

FLOOD 3

THE PROCESS OF PRESERVATION
GENESIS 7

"The Lord then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation. Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, and also seven of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth. Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made." And Noah did all that the Lord commanded him." (Genesis 7:1-5, NIV)

THE RESTATEMENT OF PURPOSE

THE COMMAND OF CHAPTER 6 IS IN A FUTURE TENSE

- Noah is given the complete plan in chapter 6 of what will be when the ark is completed.
 - He knows why he is building and ark – the world is filled with evil
 - He knows how the earth is to be destroyed
 - He knows what will be aboard the ark with him
 - He knows the provisions that he will need when he boards the ark.
 - He has 120 years to make the plan happen

THE COMMAND OF CHAPTER 7 IS A PRESENT TENSE

- The ark is complete.
 - The provisions are gathered and aboard. NOTE: God does not need to repeat this aspect of the plan.
 - God repeats the recipients of his grace
 - Noah's family
 - 7 pair of clean animals
 - 7 pair of bird
 - 2 of each unclean animal.
 - God announces the completeness of His judgment
 - God begins a time line – the flood would begin in 7 days.
 - Noah acts on God's grace.

THE ENACTMENT OF GOD'S PLAN

"Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters came on the earth. And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood. Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground, male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah. And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth. In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark. They had with them every wild animal according to its kind, all livestock according to their kinds, every creature that moves along the ground according to its kind and every bird according to its kind, everything with wings. Pairs of all creatures that have the breath of life in them came to Noah and entered the ark. The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the Lord shut him in." (Genesis 7:6-16, NIV)

A FOCUS ON DETAIL

NOAH'S AGE AT COMPLETION

- Stated generally – 600 years old
- Stated specifically in vs. 11 600years, 1 month, 17 days
- Common dating methods in history measure time by the age of the king
- As the remaining representative of God's rule, Noah's age becomes the only meaningful date.

THE ANIMALS BOARD

- By pairs
- By Clean and unclean
- By Class
 - Wild animals
 - Grazing animals
 - Belly animals (reptiles)
 - Birds
- By the direction of God – they "came"

THEN GOD SHUT THEM IN.

THE PHASES OF THE FLOOD

THE INCREASE

"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights." (Genesis 7:11-12, NIV)

"For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth. The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than twenty feet. " (Genesis 7:17-20, NIV)

SOURCES OF THE FLOOD

THE SPRINGS OF THE GREAT DEEP

- The words “burst forth” imply a catastrophic release of what may have been subterranean waters.
- Volcanic rock and ash seem to work through the fossil record implying a volcano driven catastrophe
- This may have caused a shifting of the tectonic plates that leads to the continents drifting apart.
- Some think this is the source of the “Atlantic Rift” a zipper-like rock formation in the Atlantic Ocean bed and the East Pacific Rise, a similar geological structure in the Pacific Ocean.
- Some estimate that such a catastrophe would have vaporized large amounts of sea water while raising the sea level as the forming rift raised the level of the ocean floor.

THE FLOODGATES OF HEAVEN

- While some equate the 40 days of rain as the result of the tectonic shift others point to the collapse of the “firmament”
- It could be both.

THE SIGNIFICANCES OF THE FLOOD

CATASTROPHIC IN NATURE.

- The accomplished level of covered mountains and the destruction of everything living is accomplished in 40 days.
- The goal of God is to destroy all things living. To do this the flood must.
 - Be deep enough to prevent life.

- Be long enough to prevent life.
- Be fast enough to prevent life.
- “The waters increased greatly”
 - Speed
 - Volume
- Universal
 - The high mountains under the heavens were covered.
 - The ark clears the highest known mountain.

EXCURSES: PLATE TECTONICS AND THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE POST- DILUVIAN WORLD.

MOST OF THIS INFORMATION IS DERIVED FROM ANSWER IN GENESIS (WWW.ANSWERSINGENESIS.COM) AND FROM THE INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH (WWW.ICR.ORG). THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF THE THEORY OF DR. JOHN BAUMGARDNER AS PROPOSED IN HIS ARTICLE "MANTLE CONVECTION AND PLATE MOTION HISTORY: TOWARD GENERAL CIRCULATION MODELS," AGU MONOGRAPH SERIES, 1999.

Plate Tectonics is the theory that the earth's land mass is composed of large geological plateaus called plates.

- The continents form the major plates of the earth.
- A corollary aspect of this is that the plates are in motion.
- Recent studies have confirmed that the continents (the plates) are in motion and move as much as 5 inches a year.
- Baumgardner proposes that the earth was once a single continent.
- Affirmed in Genesis 1:9, "*And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so.*" (Genesis 1:9, NIV)
- Affirmed in recent scientific studies that show that the continents all fit together and that the measured drift of the plates is real.

BAUMGARDNER further asserts that the “bursting forth of the waters of the deep causes the plates to begin drifting

- Possibly with a volcanic reaction.

Unlike other geologists and seismologists, BAUMGARDNER asserts this catastrophic drift is not uniform in measure and changes the time measure of the drift.

- Following uniformitarianism standards – the drift of the continents would be the current 5 inches a year requiring millions of years to accomplish the current situation.
- BAUMGARDNER asserts a “high velocity” drift that slows over time.

GIVEN THE CATASTROPHIC NATURE OF THE DRIFT SEVERAL CHANGES OCCUR IN THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE EARTH.

1. The continents drift and oceans form.
2. plates push against other plates and causing “crumple zones” of mountains and valleys.
 - Most mountain ranges run north/south while the drift is mostly east/west.
 - The Himalayans and the Rockies lie along two of the most famous plate lines, or faults.
 - The mountains of Ararat, where the ark comes to rest, is at the junction of 3 such plates or fault lines.
3. High speed slowing of the continents causes other mountain ranges and deep valleys as the tail side of the plate slows.
 - These crumples are the valleys or oceanic trenches some of which are as deep as the Himalayan mountains are high.
4. Water drains from the land masses after the flood with relative speed as the “water seeks its own level” and drains to the trenches
5. Sediment and biological waste are trapped by the mountains (like a huge strainer).
 - Many of the biologicals are buried by the moving sediment, and under rapid compression cause oil, gas, and coal seams.
 - Softer sediments are washed away by the swift moving waters causing geological wonders like the Grand Canyon.
6. Plate instability would cause mantle instability, causing additional changes in geography.
 - Earthquakes continue to change the landscape as plates grind against one another.
 - Weaknesses in the plates allow the escape of molten rock (volcanoes) birthing islands, and extending land formations.

SUMMARY THOUGHTS.

- The mountains that existed before the flood (assuming that there were such) were smaller than the mountains caused by the shifting plates of the flood catastrophe
- The ocean depth was, most probably more shallow.

- God brings about major changes in the sea floor to bring about the rapid drying of the earth.

