

THE FLOOD

Topic: The Flood

Discuss and Summarize the Secular Worldview:

Sample Summary: There's been no global flood because there's not enough water in the oceans for one. Sediment rock layers were laid down from local flood events that happened over millions of years. No boat could hold the millions of species of creatures across the world (see Fitting Animals on the Ark topic card).

Discuss and Summarize the Christian Worldview:

Sample Summary: The world became so wicked that God destroyed all the people and air breathing animals on land except for Noah, his family, and the animals (including dinosaurs) on the ark. The fountains of the deep (volcanic and deep water deposits) were released and it rained for 40 days and nights flooding the earth 15 cubits (25') above the highest mountains of that time. Most of the fossils found around the world, even sea fossils on tops of mountains, were formed by rapid burial during the Flood of Noah's day in the mineral rich mud.

Why This is Important:

The authority of the Bible is questioned when we don't believe the events of Noah's Flood as described in Genesis 6-9.

Scripture Says:

Genesis 6-9 (6:5-14, 7:18-20), Isaiah 54:9, Psalm 29:10, Psalm 104:6, Matthew 24:36-39, 1 Peter 3:20-21, 2 Peter 2:5, 2 Peter 3:3-7

Worth Considering:

- Jesus and scripture writers spoke of the Flood as a real event.
- There are hundreds of stories and legends of a catastrophic flood in cultures around the world. They commonly describe a favored family saving the animals in a boat from a massive flood caused by punishment from an angry deity.
- The Babylonian poetry in the Epic of Gilgamesh flood story is used to discredit Genesis. However the Bible treats the Flood events as history to preserve rather than a poetic myth.
- Migrating people from the Tower of Babel would have known the account of the Flood and took it with them as part of their culture.

- A local flood would not require saving all the animals or building a boat to do so. They could walk or fly away to a safe area.
- Three quarters of the Earth is covered by water and there are vast reservoirs of water deep below the Earth's crust. There is plenty of water on Earth to completely cover all the pre-flood mountains.
- Scientists believe Mars once had a global flood that shaped its surface, but generally refuse to consider that Earth ever had one.
- Rapid Tectonic Plate movement during the Flood would form much taller mountains after the Flood and split the continents apart.
- A large canyon formed in a day after the Mt. St. Helens eruption.
- Polystrate fossils are vertical fossilized tree trunks spanning many strata, said to have been laid down over tens of millions of years.
- Per Answers in Genesis, the best physical evidences for a global flood are:
 - 1) Sea creature fossils in rock layers high above sea level, ie. fossilized shellfish in the Himalayas
 - 2) Extensive fossil graveyards of exquisitely preserved fossils require a rapid burial of plants and animals in mineral rich sediment before they rot or scavengers eat them
 - 3) Rapidly deposited sediment layers spread across vast areas, even between continents
 - 4) Sediment was transported long distances from their distant sources
 - 5) Rapid or no erosion between strata indicate continuous deposition of one layer onto another
 - 6) Many strata laid down in rapid succession that later bent without fracturing indicating folding while layers were wet

Questions to Consider:

- If a worldwide flood covered the highest mountains, what geologic evidence would we expect to find? Would it be billions of dead things, buried in rock layers, laid down by water all over the earth?
- Would you expect the writer of Genesis to know about "fountains of the deep" (ocean volcanoes) to include it in his account?
- Can the Bible and secular science be harmonized on this issue?
- Has today's discussion made you reconsider any of your views?

For Further Investigation on This Topic:

<https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/flood-legends/flood-legends/>
<https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/genesis-mesopotamian-flood-myths/>
<https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/geologic-evidences-for-the-genesis-flood/>