



Genesis 6:9-8:22

THE FLOOD ACCORDING TO GOD

*To understand God's wrath, we must view it in the light of His holiness. God is holy and has made holiness to be the moral condition necessary to the health of His universe. Sin's temporary presence in the world only accents this. Whatever is holy is healthy; evil is a moral sickness that must end ultimately in death. The formation of the language itself suggests this, the word **holy** deriving from the Old English **halig**, meaning "well, whole." To preserve His creation, God must destroy whatever would destroy it... Every wrathful judgment of God in the history of the world has been a holy act of preservation. The holiness of God, the wrath of God and the health of the creation are inseparably united. Not only is it right for God to display anger against sin, but I find it impossible to understand how He could do otherwise. God's wrath is His utter intolerance of whatever degrades and destroys. He hates iniquity as a mother hates the disease that would destroy the life of her child.*

—A. W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

Genesis 6-8 record the worldwide flood that destroyed the earth with only Noah, his family, and a remnant of the animals surviving. Noah and the Ark is a story that almost everyone is familiar with. *But did it actually happen? And what is it intended to teach us?*

DID THE WORLDWIDE FLOOD ACTUALLY HAPPEN?

- The OT says _____ (6:7,17; 7:4; 7:18-24; 8:15-22; 9:8-17).
- The NT says _____ (Heb. 11:7; 2 Pet. 2:5, 3:6).
- Jesus says _____ (Matt. 24:39; Luke 17:27).
- Ancient histories all around the world say _____.
- Basic observational science says _____.

WHEN DID THE WORLDWIDE FLOOD HAPPEN?

Assuming that there are no major gaps in the genealogies of Gen. 10-11, then the Flood occurred over 4300 years ago in approximately 2350 BC.

HOW IS THE FLOOD NARRATIVE TOLD IN GENESIS 6-8?

- A God resolves to destroy the corrupted earth (6:11-13)
- B Noah builds the ark in obedience to God (6:14-22)
- C The Lord commands them to enter the ark (7:1-9)
- D The flood begins (7:10-16)
- E The flood prevails over the earth (7:17-24)
- F God remembers Noah (8:1)**
- E' The flood recedes from the earth (8:2-5)
- D' The flood ends (8:6-14)
- C' God commands them to leave the ark (8:15-19)
- B' Noah builds an altar to worship the Lord (8:20)
- A' The Lord resolves not to destroy the earth again (8:21-22)

The biblical account of a great, universal flood is part of the mythology and legend of almost every culture on earth. Even people living far from the sea—the Hopi Indians in the American Southwest, the Incas in the Peruvian Andes—have legends of a flood covering the tops of the mountains and wiping out virtually all life on earth.

—Frederick Warshofsky

There are over 200 flood traditions all over the world... 95% of these traditions have common elements with Genesis and a global flood.

—Nozomi Osanai
answersingenesis.org/the-flood/flood-legends

Fossil formation is a rapid event... For an organism to become a fossil, it needs to be buried quickly by sediment to prevent decomposition which typically happens within a relatively short time frame after death; this rapid burial is key to fossilization. —australian.museum

The present height of Mt. Everest is 29,028 feet; and yet, there are marine fossils at the tops of Mt. Everest and the highest mountains on the earth. —Dr. Don Batten

WHAT DOES THE WORLDWIDE FLOOD TEACH US?

- God’s _____ is perfectly just (6:11-13).
- God’s _____ is sufficient to save (6:14-21).
- God’s _____ display their faith in obedience (6:22).
- God’s _____ is to come to Him for salvation (7:1-5).
- God’s _____ secures us safely from judgment (7:6-16).
- God’s _____ is the removal of all His goodness, grace, and gifts from His creatures and His creation (7:17-24).
- God’s _____ assures us of His grace (8:1-5).
- God’s _____ sustains us in our waiting for deliverance (8:6-14).
- God’s _____ sends us out to fulfill His commands (8:15-19).
- God’s _____ are poured out on all who respond to Him in faith and worship (8:20-22).

*The flood is described as **ruining** the earth which earlier has been said to have ruined itself. This is a clear case of the punishment fitting the crime. —Gordon Wenham*

Ark. Heb., *teba*, “box, coffin, basket.” Used only here and Ex. 2:3-5.

Rain fell (7:12)	40
Waters prevailed (7:24)	110
Waters decrease (8:4-5)	74
Noah sends a raven (8:6-7)	40
Noah sends 1 st dove (8:8-9)	7
Noah sends 2 nd dove (8:10)	7
Noah sends 3 rd dove (8:12)	7
Waters dried up (8:13)	29
The earth dried up (8:14)	57
Total	371

Depending on the length of a cubit (18-20 in.), the ark was around 500’ long, 85’ wide, and 50’ high (~2 million cubic feet). This would house over 125,000 large animals. Current research estimates 1000-1400 “kinds” of animals for a total of ~3000-6000 animals on the ark.

Our humble suggestion is that the pre-Flood world’s population was quite low (perhaps only a matter of thousands). —Ken Ham

*The Lord did not say to Noah, **Go into the ark**, but **Come**, plainly implying that God was himself in the ark, waiting to receive Noah and his family. —Charles H. Spurgeon*

*The Hebrew term, **remember**, signifies to act upon a previous commitment to a covenant partner. —Bruce K. Waltke*

Noah is the new Adam. Both walk with God; both are the recipients of the promissory blessing; both are caretakers of the lower creatures; both father three sons; both are workers of the soil; both sin through the fruit of a tree. —Kenneth A. Mathews