s Flood?” by Dr. John Morris

<http://www.icr.org/article/are-fossils-result-noahs-flood/>

<http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/am/v6/n4/fast-formed-fossils>



Dinosaur Graveyard
Bighorn, Wyoming





**Tree in sedimentary
strata,
Sydney Harbor,
Nova Scotia.**



*Bear Valley Strip Mine,
Northumberland County, PA*



Cumberland Basin, Nova Scotia



Process of petrifying

Mother Shipton's well in North Yorkshire, England. "it takes about 3 months to turn a small teddy bear into stone."

England's oldest tourist attraction, opening in 1630.

www.mothershiptonscave.com



Eruption of Mount St. Helens

May 18, 1980



**“The Mount St. Helens
erupted in Washington
state produced 25 feet (7.6
meters) of finely layered
sediment in a *single
afternoon!*”** [\[1\]](#)

[\[1\]](#) S.A. Austin, “Mount St. Helens and Catastrophism,” *Proceedings of the First International Conference on Creationism*, 1:3-9, ed. R.E. Walsh, R.S. Crowell, Creation Science Fellowship, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, 1986; for a simplified article, see K. Ham, “I Got Excited at Mount St. Helens!” *Creation*, 15(3):14-19, June—August 1993. Cited from Jonathan Sarfati, *Refuting Evolution* (Green Forest: Master Books, 2003), 105.

“Up to 400 feet thickness of strata have formed since 1980 at Mount St. Helens. These deposits accumulated from primary air blast, landslide, waves on the lake, pyroclastic flows, mudflows, air fall, and stream water.”

“Polystrate Fossil. Fossils crossing two or more sedimentary layers (strata) are called *poly* (many) *strate* (strata) fossils. Consider how quickly this tree trunk in Germany must have been buried. Had it been slowly, its top would have decayed. Obviously, the tree could not have grown up through the strata without sunlight and air. The only alternative is **rapid burial**. Some Polystrate trees are upside down, which could occur in a large flood. Soon after Mount St. Helens erupted in 1980, scientists saw trees being buried in a similar way in the lake-bottom sediments of Spirit Lake. Polystrate tree trunks are found worldwide. (Notice the one-meter scale bar, equal to 3.28 feet, in the center of the picture.)”

Polystrate fossil







2. Local or Worldwide Flood?

- Hugh Ross - Advocates a local flood
“In other words, God required Noah to consume 120 years of his life building a huge boat to save representative animals which really didn’t need to be saved. Most, if not all, of these animals were alive and well in other parts of the world.”

(<http://www.christiananswers.net/q-eden/edn-c014.html>)

If the Flood was local...

- 1) Why tell Noah to build such a big Ark?
- 2) Why didn't God just tell Noah to move?
- 3) Why put animals in the Ark? They undoubtedly had populated other areas.
- 4) Why birds in the Ark? Why not fly away?
- 5) Local flood for 1 year & 10 days? (Gen. 7:11; 8:14).
- 6) Why would God promise & then break His promise? Many local floods since then.

Adapted from Ken Ham, *The Revised & Expanded Answers Book* (Green Forest, AR: Master Books, 2002), 149-158.

3. Where did all the water go?

Objection: But a worldwide flood would be impossible today

Rebuttal: How do you know that the topography of the earth is the same now as it was then?

- **Presupposition of “Uniformitarianism”**
- **Uniformitarianism - “The Present is the Key to the Past”** <http://www.uniformitarianism.net/>
- **Catastrophism - “Catastrophism is the idea that many of Earth’s crustal features (strata layers, erosion, polystrate fossils, etc) formed as a result of past cataclysmic activity.”**

<http://www.catastrophism.net/>

YOUR LADY GOT PMS?



WHAT TO DO

PRAY TO GOD

MOVE OUT THE WAY

SLEEP ON THE SOFA

9000.com

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTRY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Catastrophism

Uniformitarianism - Catastrophism

“Uniformitarianism, together with the Geologic Column presupposed by Lyell based on uniformity, have been disproved by geologic features such as poly-strata fossils, misplaced fossils, missing layers and misplaced layers (including layers in reverse order or "ancient" layers found above "modern" layers). Furthermore, observed cataclysmic events such as the eruption of Mt. St. Helens in 1980 have validated Catastrophism, which is contrary to Uniformitarianism. We now know that catastrophe has had a significant role in forming Earth's currently observable features.”

<http://www.uniformitarianism.net/>

Noah's Flood

Genesis 7:18-19 *“The water prevailed and increased greatly upon the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. The water prevailed more and more upon the earth, so that all the high mountains were covered.”*

What about Mount Everest?

- 29035 ft above sea level

<http://www.mnteverest.net/history.html>



What about Mt. Everest?

“He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved. 6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. 7 At your rebuke they fled; at the sound of your thunder they took to flight. 8 The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place that you appointed for them. 9 You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.” (Psalm 104:5-9)