

## Come into the Ark

(Genesis 6-8)

### Can Modern Man Believe in a Universal Flood?

*Genesis 7:11, 19-20, "...on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened... And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered. The waters prevailed fifteen cubits (or, 22 feet) upward, and the mountains were covered."*

- 1. The Bible's Use of "Land"** - The Hebrew term for earth (*erets*), which occurs over forty times in the flood narrative, is frequently rendered as "earth," "land," "ground," ... the reference in **Genesis 7:3** to the animals of *kol-haarets*, "all the earth," argues for an understanding of *erets* elsewhere in the flood narrative as "earth" <sup>1</sup>
- 2. The Bible's Description of "Under All the Heavens" (Genesis 7:19)** – This phrase appears only six other times in the Old Testament, but each conveys a universal sense.<sup>2</sup> See also **Job 28:24** and **Job 41:11**
- 3. The Result was Total Annihilation** - the flood was extensive enough to annihilate all human and animal life on earth, apart from the water creatures (see **Gen. 6:17; 7:4, 21–23**).<sup>3</sup>
- 4. The Picture of Future Judgment** - The flood pictures and foreshadows the final judgment, a universal judgment upon man and the world. See also **Matthew 24:38-39** and **2 Peter 3:3-7**
- 5. The Plain Reading of the Text** – Read **Genesis 8:19–23**
- 6. God's Promise to Never Flood the World Again** – "God covenanted with Noah that such a flood would never happen again. If the flood were local, God has broken His covenant because there have been many local floods since that one; if the flood was universal, then God has not broken His covenant."<sup>4</sup>
- 7. Marine Fossils Found on High Mountains** - **Andrew Snelling** (PhD in Geology, University of Sydney, Australia) writes, "We find most of them [marine fossils] buried in sedimentary rocks on the continents, even on high mountains. For that to happen, the ocean waters had to totally flood the continents."<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Kenneth Keathley and Mark Rooker, *40 Questions about Creation and Evolution*, ed. Benjamin L. Merkle, 40 Questions Series (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic, 2014), 288.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 289.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> John J. Davis, *Paradise to Prison: Studies in Genesis* (Salem, Wis.: Sheffield, 1975, reissued 1998), 126.

<sup>5</sup> Andrew Snelling, <https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/global/evidences-genesis-flood/>.

## 8. Detailed Fossils Indicate a Catastrophe (Not Natural Decay)

"[I]n a classic example of rapid burial, an ichthyosaur (marine reptile) about 6 feet (2 meters) long was fossilized at the moment of giving birth."<sup>6</sup>



## 9. Grand Canyon Points Toward Rapid Erosion

"The features of the canyon itself (extremely deep gorges with level plateaus at the rims) suggest that it was formed by rapid erosion.

A strikingly similar formation is Providence Canyon, near Lumpkin, Georgia—a spectacular canyon that covers more than eleven hundred acres. In the early 1800s the entire area was flat

farmland. By the mid 1800s, farmers had completely cleared the area of trees and their root systems, leaving the area susceptible to erosion. In 1846, heavy rainfall began forming small gullies and crevices. These expanded with every successive rainfall. By the 1940s, nearby buildings and towns had to be moved to accommodate the growing canyon. Today the canyon comprises sixteen fingers, some more than one mile in length. At places the distance from the canyon floor to the rim is as high as a fifteen-story building. Today it is a scenic area, lush with trees and wildlife, often called **Georgia's Little Grand Canyon.**<sup>7</sup> Its features are indistinguishable from canyons geologists claim took billions of years to form."<sup>7</sup>

### Points of Application:

#### 1. Respond to God's invitation – Genesis 7:1

The word "come" is found 500 times in the Bible, and it could be called "God's favorite word," for even the last word in Revelation is "come." (Revelation 22:17)

#### 2. Work to get your family on the ark – Genesis 7:13

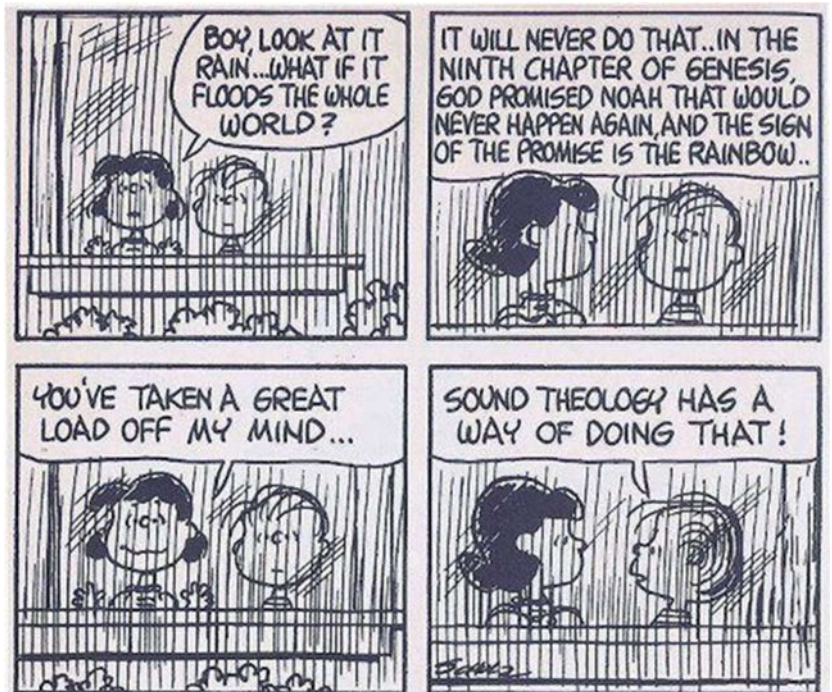
Each person comes to God on their own. You cannot respond to Jesus for your children, but you can influence your children for Christ. See Acts 16:31

#### 3. God is sovereign over His creation – Genesis 6:17, 20

God's sovereignty means that His plan can never ultimately be thwarted by anyone. Even after Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden, He could still send the Flood. Though God commands Noah to bring the animals, in 6:20 He says the animals will come to the ark. God is sovereign over His creation.

#### 4. Rejoice in a God Who can make all things new – Genesis 8:15-19

After leaving the ark, Noah builds an altar to worship God. God saved Noah and His family and brings them to a RE-creation of life. Noah responds with worship. We, too, who have received Christ, are brought into a RE-creation of new life (2 Corinthians 5:17). God redeems. God restores. God recreates. We should respond in worship.



<sup>6</sup> Snelling, [www.answersingenesis.org](http://www.answersingenesis.org).

<sup>7</sup> John MacArthur, *The Battle for the Beginning: The Bible on Creation and the Fall of Adam* (Nashville, TN: W Pub. Group, 2001), 50–53.