

Christian Action Ministry Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

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The Creation Museum and Ark Encounter

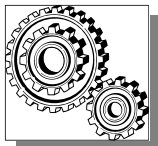
By
Dick Trudell

Where did the water come from in Noah's Flood?

*An analysis of where it could
have come from to cover the
entire world*

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**In the
Works**

What does the fossil record show?

Are you interested in becoming involved? CAM is looking for interested and active people to act as liaisons to their church, helping to keep the Christian community informed. Contact CAM at 372-6442.

If you didn't know it, Noah's Ark has been located near Mt. Ararat in Turkey. Scientific tests (ground radar) and photogrammetrics have verified that a large wooden structure shaped like a boat having the dimension noted in the Bible is there. The Ark's ribs are clearly seen. Metal components and a fossilized part of the hull were analyzed by duplicate laboratories and found to be consistent.

See YouTube's Revealing Gods Treasures - Noah's Ark (www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PSZNYdfawQ) and the Wyatt Archeological Research film (www.youtube.com/watch?v=h7MNo5ASK5s) for convincing evidence and more information. I recommend you look at these after you read this article, and I'm sure you will be as convinced as I am that Noah's Ark has been found.

When I was in grade school in South Burlington, one of my science teachers was also a talented artist on the chalkboard (some of you from South Burlington may remember him). He would draw pictures of plant and animal life from different prehistoric periods. Growing up we heard about fossil records, saw dinosaur bones put together into huge exhibits in museums, read about Carbon 14 dating, and were exposed to many scientists fleshing out the Theory of Evolution, including "our ancestors evolved from apes". That was the common scientific knowledge based on the Darwinian theory of natural selection and transmutation (one species changing into a different species). But occasionally we heard reports about another way of looking at the world – Creationism or Intelli-

gent Design and the voices of people trying to reconcile the two theories (i.e. God created the world in six very long days; time to God is not the same as time to us; Noah's Flood was only a local event etc.). Most people cannot reconcile the vast differences and go along to get along with the Theory of Evolution. Those who profess the Bible is God's word and is true, aren't equipped to argue with the crowds that are thoroughly convinced we started as elements in the primordial slime, or think humanity is the result of life brought by ancient space aliens who visited earth. So if you believe the Bible is the word of God, what can you do to reconcile those divergent beliefs?

In November my wife, Kay, and I took a trip to see the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter in Kentucky. Both

sites (they are 30 miles apart) were developed by Answers in Genesis who describe themselves thusly: *AiG is not a creation vs. evolution ministry. AiG is about reaching our lost world and building up the faith of Christians by defending the authority of God's word where it is being attacked today.*

When you first enter the Creation Museum, you are greeted by a large replica of a dinosaur (they were created on Day 6).

Dinosaurs are on display in the Creation Museum



I was amazed at the quality of

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Genesis 1:1&2

the exhibits, the thought and research that went into the reasoned arguments for Creation, and the careful approach they took to describe Creation for those visiting the site.

Adam & Eve in the Garden of Eden



The Creation Museum begins with a *Walk through History*, taking us through creation as defined in the Book of Genesis: the fall of man in the Garden, evil in the world, Noah’s Ark, the Flood, Tower of Babel, age of the earth, fossils, theory of evolution, and redemption through Christ. There are several other exhibits and walking trails/gardens on site. It takes about two days to see the Creation Museum if you want to get something out of it, and three days if you really want to experience and see it all, because there is so much information there.

One of the most popular exhibits in the Creation Museum was the display about Noah’s Ark. This led Answers in Genesis to consider building a full scale

replica of the Ark to show how Noah could have done what the book of Genesis describes.

I was fascinated by how much research and thought went into the analysis of how it could be done with the skills and technology of the period.

First, God told Noah how big to make it (300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high) and to provide for two of every **sort (kind)** of animal (and six of “clean” animals), **not** two of every animal. That is an important distinction. Instead of two greyhounds, two beagles, two poodles, etc., Noah had to provide for two dogs (from which all dogs are descended), two horses, two pigs and so forth. In 2012 the number of animals was determined to be 6744 based on current kinds and those known to be extinct. Of course God probably sent immature (think small) animals to Noah. The Ark Encounter was designed for 7,000 animals.

Noah working out details



The Ark is 510 ft. long , 85 ft. wide, 50ft.wide



The ark is massive and is noted as being the largest wood frame structure in the world. Amish builders, with their ex-

Me at the stern to give a sense of scale



pertise in large wood frame buildings, were used to assemble the frame. Having no propulsion system, a large wooden sail was located on the bow and a bulbous sea anchor on the stern. This was to keep the ark parallel with the wind direction and perpendicular to the waves so it would not swamp.

The frame of the ark inside consists of two rows of 4-foot diameter logs placed vertically in the center with timber framing attached on each side to which the curved ribs of the hull were fastened. Based on historical records of building wooden ships, the hull was likely assembled with three layers of wood planks, and coated with pitch on all sides for water proofing (*see the cut-away section on page 3*).

Inside the Ark, there are many design features incorporated that answer the question of how Noah could have done it. The roof area has sufficient area to collect water, with only 1-inch of rain per week needed to keep the cistern full. A system of piping brought water to the animal cages, and storage bowls (similar to bird feeders), let new water into the drinking troughs as it was being used. Cages were arranged on three decks to accommodate over 7,000 animals. The cages had slanted bottoms to collect waste and all of it eventually went to the lower deck where it was lifted by a bucket system



The different design features noted for Noah’s Ark are from analysis by Answers in Genesis to show it could have been done in that time. Noah may have done things differently.

to be discharged to a moon pool (*more on moon pools below*). The two rows of vertical logs noted above, separated by an open area between them, facilitated ventilation.

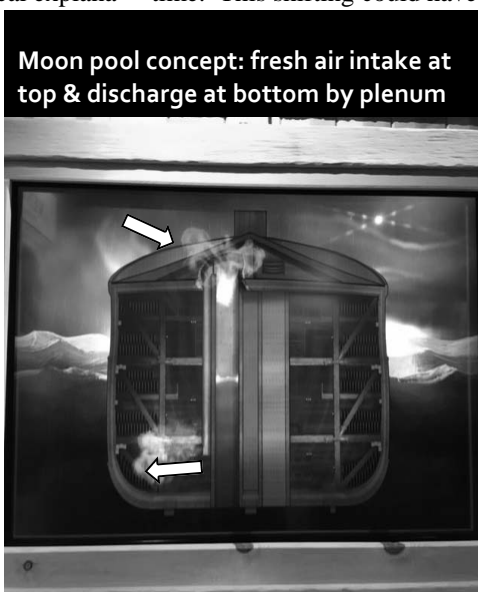


A moon pool is a shaft that runs from the top of Ark to the bottom and is open to the sea at the bottom (think of an elevator shaft with no doors, open at the bottom with hinged louvres at the top). As the Ark rose on the waves, air would be drawn into the top louvres; and as it fell on the waves, a different set of louvres would open and discharge fresh air into the Ark through a plenum where it would be distributed through the ship. This same concept was used to discharge waste

through the bottom of the moon pool into the sea, since the pool was continually being flushed by the rise and fall of the Ark on the waves.

So what is the logical explanation of the Flood that can be supported by the Bible? The reason for the Flood is found in Genesis 6:5 when God "... saw that the wickedness of man was great, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." God said in Genesis 6:7, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast." So the evil of man was the cause of the Flood. But Noah was righteous and God gave him instructions about an Ark and which animals to take, so a fresh start could be made. Earlier in Genesis 1:9 on Day 3 God had said, "Let the water under the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear; and it was so." If the water was all in one place, then logically all land had to be in another place. Geologists call this land a supercontinent called Pangea. They theorize that slowly over ages the continents drifted apart, reformed other supercontinents, and

drifted apart again. So if God can create the world with His "Let there be ...", surely He can cause a catastrophic shift in the tectonic plates, happening in a matter of days, not eons of time. This shifting could have



Moon pool concept: fresh air intake at top & discharge at bottom by plenum

lowered the earth portion causing the water to flood over the land, or raise the ocean based plates to cascade water over the land, or a combination. Cracks in the plates (think massively long volcanos) would release magna into the water causing steam to rise and form clouds of rain (think 40 days and nights).

The secular world treats the story of Noah and the Flood as a children's fairy tale, usually depicting the Ark as a small tug-like boat with an elephant and giraffe inside with their heads sticking out the window.

We were delighted to see a serious approach, backed by reasoned thought, and being true to the Biblical account. It was definitely a faith-building visit. We also were fascinated with the fossil and archeological evidence presented, supporting a catastrophic event (the Flood), which will be discussed in another issue.

At the bottom of this page is another interesting display in the Creation Museum. It is "Lucy", purported by Evolutionists to be our earliest known ancestor who stood upright at 3 1/2 feet tall. The first picture below shows the actual bones that were found, the second and third are reconstructions done by those who believe Lucy is our ancestor, and the fourth is a reconstruction done by Answers in Genesis. The first and fourth pictures are featured at the Creation Museum.

Evolutionists and Creationists view the same data, but their different belief systems produce different conclusions.

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What can I do?



*Faith without
works is dead*
James 2:17

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Where did the water come from in Noah's Flood?

The author of this issue, being an engineer, did some calculations on the amount of water needed to cover the mountains of Ararat. Of course I had to make some assumptions, namely the earth is the same size today as in Noah's time, and the volume of land above sea level today is the same as the land volume in the Pangea supercontinent before it split up. The internet gave me statistics for today. The surface area of the earth is 196.9 million sq. miles and is 71% water, leaving 51.1 million sq. miles of land. The average elevation of all the land mass is 0.256 miles above sea level. Using these values, the volume of the land above sea level is 13.08 million cubic miles. The current height of Mt. Ararat is 3.19 miles above sea level. Mt. Ararat is a volcano and likely of lower elevation in Noah's day, but the current height was used. The volume in the land area between sea level and Mt. Ararat's present elevation is 163.0 million cubic miles. Subtracting the land volume leaves 149.9 million cubic miles of water that had to come from somewhere. But where? The depth of water in today's ocean area to equal this volume is 0.76 miles or 4020 feet. Mt. Mansfield in Vermont is 4393 feet in elevation. If God shifted the tectonic plate of the supercontinent Pangea downward the height of Mt. Mansfield, the entire planet would be covered with water. Alternatively, if the plates under the ocean were shifted upward approximately 500 feet, the result would be similar because of the ratio of water to land. If God created the world, He could shift the plates or do whatever He wanted to in order to flood the entire world.

The answer: the water was already there. God simply dispersed it differently.

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Next Meetings

January 9, 7:00 pm
Parkinson home
Hinesburg, Vt.
February 13, 7:00 pm
Parkinson home
Hinesburg, Vt.

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