

# **THE NOAHIC FLOOD**

**SCIENCE  
and  
"THE WORLD THAT WAS"**

**Curtis A. Cates**

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By

**CURTIS A. CATES**

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PUBLICATIONS**

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Fourth Printing

This book is dedicated to  
**Margaret Anthony Cates**, my mother,  
and to  
**Curtis C. Cates**, my father,  
who by precept and example taught me the Truth,  
inspired me to teach it to others,  
and instilled within me the determination to defend it.

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## PREFACE

People are constantly being bombarded with atheistic, evolutionary, Humanistic philosophy. From the time that dinosaurs are introduced to preschoolers and elementary school children until those students graduate with the terminal degree, they are indoctrinated with the supposition that the universe is tens of billions of years old, that life began over one billion years ago, that dinosaurs preceded man by over one million years, and that ape-men inhabited the earth millions of years ago. This God-denying, Bible-rejecting philosophy is also taught in the media.

The Bible has been viciously attacked in the area of the Pentateuch [the first five books of the Bible, written by Moses], particularly the Genesis record of creation, the fall, and the universal flood. The burden of this volume will be to examine the geologic and other scientific implications specifically of the Noahic flood, answering many questions raised by the skeptics and erasing numerous "contradictions" which skeptics and atheists have held to exist between Science and the Scriptures. The alleged discrepancies are in the areas of the age of the earth, the geologic timetable and the fossil record, the formation of oil and coal, the ice age, the dinosaurs, radiometric dating, et al.

Many college students of the author [both undergraduate and graduate] and numerous people in audiences in many states who have heard him lecture on Christian evidences and apologetics have for several decades urged him to put some of this material into print. He claims no originality for the ideas presented. They have been gleaned from countless hours of study.

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It is hoped that the faith of thousands, perhaps tens of thousands of young people, parents, preachers, elders, Bible school teachers, and others will be fortified by this study. The author loves young people; he and his wife, Annette, have two fine sons, now grown, Andy, who resides in Memphis, Tennessee, and Dan, who is married to the former Shelly Jones, resides in Horn Lake, Mississippi. He has devoted his life to a defense and proclamation of the truth and to training others likewise to stand.

Humbly, the writer hopes that this book may be useful in Bible classes [from junior high through adult], in Christian youth camps, in the college study of Christian apologetics, as well as in individual private study. Hopefully, parents and other brethren may find it beneficial to young people in high school and in universities, as they come under tremendous pressure from the world. This work is also being written, translated, and printed for distribution in the Independent Commonwealth States. To God be the glory!

Curtis A.Cates  
Memphis, Tennessee  
January 5, 1994

## CHAPTER ONE

### THE ISSUE--CREATION VERSUS EVOLUTION

The greatest questions of the ages have been: (1) Where did I originate? (2) What is my purpose on earth? and (3) Where am I going? The answer to questions 2 and 3 depend upon the answer to question 1.

There are but two possible alternatives to the origin of the universe and of man. They are the Bible account of creation [as is revealed in Genesis One] and the evolutionary hypothesis. Either "in six days Jehovah made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day [all twenty-four hour days]," "Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it" (Exodus 20:9-11). "Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

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And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God" (Exodus 31:15-18), or else the universe and all its amazing intricacy and marvelous beauty came from nothing by a series of haphazard, unbelievable, and impossible accidents of chance.

Either man is made in the precious image of almighty God, or else he is but a graduate beast, composed totally and only of a skin sack of chemicals and of molecules in motion. Either human life is sacred, or else killing a child is no worse than killing an animal. Either a system of absolute morality and ethics exists [based upon the very nature of the sovereign and holy God], or else morality and ethics are situational.

### **THE INCREASE OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE**

During the past century, the amount of scientific knowledge has multiplied. Man has progressed from the horse and buggy to the spacecraft, which has carried him to the moon. His discoveries in the areas of medicine, astronomy, electronics, and countless additional disciplines have been truly phenomenal. His discoveries in the field of nature are taking place so rapidly that a science book is already out of date before it comes from the press. Indeed, no scientist can be considered an authority except in the narrow field(s) in which he has specialized, for the body of knowledge is expanding so rapidly.

## NO CONTRADICTION

In spite of the marvelous proliferation of scientific knowledge and of the fact that the Bible does not claim to be a "science book," yet the Word of God is in perfect agreement and congruency with the **facts** of science. Theists [those who believe in God] have no quarrel with true science, which is based upon empirical observations and experimentation [that which can be perceived by and is in the realm of the senses--tasting, touching, seeing, hearing, and smelling, and that which can be weighed, measured, and divided]. Too often, however, scientists depart from their domain and presume to make pronouncements in the area of the metaphysical [that which is beyond the physical], thus assuming the role of the philosopher. When that takes place, science becomes a religion, a faith, certainly not characterized by objectivity [The word "science" is from the Latin *scientia*, meaning "to know."]. Much of what is taught as "science" and "fact" is clearly, admittedly [by the scientists] the result of prejudice [prejudging] and constitutes only the result of subjectivity and bias. Indeed, emotions and feelings influence the affirmations of many scientists no less than those of specialists in other fields.

Pure science has been a blessing to man however, for scientists to make pronouncements relative to the origin of life and to rule out the existence of God is "Scientism"--not science! True science has limits; it cannot speak in the areas of "things not seen"; "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" (II Corinthians 4:18), which are **things** none the less.

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Some people have tried unsuccessfully to say that because God cannot be seen, He thus does not exist. But, this is one of the characteristics which make Him God. "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24), who "hath not flesh and bones,"; "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have" (Luke 24:39). If we could see God, God would not be Spirit. "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him" (John 1:18).

No person or group of persons, however hostile to the Bible, have been successful in charging that science contradicts the Bible. The reason is, the God of truth is both the Creator of the universe [of nature itself] and is the Author of the holy Scriptures. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard" (Psalm 19:1-3). "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (II Timothy 3:16-17).

### **IS EVOLUTION A FACT?**

Though the facts of nature [not "science falsely so called"; "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and

oppositions of science falsely so called" (I Timothy 6:20)] agree with Biblical creationism and with the Bible's references to natural law, the atheist insists that evolution is fact, that it has been proven by the discoveries of science. However, evolution remains an unproven and unprovable hypothesis, in clear contradiction of countless **facts**, **laws** of science. Still, because the evolutionists arbitrarily [unjustifiably and totally without evidence] rule out the possibility of God's existence, they are not willing to look objectively at the evidence. They are simply unwilling to submit to the authority of God.

Evolutionists must affirm that the universe [all matter, which the second law of thermodynamics proves has not always existed] came from nothing, since matter is not eternal; that life was galvanized into action from non-living matter [in stark contradiction to the law of biogenesis]; that lower, simpler, less complex major life forms evolved into higher, more complex major life forms; and that mere beasts evolved into human beings [whom the Bible describes as, "a little lower than the angels"; "For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour" (Psalm 8:5), rather than a little higher than the apes], clearly contradicting the indisputable evidence from paleontology [the study of the fossil record]. Interestingly, and a death blow to the theory, proponents of evolution claim paleontology as constituting its most important and **only** real, documented "proof." The truth is, no stronger, more conclusive refutation of evolution exists than from paleontology. Paleontology disproves that any transmutation from one major group of animals to another major group of animals has occurred (See

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some of the author's other works on creation versus evolution, etc.). Evolution is wholly destitute of proof!

### EVOLUTION STILL TAUGHT

Regardless that evolution has been shown not to be scientific, it is still taught as fact in many public schools and colleges, whereas one believing in scientific creationism is placed in the category of believing that the earth is flat. This condescending attitude was demonstrated recently to the author when a Ph.D. atheistic biologist, a professor at a major Texas university and who was a fellow airline passenger to Dallas, patronizingly and smugly told him that **no one** [except the most naive, ignorant, and gullible] has believed in God and creation since 1859, when Charles Darwin wrote *Origin of Species*. It did, however, take him longer to attempt to defend that untenable averment than to state it.

Dr. Wernber Von Braun, the German-born scientist who has played a major role in America's space program, is baffled by people who suggest that modern science has discredited belief in God.

As far as he is concerned, just the opposite is true.... Von Braun said he finds it as difficult "to understand a scientist who does not acknowledge the presence of a superior rationality behind the existence of the universe as it is to comprehend a theologian who would deny the advance of science."

"I find it best to accept God as an intelligent will, perfect in goodness, revealing Himself in the world of experience more fully down through the ages as man's capacity for understanding grows."

"....men must enlarge their concept of God and recognize that He is not a local deity of this planet but "the Creator and Master of everything."

Von Braun said he believes in "the continuity of our spiritual existence after death...."

--Louis Cassels, *Chattanooga News-Free Press* , June 28, 1969, p. 10.

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## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. How does man's origin impact upon [influence] his purpose for living and destiny?
2. Why can creation and evolution be the only possible alternatives as relates to origins?
3. Discuss how man has advanced in scientific knowledge.
4. Has man's increased body of knowledge proven God not to exist? Why, or why not?
5. Contrast "science" with "Scientism" and the "physical" and "empirical" with the "metaphysical."
6. What unscientific positions must evolutionists affirm? What scientific verities do these averments contradict?
7. List five arguments which you have heard evolutionists make in an attempt to affirm their theory, and discuss the refutation of those arguments.

8. What might be a possible motivation for seeking to place believing in God and creation in the same category as holding the earth to be flat?

9. Are all scientists atheists and evolutionists?

10. Locate and discuss scriptures which affirm the existence of God and the six day creation.

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## CHAPTER TWO

### TWO APPROACHES TO EARTH'S HISTORY

Not surprisingly, since Genesis 1-11 is the very bedrock of the case for Christianity, an avalanche of criticism has come upon the inspired account of the universal flood. Amazingly, though, the very arguments used **against** Christianity become among the most formidable **foes** against atheistic, and so-called "theistic" [though this is a misnomer, since those who deny the Biblical account of creation and the flood deny, for all intents and purposes, the God of the Bible] evolution and among the greatest **evidences** of Christianity.

This writer knows of no arguments against Biblical creationism which are not, in fact, rather some of the strongest of the defense that, "Thou art Jehovah, even thou alone: Thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all things that are thereon, the seas and all that is in them, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee" (Nehemiah 9:6).

Elsewhere, the author has demonstrated that the "evidence" which is interpreted to **prove** evolution is among the strongest evidence in support of creationism and in refutation of the evolutionary hypothesis. This would include such supposed proofs for evolution as **comparative anatomy** [similarities among organisms], **vestigial organs** [so-called useless organs evolving supposedly into usefulness or out of usefulness, which organs actually are not "useless"], **embryology** [debunked argument (though still used) that embryo development

in the womb recapitulates the evolutionary process from single cell to man], **fossils** [idea that geology records the actual historical, evolutionary process], **radiometric dating** [the use of Uranium, Potassium Fluoride, Potassium Argon, Carbon 14, and other radioactive dating processes to "prove" an old earth], and **mutations** [reluctantly taken by evolutionists to be the *modus operandi*, or mechanism of evolution].

In light of the evidence, the only possible "justification," so-called, for maintaining the evolutionary hypothesis is an outright, biased objection to the existence of God and the fact that atheism requires the process of evolution to have taken place. **Remember:** there are but two alternatives, either creation or evolution.

In studying the Genesis flood and its scientific implications, the student will see the above principles as they apply to the fossil record and to the dating processes. Each of these is strong evidence for a young earth and for creation, **not** for an earth which is five to ten billion years old and **not** for the transmutation of major groups of animals [**evolution**].

### ASSUMPTION OF UNIFORMITY

Since the scientist was not present in ancient times when the geologic processes took place and since science can deal only with what can be studied and reproduced in the laboratory, the evolutionist makes an **assumption** that "the present is the key to the past." He places his **faith** [which is a necessary element of his religion of Humanism and atheism] in the doctrine of

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**uniformity.** Uniformitarianism is defined by *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, 1970, p. 1399, thus: **Geology.** The theory that all geological phenomena may be explained as the result of existing forces having operated uniformly from the origin of the earth to the present time."

The whole "fabric" of evolution depends upon the belief or postulation that present processes can be extrapolated into the past. In other words, the atheists must affirm that only such natural forces as are influencing the earth at the present time, such as earthquakes; volcanism [changes brought about by the action of volcanoes]; localized floods; glaciation [the effects of moving ice, caused by compacting snow]; landslides; etc., caused what is presently observed in the geologic record.

Though appearing first in James Hutton's *Theory of the Earth* (1785) and later in John Playfair's *Illustrations of the Huttonian Theory* (1801), the uniformity hypothesis gained general acceptance among geologists when Charles Lyell, founder of modern geology, published *Principles of Geology: Being an Attempt to Explain the Former Changes of the Earth's Surface by References to Causes Now in Action* (1830). He believed in slow, gradual change. As is commonly known, this book had a drastic influence on Charles Darwin, whose "theological" training was received in Christ's College, Cambridge. When embarking on the *Beagle*, Darwin acquired Lyell's book, which denied the universal flood of Genesis. It was on this trip that he became an evolutionist and abandoned his plans to become a country preacher. Interestingly, his only degree was in "theology." John Pye Smith, in the fifth edition of

his work, *On the Relation Between the Holy Scriptures and Some Parts of Geological Science*, spent sixty pages trying to defend the local flood theory. **Lesson**--Do not try to harmonize the Bible with a theory!

In spite of the fact that the atheistic scientists **claim** to be objective and that they **boast** of the "proofs" and of the "fact" of evolution, many scientists admit that they are very subjective, that they ignore the implications of "true science," and that they practice "the religion of science." Indeed, the religion of secular Humanism is being taught in public schools and universities at tax payer's expense, whereas one is absolutely forbidden to teach scientific creationism in the schools. The greatest farce [deception] being palmed off on American youths is that God does not exist and that the Genesis Flood is but myth. But, until the nineteenth century, the major universities in America, such as Harvard and Yale, were teaching that the flood brought about the phenomena observed in the geologic column [the strata in the crust of the earth]. The destructive influence of Lyell, Darwin, and others has had its effect.

In the religion of atheism, the uniformitarian claims to have developed an historical geologic timetable, an uniformitarian method of dating the rocks and an evolutionary history of all life [from its springing into being from non-living matter to man], both plant and animal. The formation of sedimentary deposits over some one billion years through solely natural, present day type actions of nature happened simultaneously with the evolutionary process, they argue. Thus, they aver, the fossil record in the strata is "documented evidence" of evolution--**proof** which no one except the most naive and ignorant can deny.

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## BIBLICAL CATASTROPHISM

Of course, uniformity is in absolute conflict with the Bible. The Christian cannot be an evolutionist, for the evolutionist must reject the Bible. What saith the Scriptures?

The Bible speaks of catastrophism, that which accounts for great changes over a **short** period of time. Naturally, this is ruled out arbitrarily by the atheists [as they rule out God], for it does not fit their preconceived assumptions. Nevertheless, catastrophism is **exactly** what one sees in the geologic history of the earth!

The false religion of uniformity is exposed by the apostle Peter in this age as he exposed it in his day.

Knowing this first, that in the last days mockers shall come with mockery, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for, from the day that the fathers fell asleep, **all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation** [uniformitarianism]. For this they **wilfully** forget, that there were heavens from of old, and an earth compacted out of water and amidst water, by the word of God; **by which means the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished** [catastrophism] (II Peter 3:3-6).

## GOD'S INTERVENTIONS

If there is a God [and there is] who created the universe from nothing, creation *ex nihilo*, "out of nothing" [and He did], God can dip into the universe with catastrophic events anytime He wishes to suit His purpose [and He has]. He created the laws of nature; "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1ff); "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring" (Acts 17:24-28): He upholds "all things by the word of His power"; "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high" (Hebrews 1:3). "Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist" (Colossians 1:15-17). What

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person can question God's ability, wisdom, and authority to overrule and set aside His own natural laws in order to accomplish His will as the circumstances warrant? One so doing would be extremely presumptuous, calling the Master of the universe in question. God in His omniscience anticipated the potential sins of the antediluvians and set the means of their destruction and the purification of the world in place when He made the world.

When God sent the universal flood of Genesis 6-8, more destruction took place and more scientific implications developed than most people have ever imagined. Though questions in numerous areas still exist, the discussion of the flood which follows in subsequent lessons seems to fit observed scientific data (not suppositions) and fits Biblical truth. Indeed, the universal flood and the results of that great catastrophe explain amazingly many otherwise unanswered questions regarding such things as the age of the earth, the fossil record, the origin of coal and oil, the demise of the dinosaurs, the radical decrease in the age of man after the flood, the Ice Age, the Grand Canyon, the alluvial plain of the Mississippi River, the existence of the continental shelves, and other important geologic formations.

Like those of old, many do "not like to retain God in their knowledge" (Romans 1:28); thus, they accept the "faith" of uniformity and evolution. They are determined to reject God and creation, no matter the facts. However, the objective thinker will examine the evidence that, "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear"

(Hebrews 11:3). He realizes that theories come and go, but, "But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you" (I Peter 1:25). [Note: When the author uses the words "uniformity" and "uniformitarianism," he is using them interchangeably, referring to the evolutionary doctrine that the principles of nature operative today have always been operative, uninterrupted by the flood catastrophe. Of course, Biblical creationists hold that uniformity of natural laws has been in existence since the universal flood.]

### **REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION**

1. List and discuss six "evidences" cited by evolutionists in defense of their theory.
2. Does one expect to find bias among those experts in a field which claims to be objective in their approach, namely science? Why, or why not?
3. What is meant by, "The present is the key to the past"?
4. What are the things which uniformitarians claim produced all the phenomena observed in the fossil record?
5. Who had a strong influence upon Charles Darwin's thinking about creation versus evolution? What was the nature of the influence?

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6. Why is evolution sometimes, correctly, called a religion?

7. Those who teach the doctrine of uniformity hold that the fossil record proves evolution. Upon what suppositions is this argument based?

8. Why can a Christian not be an evolutionist?

9. Why did Peter say those of his day rejected catastrophism? How do they resemble present-day evolutionists?

10. Does God have the right and power to intervene in the affairs of nature? List some ways in which He has miraculously intervened, in addition to the flood.

## CHAPTER THREE

### THE FACT OF THE UNIVERSAL FLOOD (PART ONE)

The event of the great Flood was a destructive cataclysm of such proportions that Peter describes it as having caused "the world that then was, being overflowed with water, to perish" (II Peter 3:6). This great miracle of amazing duration, strength, and geologic implications has been attacked viciously and bitterly by unbelievers, as well as by some self-proclaimed believers who are "married" to the atheistic geologic timetable. But, the universal flood is a **fact**, undeniable and powerful.

#### "THE MOUNTAINS ROSE, THE VALLEYS SANK DOWN"

Bless Jehovah, O my soul...  
Who laid the foundations of the earth,  
That it should not be moved forever.  
Thou coverdest it with the deep as  
    with a vesture;  
The waters stood above the mountains.  
At thy rebuke they fled;  
At the voice of thy thunder they hasted away  
(The mountains rose, the valleys sank down)  
Unto the place which thou hadst founded for  
them.  
Thou hast set a bound that they  
    may not pass over;  
That they turn not against to cover  
    the earth.

(Psalm 104:1, 5-9 ASV)

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About what was the Psalmist writing? When did the deep [Hebrew *tehom*] cover the earth, standing above the mountains? When did the mountains rise and valleys sink down?

The Bible student knows that prior to the third twenty-four day of creation, the earth was covered with water, with the deep. On the third day, a great geologic upheaval took place, for God caused the dry land to appear on an earth which was thus far totally under water. One can imagine certain areas of the land rising, whereas other areas were correspondingly sinking (Genesis 1:9-13), to receive the waters which would run off vast land areas as those areas rose. The waters were gathered into "one place" or "bed," Hebrew *maquom*, yet were collected into a number of basins, and thus called "Seas," a pre-scientific statement.

Was the above mentioned geologic upheaval the one described in Psalm 104:5-9? Evidently not, for this would have ruled out the universal flood; please observe that God forbade the waters again to pass over the earth (Psalm 104:9).

### **EVIDENCE OF THE UNIVERSAL FLOOD**

The Noahic Flood was universal, though the evolutionists and even some professing to be Christians deny this catastrophe. One Christian college professor wrote, "...the local flood hypothesis seems to be a valid alternative." Such human, non-biblical reasoning clearly disregards the overwhelming evidence to the contrary. A few of the many evidences of the universal flood follow.

(1) **The purpose of the flood shows it to be universal**, for God determined to kill every human being [whose wickedness was so great that "every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5)] and all animals that lived on land and breathed air (Genesis 7:21,22). "And God said to Noah, the end of all flesh is come before me" (Genesis 6:13); "And I, behold, I do bring the flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; everything that is in the earth shall die" (Genesis 6:17); "...and every living thing that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the ground" (Genesis 7:4); "and all flesh died that moved upon the earth...and every man" (Genesis 7:12).

(2) **The flood's depth proves it to have been universal**, for it was sufficiently deep to cover "all the high mountains under the **whole** heaven" (Genesis 7:19). Indeed, "Fifteen cubits upward [above the highest mountains] did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered" (Genesis 7:20). The depth of the flood over the tallest hills, or mountains, would assure that the ark would not strike the tops of the mountains, knocking a hole in the bottom, since the loaded ark would sink in the water nearly half its height of thirty cubits.

Notice that the waters "increased" (Genesis 7:17), "prevailed" (Genesis 7:18), "increased greatly" (Genesis 7:18), "prevailed exceedingly" (Genesis 7:19), "prevailed" (Genesis 7:20), and "prevailed upon the earth a hundred and fifty days" (Genesis 7:24). Note also that the fact that the mountains were "covered" is repeated for emphasis, certainly not designed to describe a localized

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flood. Inasmuch as liquid water cannot be stacked [as ice can] and since water seeks its own level, it had to cover the earth. For it to be otherwise would violate the principles of hydraulics. The height of Mt. Ararat alone, where the ark landed, is 17,000 feet, over three miles elevation.

(3) **The duration of the flood [the length of time it lasted] shows the flood was universal**, for Noah and his family could not disembark from the ark for more than a year [371 days]. The heavy rain [not raining "cats and dogs" but "elephants and dinosaurs"] lasted forty days and forty nights (Genesis 7:12), followed by another 110 days in which the fountains of the great deep remained opened (Genesis 8:3). It was only after the fountains were closed that the waters began to assuage [return from off the earth] (Genesis 7:24-8:2).

In Vicksburg, Mississippi, in early 1973, the author and his family were in a local flash flood. Though a frightening experience at 4:00 a.m., it endured for less than twelve hours. What localized flood in history lasted about a year?

(4) **The geology of the flood proves it was universal**, for another tremendous geologic upheaval took place, when "...on the same day were all the fountains of the great deep [same Hebrew word as in Genesis 1:2] broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened" (Genesis 7:11)--subterranean waters. Notice--"all the fountains of the **great** deep"! This was not a few localized, isolated volcanoes. The fountains were literally "cleaved open," a phenomenon which took place

**throughout the world**, below the ocean's surface and on land. This action triggered the rain.

(5) **The ark itself was necessitated by the universal flood.** It was to be made of gopher wood. "And this is how thou shalt make it; the length of the ark three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits" (Genesis 6:15). Whereas the cubit could have been at least 22 1/2 inches [some say 24 inches], the cubit was likely 18 inches in length. This would make the ark built by Noah to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high. Today, one recognizes this to be one and one-half times the length of a football field. "With lower, second, and third stories" [three floors] (Genesis 6:6) the ark would be a great, large vessel of no less than 100,000 square feet of space and a volume of no less than 1,500,000 cubic feet, excluding the timbers. Its displacement tonnage would be 24,000 tons.

Shaped like a box or chest or coffin [it was not going anywhere, therefore not pointed at the ends], the Hebrew for "ark" (*tabhah*) is used only twice in the Old Testament, the other being the container in which Moses floated in the Nile River (Exodus 2:2). Since the people who lived before the flood had never seen rain ["...but there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground" (Genesis 2:6)], the building of such a huge box-like vessel must have been greatly ridiculed. However, by faith, Noah kept on building (Hebrews 11:7) and kept on preaching (I Peter 3:18-21; II Peter 2:5). He knew the rain would eventually come down and the ark be needed, as God had warned. God is not slack concerning His promises, as man is (II Peter

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3:8,9).

The carrying capacity of the ark would equal 550 to 600 standard railroad boxcars, a very large vessel. Not for another 4,500 years would another vessel be built that size [1884]. Some have questioned how all the species of animals could have been carried onto the ark. However, the student of the flood needs to realize that the "kinds" of the book of Genesis are not the equivalent of the species of modern taxonomy [defined as the "orderly classification of plants and animals according to their presumed natural relationships"], which classification is very subjective and is constantly debated. Indeed, Noah was commanded, "Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee seven and seven, the male and his female; and of the beasts that are not clean two, the male and his female; of the birds also of the heavens, seven and seven, male and female, to keep seed alive upon the face of the earth" (Genesis 7:2,3). The clean animals would be used for sacrifice (Genesis 8:20); the additional pairs of clean animals would thus insure that offering a particular beast or bird would not wipe out that particular "kind."

Genesis One repeatedly states that God created the animals to bring forth "after their kind," "after its kind." He thus did not need to create the many varieties of cats or dogs, for example. The word "kind" is equivalent to each **major** group of animals, each one of which would contain variations. Just imagine how many different varieties are in the DNA [deoxyribonucleic acid], or "blueprints," of two "alley cats." Each "kind," or major group of animals, according to Genesis, is composed of any animals which will reproduce among themselves. Sometimes, one hears of some exotic, or

unusual reproduction, which are sometimes held up as "evidence" of evolution. But, if they can reproduce, fine; they are in the same major group, as God defined it. Surely, there is variation in each major "kind" of animal; however, there is **not** [and even the evolutionists admit it] even one example of the crossing [or reproduction between] the major groups of animals. Before evolution can be "proven," this must be proven, with its mechanism of accomplishment. The point is, Noah did not need to carry every variety of every major group, but **only** representatives of each major group. The varieties developed after the flood. Yes, variations are extremely common, being programmed into the DNA of the genes, which govern transmission of hereditary characteristics. But, God placed boundaries, or limits on the degree of variation possible. Since those animals which live in the sea would not be included, the animals to be included in the ark would be far fewer in number than the skeptics charge, most of which would be quite small. The animals selected would likely include [for purpose of reproduction **after** the flood] those which were young and healthy. Reproductive activity would take place after the animals left the ark. The author does not picture Noah as taking the full-grown Brachiosaurus [dinosaur which was eighty feet long and weighed 180,000 pounds] on board. Two babies would do very well. It has been calculated that filling the ark to one-third to one-half full of food [for Noah, his family, and the animals] would leave more than adequate room for the animals (Genesis 6:21).

Since many, perhaps most of the animals would hibernate, the job of feeding and caring for the animals would be quite easily accomplished. And, how did the

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animals get into the ark? The animals "went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh wherein is the breath of life" (Genesis 7:15,16), just as God had promised (Genesis 6:20). Noah did not have to get out his butterfly net.

Study on the marvels of the ark and other evidences of the universal flood will be pursued further in lesson four.

## REVIEW, THOUGHT DISCUSSION

1. What was the condition of the earth on day one of creation?
2. What geological phenomena must have happened to cause the dry land to appear?
3. Was the appearance of dry land the time described in Psalm 104:1-9? Why, or why not?
4. Discuss the purpose of the flood. Could this have been accomplished by a local flood? Why, or why not?
5. Was the flood too deep to be localized [occurring in but one area of the earth]?
6. Compare the duration of the Genesis Flood with that of a localized flood. How widespread would the volcanic activity have been?
7. Describe and discuss the size of the ark. Why did it need to be so large?
8. What is meant in Genesis One by "kinds" of animals? Contrast this with variations within the "kinds." What implications does this have for the number of animals taken on the ark?
9. What types of animals [age, size, etc.] would have been taken on the ark?
10. How did the animals get onto the ark?

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## CHAPTER FOUR

### THE FACT OF THE UNIVERSAL FLOOD (PART TWO)

One cannot really understand the phenomena which he sees in the great geologic column, with its irrefutable evidence of the sudden extinction of life [not of gradual evolution of life on earth over a billion or more years], until he takes into consideration the great, universal flood of Noah. It was an amazing catastrophe, world-wide in scope.

Part One of this topic covered the evidence of the universal flood in the areas of the flood's purpose, depth, duration, and geology. It also began a discussion of the evidences from the ark itself [size, shape, carrying capacity, and kinds of animals taken on the ark].

(1) **The ark itself was necessitated by the universal flood (continued).** Testing on the shape of the ark has shown it to be very stable, immediately able to right itself from tilts of just less than 90 degrees, naturally heading into waves rather than being caught sideways and listing in the troughs, and able to survive over 200 foot waves. Its length would have been adequate to keep it from being tossed violently even by gigantic waves. And, its shape [six times as long as wide] has been the ratio of many ocean-going vessels.

Three Hebrew words are used for the word translated "window(s)" in the *King James Version* in Genesis 6-8. The first reference is, "a window [*tsohar*] shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above" (Genesis 6:16). The *American Standard*

*Version* (1901) reads thus, "A light shalt thou make to the ark, and to a cubit shalt thou finish it upward." Not used elsewhere in the Bible, this window was actually an opening to allow for light and ventilation. This opening spanned each side of the ark, being a space of one cubit left at the top of the ark's walls. Likely an overhang in the ark's roof covered the opening; the Bible does not detail whether the ark's roof was gabled or flat, likely gabled. Curiosity would cause us to wish for more details in the ark's specifications, but that did not fit into the Lord's purpose. He simply wished to prove the ark's adequacy to fulfil its reason for being built.

The second reference to "window(s)" is "...the windows [*arubbah*] of heaven were opened" (Genesis 7:11). The rain is spoken of as falling from heaven. [More will be discussed concerning the nature of these "windows," in subsequent lessons]. The third reference is, "...Noah opened the window [*challon*] of the ark which he had made" (Genesis 8:6). This is the one window which Noah could open and close, from which he sent forth the raven and the dove (Genesis 8:7-12).

The ark also had "...the door of the ark...in the side thereof" (Genesis 6:16), through which Noah, his family, and all the animals had to enter and depart. [Excellent lessons have been appropriately presented on "*The Ark as a Type of the Church*."]. This is the door which the Lord closed, for the inspired record says, "...and the Lord shut him in" (Genesis 7:16). It must have included actually closing the one door and sealing it. The ark, the student will remember, was sealed "within and without with pitch" (Genesis 6:14). This would waterproof and seal the gopher wood; thus, Jehovah must have caused the same sealing to be done to the

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door, Himself.

The ark was well constructed of gopher wood, no doubt a strong, dense wood which would have a great resistance to rotting. The three stories (Genesis 6:16) and the "rooms" (Genesis 6:14) [Hebrew "nests" (ASV margin), which were compartments for the animals] would provide good bracing for the structure.

Some skeptics have charged that Noah could not have constructed the ark. Many [who are influenced by the evolutionary hypothesis] view ancient people as "cave men," half ape and half man [or some such unscientific, ludicrous, non-historical figment of their wishful imaginings], who did not have such capability. However, when one considers the pyramids, Stonehenge, and the exploits of the Phoenicians, he realizes that Noah and his sons certainly could have built it. They had a century to build the ark, for Noah received the warning 120 years before the flood. Notice: "...yet shall his [the antediluvians'] days be a hundred and twenty years" (Genesis 6:3), during which time the Holy Spirit pleaded for man to repent of his wicked ways, through the preaching of Noah, "a preacher of righteousness" (II Peter 2:5); but, the wicked refused to give heed to Noah's warnings and sinned away the day of grace. "The Lord...is longsuffering to you-ward, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9). On the other hand, He will not coerce anyone; He was able to save a remnant, Noah and his family. Of course, those who had not reached the age of accountability [and thus were not sinners] were safe spiritually, though they died physically in the flood. They did not grow up to follow in the unrighteous deeds of their parents and thus be eternally lost.

Not only did they have more than adequate time to build the ark, they also could hire others to assist them. No doubt Noah had been blessed with riches [as other patriarchs, such as Job and Abraham]. The author has seen atheists building church buildings. And, others of the patriarchs, who died before the flood, could have assisted, as well. Would God have commanded Noah to build the ark and not give him adequate means to accomplish the task?

An interesting sidelight is that before Noah and his family disembarked, "Noah removed the **covering** of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dried" (Genesis 8:13). The "coverings" must have been a portion of the roof, which Noah tore away and through which he climbed onto the roof to view the surface of the land below.

(2) **The fact that the ark was needed at all proves the universal flood.** Noah was commanded, "And of every living thing of **all flesh**, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, **to keep them alive with thee**" (Genesis 6:19). "...two of every sort shall come unto thee, **to keep them alive**" (Genesis 6:20). Could not the animals have escaped a localized flood? Indeed! And, with 120 years of warning, Noah and his family could have walked around the world to escape a localized flood. How long did it take Lot to escape Sodom, which was destroyed with fire (Genesis 19)? Why have the animals and Noah's family on the ark for a year?

(3) **The testimony of Christ affirms the universality of the flood.** He said, "For as in those days

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which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and they knew not until the flood came, and **took them all away**; so shall be the coming of the Son of man" (Matthew 24:38,39). The Lord likens the flood to the **final destruction** when Christ returns. Luke records, "And as it came to pass in the days of Noah, even so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They ate, they drank, they married, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and **destroyed them all**" (Luke 17:26,27). God's moral purpose was to wipe out sin from the earth--not just a part of sin, not just a portion of the human race.

(4) **Peter's testimony proves that the flood was universal.** "...the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein **few**, that is, **eight souls**, were saved through water" (II Peter 3:20); only eight people were saved from that catastrophe. Peter held that the flood was universal, stating that God "spared not the ancient world (Greek, *kosmos*), but preserved Noah with seven others, a preacher of righteousness, when he brought a flood [*kataklysmos*] upon the world of the ungodly" (II Peter 2:5). Further, he affirmed that "the world that then was, **being\_overflowed** with water, perished" (II Peter 3:6). Peter, still further, places the flood in the same category of the universal creation and of the universal destruction of the last day, "stored up for fire" (verse 7). Indeed, the flood destroyed the "cosmos" with a great "cataclysm."

(5) **The covenant of the rainbow affirms the universal flood.** God promised Noah that the same kind of destruction would **never** occur again. This covenant was made with every man and with "every living creature" (Genesis 9:8-17). Has God violated this covenant with every local flood? He has if the skeptics are correct.

(6) **Hebrew and Greek words used only in reference to the Genesis Flood prove it to be universal.** These include the Hebrew *mabbul*, "the flood" (Genesis 7:10), and the Greek *kataklysmos*, for "flood" in II Peter 2:5. These words are **not** used in reference to a localized flood.

Some, trying to get around the force of the universal flood against the evolutionary hypothesis and the religion of uniformity, have tried to affirm that the flood was anthropologically universal but geographically local. That is, the flood covered only the Mesopotamian Valley, but [inasmuch as all human beings were living there] it killed all mankind. The fallacy of that quibble is, the evidence is very clear that there could easily have been one billion people who inhabited the earth at the time of the flood and countless billions of animals. Likely, these figures are very conservative, since human beings lived over 900 years, would have had several hundred years of reproduction, would not have had modern processes of birth control, etc. It is hardly credible that all the animals and men tarried in the Mesopotamian Valley.

The conclusion is that since the flood was universal, the Psalmist in Psalm 104:5-9 must have been

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describing the implications of the flood, not of the appearance of dry land on the third day of creation.

### **REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION**

1. What characteristics of the ark would make it especially seaworthy?
2. What three words translated "window(s)" appear in Genesis 6-8? What is the significance of each?
3. How would one answer the charge that the ark had inadequate ventilation?
4. What are some points of analogy which can be made between the ark and the church?
5. Discuss the charge that Noah could not have constructed the ark. What are the weaknesses of this charge?
6. Was the ark really needed? Why, or why not?
7. Give the testimony of Christ and of Peter to the universal flood.
8. Show how God has not contradicted His covenant with the animals and man regarding the rainbow.
9. Why is it illogical to affirm that the flood was local, yet all human beings and animals were killed?
10. Review the evidences for the universal flood.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### THE EARTH'S ANTEDILUVIAN CONDITION (PART ONE)

The conditions on earth prior to the flood were drastically different from the post-diluvian conditions. When God created the heaven and the earth, the earth was waste, void, and covered with darkness (Genesis 1:1,2). Water [the "deep," *tehom*] covered the whole earth, "...and the Spirit of God moved ["was brooding upon," ASV margin, as a hen does over her eggs and chicks] upon the face of the waters" (Genesis 1:2).

### THE SIX DAYS OF CREATION

During the six twenty-four days of creation, every step was just right; as God [the Architect] created through the Word [the Agent or Contractor (John 1:1-3)] and through the Holy Spirit [the actual Builder ("By his Spirit the heavens are garnished," Job 26:13; "Thou sendest forth thy Spirit, they are created; And thou renewest the face of the ground," Psalm 104:30)], every creative act was good (Genesis 1:4,12,18,21,31). Some have criticized saying that God should have created it initially, on the first day, as perfect and complete. Indeed, God created it to be inhabited by man, but he went through stages in creation, much like a man who whittles the likeness of a bird or a dog from a block of wood. He does not accomplish it all at once, but every stage is just as he wishes it to be; it is good, perfect for that stage in the whittling.

The description of the six days of creation and the

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day God rested is found in Genesis 1:1-2:3; see also Exodus 20:9-11; 31:17; Matthew 19:4; Mark 10:6. Since the days of creation were but twenty-four hours in length, Adam and Eve were created at the beginning of the creation [The Bible knows nothing of a "gap" between Genesis 1:1 and 1:3, nor of the day-age theory, which falsely affirms that the days were long eons of time. Later in this study, the implications of the flood relative to the age of the earth will show the earth to be young, not old].

Genesis 2:4 through 2:25 is an "instant replay, isolated camera" of Genesis 1:1-2:3, so to speak, and shows the circumstances specifically surrounding the creation of the man and the woman. Notice how 2:4 begins; "These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they [Adam and Eve] were created, in the day that Jehovah God made earth and heaven." The second chapter is certainly not a contradiction of chapter one, as some would charge; it simply gives more details relating to the crown of God's creation--mankind. And, it is the background of Genesis 3.

In addition to God's having created the heaven and earth on the first day, God also created light (1:3). The reader will remember that the total surface of the earth was covered by water at the end of the first day. Actually, no dry land appeared until the third day (1:9-13).

### **THE FIRMAMENT IS CREATED**

On the second day of creation, Moses, the author of Genesis, records,

And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were **under** the firmament from the waters which were **above** the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day (1:6-8).

Please notice that the waters below the firmament were divided from the waters which were above, **not in**, the firmament. One must not confuse this firmament [the atmosphere] with the firmament where the stars exist (1:16,17); or with the intermediate state, where Lazarus went (Luke 16:19-31); or with the heaven of heavens, where God's throne exists (John 14:1-3; I Kings 8:27). This firmament is where the birds fly.

Dear reader, where must the waters which were **under** the firmament have been--on the surface of the earth? Exactly! Thus, the firmament must have encircled the earth, much as our atmosphere does now. Now, where must the waters which were **above** the firmament have been? Yes, they must have been layered above and encircling the firmament.

### THE WATER VAPOR CANOPY

The Bible's mention of the waters above the firmament, from the Hebrew *raqia* (expanse, spread out and thin space, the atmosphere) is extremely significant.

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Of course, no such waters exist above the atmosphere now. The questions thus naturally follow: What was their nature? What happened to them? How does this relate to the universal flood? Is there any relationship between these waters and the "windows of heaven" (Genesis 7:11)? What are their implications to the pre-flood and post-flood conditions?

At the end of the first twenty-four day of creation, the ocean (the "deep") completely covered the earth; there was no dry land and there was no firmament. On the second day, God made the expanse, dividing or separating part of the water from another part of the water. The same Hebrew word translated "in the midst of" is used also in Genesis 15:10, where Abraham cut animals into two parts [the word does not necessarily indicate equal parts]; he "divided them in the midst." Having separated them, he passed between the pieces, as did God's presence (15:17), as they entered into covenant. So likewise did the spread-out expanse separate the waters from the waters, "in the midst."

The words "above the firmament" could as well be translated "**upon** the firmament," but not "**in** the firmament." Note the same word in Genesis 1:20, "...let birds fly above the earth"; they cannot fly "in" the earth. Thus, the waters above, or upon, the expanse (atmosphere) is not speaking of clouds **in** the expanse, as some have supposed. In fact, there was no rain prior to the flood (Genesis 2:5,6), nor was there a rainbow prior to God's setting His "bow in the cloud" after the flood, a token that He would never again destroy the earth by a flood (Genesis 9:12-17). The waters "**above** the firmament" were upon, on the top of the firmament, as the Holy Spirit "was brooding upon [same Hebrew

word] the face [upper surface] of the deep"--not in the face of the deep, or ocean which was covering all the earth until day three (Genesis 1:2). Thus, there was the water covering the earth, then immediately above it was the atmosphere, and then immediately upon the atmosphere were the waters above. Incidentally, could God's having placed a part of the "deep" above the atmosphere be that which is described in Psalm 33:6,7? "By the word of Jehovah were the heavens made, And all the host of them by the breadth of his mouth [a clear reference to creation]. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as a heap: He layeth up the **deeps** [plural of *tehom*, cf. Genesis 1:2] in store houses," a celestial place of storage.

The earth must originally, therefore, have been surrounded by a canopy of water (H<sub>2</sub>O). But, somebody observes, there is no canopy which surrounds the earth today. That fact is significant, as shall become clear in this study. What was the nature of the canopy? Water is found to exist in three states: a solid (ice), a liquid (including droplets), and a gas (vapor). The canopy must not have been composed of solid or liquid water, because such a canopy would not have been able to continue to float on the expanse (atmosphere). In addition, ice and liquid water are opaque in increasing thickness, which would have kept Adam and Eve from seeing the sun, moon, and stars [which were created by God on the fourth day and which Adam and Eve saw (Genesis 1:14,15)].

On the other hand, water vapor is invisible. There is water vapor in the room where you are sitting and reading this book, but you cannot see it. However, conditions inside a building could be so changed as to

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cause the vapor to condense and fall in the form of rain, often a problem in larger structures such as where rockets are housed in space centers. The humidity must be closely monitored and controlled. In addition, the water vapor canopy would be lighter than the atmosphere and thus would float on top of the atmosphere, or expand. Approximately 98% of the atmosphere is composed of two gases, Nitrogen (77%) and Oxygen (21%). The atomic weight of an atom of Nitrogen is 14, and that of oxygen is 16. Compare the relatively light molecule of water,  $H_2O=18$ , with the heavier weight of diatomic oxygen,  $O_2=32$ , and of diatomic nitrogen,  $N_2=28$ . Vapor weighs only about two-thirds as much as the atmosphere.

The idea of such a primordial vapor canopy surrounding the earth will bring to the astronomer's mind the canopy which envelopes the planet Venus. Whereas the earth's canopy was composed of water vapor, that of Venus is composed, it seems, of carbon dioxide and hydrocarbons, as well as perhaps some water vapor. Just as the canopy of Venus shields that planet from some rays of the sun, so likewise would the earth's canopy. And, the earth's vapor canopy would remain floating upon the atmosphere until which time the canopy's temperature should be lowered and nuclei of condensation should be thrust into the canopy. Condensation is possible only when particles, or nuclei, are present upon which water vapor molecules can accumulate to form droplets (condensation) or to form ice crystals such as snowflakes (sublimation). Since every snowflake is built around as impurity, one sees the significance of the song, "Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. In what way can it be said that every creative act of God was good?
2. Describe from Scripture the six days of creation (cite book, chapter, and verse).
3. Give evidence that Genesis Two does not contradict Genesis One.
4. Identify the "firmament" above which the waters were located on the second day of creation.
5. What is the significance of God's having divided the waters from the waters?
6. Give evidence that the waters **above** the firmament were not **in** the firmament.
7. Of the three states of water, of which one must the canopy have been composed? Why?
8. Why would the vapor canopy have been able to float upon the atmosphere?
9. Would the earth have been the only planet with a canopy?
10. What are nuclei of condensation? How long would the vapor canopy continue to be above the firmament?

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## CHAPTER SIX

### THE EARTH'S ANTEDILUVIAN CONDITION (PART TWO)

Inasmuch as the vapor canopy does not exist above the atmosphere today, one would expect for today's conditions on earth to be drastically different from those during the time the earth was enveloped by the canopy. What were some of those pre-flood conditions?

#### SCIENTIFIC IMPLICATIONS

When God created the earth, it was a dream world; He formed it to be inhabited, ideal for plants, animals, and mankind, and beautiful in every way. The canopy would have contributed greatly to those conditions.

**The vapor canopy would have precluded rain upon the earth.** "And no plant of the field was yet in the earth, and no herb of the fields had yet sprung up; for Jehovah God had not caused it to rain upon the earth: and there was not a man to till the ground; but there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground" (Genesis 2:5,6). The first mention of rain coming upon the earth is Genesis 7:4; "For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights." The earth, though, was well watered prior to the flood by a fog like mist, likely brought about by a slight change between day and night temperatures. This would be assisted by rivers which flowed likely from subterranean sources, perhaps flowing

from artesian springs in which the underground water had been heated by a source of heat deep in the earth's crust.

"And a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from thence it was parted, and became four heads" (Genesis 2:10). Did you notice that this river, a very large one, divided up into four large rivers which carried the water into numerous and far-reaching areas, the water eventually seeping back into subterranean passages to return eventually to the heat source? This is the **opposite** of what happens today in the rain cycle, wherein surface waters evaporate (become vapor in the atmosphere); rise, cool, and condense to form clouds; are carried by winds over the land areas where rain/snow falls upon the land; become small streams which run into tributaries, which combine into increasingly larger rivers and then run into the ocean, completing the cycle (Job 36:27-33). The geologic features of the earth must have changed so drastically during the Genesis flood, that those four rivers which dispersed the water which flowed from the Garden of Eden cannot be identified today, although the names of two of the rivers and of several pre-flood countries were used to identify certain post-flood rivers and peoples, having been passed down through Noah and his descendants.

**The vapor canopy would have produced a tropical paradise on the earth.** Scientific evidence exists that the Arctic and Antarctic regions were previously characterized by a tropical climate, both in temperature and in moisture, as will be discussed later in the book. The canopy would have had a vast effect on the climate of the whole earth. The water vapor would have allowed the visible wavelengths of the sun's electromagnetic

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radiation through to the surface of the earth. This energy would be reflected or absorbed by the earth's surface and reradiated in the form of infrared light (longer wavelengths than visible light). A sizeable amount of reflected and reradiated infrared would be absorbed by the water vapor canopy, much of it being retained in the earth's surface and in the atmosphere, a phenomenon known as the **greenhouse effect**. We see a smaller amount of this effect today, since the water vapor and the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere absorb ultraviolet and reradiate it in two directions, back to the earth and out into space. It is seen when clouds hold in some of the infrared.

An ideal temperature for living plants, animals, and human beings would be maintained globally, from pole to pole and from one side of the earth to the other. Again comparing the conditions under the earth's water vapor canopy with that of the canopy enveloping Venus, United States and Russian space probes have shown the temperatures of the surface of Venus and of the various cloud levels to vary just a very few degrees from the equator to the poles and from day to night. This would have been a real contrast to the wide variation in temperature on earth today (in the absence of the canopy), from which an average of 39% of the electromagnetic radiation from the sun is reradiated/reflected back into space, a characteristic known as "albedo." The canopy would have held in much of this heat, accounting for much more even temperatures throughout the earth, during summer and winter, day and night. The various types of winds found on the earth today, consequently, would be virtually nonexistent; this also in large measure explain the

absence of rain before the flood, since the existence of rain depends upon the great flow of air from lower to higher elevations, from high pressure to low pressure centers, etc..

**The vapor canopy would have protected living organisms from ultraviolet [short-wavelength] radiation from the sun.** Whereas longer wavelength electromagnetic radiation from the sun is not harmful to animals and man but is actually a necessity, ultraviolet radiation (and certain solar particles) are harmful both to cellular structure and to the deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) [which determines individual hereditary characteristics], causing mutations in the blueprint material and adversely affecting the offspring of the organism, bringing about and speeding up the aging process, producing skin cancers, et al. Without the protection of the ozone layer in the upper atmosphere, all plants, animals, and human beings on the surface of the earth would be doomed, for the ultraviolet (short wavelength radiation in sunlight) is deadly. This allotrope of oxygen ( $O_3$ ) is formed in the upper atmosphere when diatomic oxygen ( $O_2$ ) is exposed to ultraviolet radiation, wherein the molecules of oxygen are broken up and recombined. It then serves as a shield, inasmuch as it absorbs much of the ultraviolet radiation. We are learning more and more of the dangers and deteriorative aspects of radiation. The mutations produced thereby are virtually always harmful to the organisms, and the greater the mutation the greater the harm. It is analogous to shooting a high-powered rifle projectile through a precisely engineered aircraft engine or through a high quality computer.

Dear reader, what the ozone layer does quite

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well, the water vapor canopy would have accomplished with even greater efficiency. In conjunction with the ozone layer, the canopy would have shielded the organism from each of the harmful, intense rays of the sun, from cosmic rays, etc. Anyone doubting the deteriorative and aging impact of radiation should study the effects upon laboratory animals and upon those people who are regularly and excessively exposed to it. He or she should also take note of the great measures taken to shield people from excessive exposure from medical/dental x-rays and from the radiation produced by television sets, microwave ovens, etc.; science tries to protect people from mutations and wisely so! This is true in agriculture (with plants) as well as in medicine (with people), in spite of the fact that evolutionists have gone very reluctantly to mutations as the **modus operandi** of evolution.

Many have asked, "Where did Cain get his wife?" Of course, the answer is that he married his sister, which was no problem in the antediluvian world, for the strain was relatively pure, free from the deteriorative effect of the ultraviolet upon the genetic code, the DNA.

**The vapor canopy would have enabled great forests and lush grasses to cover all the land areas of the earth.** The greenhouse effect would provide both temperatures and moisture [two necessary ingredients for tropical and sub-tropical plants] in all the earth's surface areas, including those regions [desert, arctic, and antarctic] not presently able to grow such vegetation. Today, one does not necessarily find adequate humidity where areas are adequately warm for tropical vegetation, not adequate warmth where there is sufficient moisture. **Both** are necessary.

Abundant scientific evidence exists in both arctic and antarctic geology, permafrost, glaciers, et al., of coal, fossilized forests, palm leaves, poppies, fruit trees, sage brush, and other plants. Not only that, entombed in the frozen tundras are the frozen remains and fossils of elephants, mammoths, rhinoceroses, deer, bison, leopards, wolves, etc., numerous ones of which are tropical today and do not have the capability of surviving in frigid temperatures. Interestingly, these were so quickly frozen by a sudden catastrophe that many of those animals were evidently killed in a struggle, some being suffocated, and that their flesh is often edible today, upon being cut out of the glaciers which captured them thousands of years ago. [The reader is directed to the documentation of such finds in Joseph C. Dillow, *The Waters Above: Earth's Pre-Flood Vapor Canopy*; John C. Whitcomb, Jr., and Henry M. Morris, *The Genesis Flood: The Biblical Record and Its Scientific Implications*, etc. The bibliographical information is supplied at the end of this volume].

**The vapor canopy would have caused the atmospheric pressure to have been greater than today.** We live in an ocean of air. The gases which make up the atmosphere have weight; that is, the gravitational pull of the earth has attraction upon those atoms/molecules just as it does upon us. That pressure at the earth's surface averages one (1.0) atmosphere (ATM). With the presence of the H<sub>2</sub>O vapor floating upon the atmosphere, that pressure is generally thought to have been approximately two atmospheres. Although human beings cannot survive in pressures much less than what we presently experience on earth, man's experience with underwater work and with hyperbaric chambers

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demonstrates that increased pressures do not harm man's ability to live under such conditions but rather can be beneficial in certain ways, including in the areas of fighting disease and of slowing the aging process.

## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. Describe the purposes of the earth's environment; why was it created?
2. In a book (Genesis) which is a book of beginnings, in what context was the first mention of rain?
3. In what way was the earth well watered prior to the flood? Cite passages.
4. How would the water vapor canopy have produced a tropical paradise on earth?
5. What does the canopy surrounding Venus likely indicate about the temperatures on earth under the vapor canopy? What about winds and seasons?
6. Explain how the animals and human beings would have been protected from ultraviolet.
7. Though often used in defense of the evolutionary hypothesis, are mutations beneficial and encouraged? Why, or why not?
8. Where did Cain get his wife?
9. How would the canopy explain the scientific evidence of the tropical plants/animals in frigid regions of the earth?
10. How would the canopy have influenced the barometric pressure of the earth's atmosphere?

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## CHAPTER SEVEN

### PREPARATION FOR THE FLOOD

Noah's flood was a major, universal catastrophe--the greatest single physical occurrence since creation. It has an extremely important place in the history of the world; to ignore the deluge--either ignorantly or prejudicially [wilfully]--is to shut one's eyes to amazing, phenomenal, powerful pressures, erosion, and destructive activity of the breakups of the fountains of the deep and of the waters covering all the high mountains for one-half year. Of course, this produces various types of neuroses in the atheist, the uniformitarian, for it destroys the very foundation of his religion. But for the unprejudiced, it explains the existence of very many of the verities [realities] of science.

For one hundred, twenty (120) years, the Holy Spirit through the pleadings of the righteous Noah endeavored to get wicked mankind to depart from the love and the practice of sin, to repent (Genesis 6:3). The wickedness of man was so great on earth that "every imagination of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented Jehovah that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart" (Genesis 6:5-6). The infinite justice of God demanded that man be destroyed from off the earth (Genesis 6:7). "But Noah found favor [along with his wife, their three sons, and their wives] in the eyes of Jehovah" (Genesis 6:8,18). God "spared not the ancient world, but preserved Noah with seven others, a preacher of righteousness, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly" (II Peter 2:5). Noah pleaded with that evil generation to reform their hearts

and lives, but to no avail.

Christ was preaching in the Spirit [by inspiration] to the antediluvians, through the inspired preacher Noah. Christ was "put to death in the flesh [when He was crucified on the cross for the sins of the world, Hebrews 2:9], but made alive in the spirit; in which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison [these antediluvians were in torments in Hades when Peter wrote], that aforetime were disobedient [it was when they were disobeying God while they lived on earth, before the flood, that Christ preached to them through Noah], when the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah [this was during the 120 years while the Spirit was striving with them], while the ark was preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water" (I Peter 3:18-20). Just as the "Spirit of Christ" which was in the Old Testament prophets "testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that should follow," just so did the "Spirit of Christ" warn and prophesy through Noah of the impending, imminent flood (I Peter 1:10,11). Just as "was the gospel preached even to the dead [those who are now dead but were alive when the gospel was preached to them]" (I Peter 4:6), just so did Noah preach [and Christ through him] to those who lived before the flood.

Divine justice demanded punishment to come upon the wicked. God is longsuffering; "The Lord is not slack concerning his promises, as some count slackness [though the promise of punishment tarry in its fulfillment, yet come it will; God is unlike human beings, inasmuch as very often we promise but fail to fulfill the promise, but God **always** carries out His promise]; but is longsuffering to you-ward, not willing that any should

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perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9). He gave mankind 120 years to repent, a far more than adequate time. And, God pleaded through Peter's preaching for them to repent.

God's nature is seen in Nahum 1:2,3, "Jehovah is a jealous God and avengeth; Jehovah avengeth and is full of wrath; Jehovah taketh vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth wrath for his enemies. Jehovah is slow to anger and great in power, and will by no means clear the guilty." On the other hand, toward the righteous, "Jehovah is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that take refuge in him" (Nahum 1:7). Every warning of judgment against the wicked is accompanied by the offer of mercy if the wicked will turn from his wicked way and seek the Lord, but there is a limit even to God's longsuffering and grace (cf. Jonah 3:9-4:2).

At the end of 120 years of pleading for the wicked to repent (Genesis 6:3), and after the building of the ark was completed, God caused the animals to "come unto thee [Noah], to keep them alive" in the ark (Genesis 6:20). Please notice that God communicated to the animals to enter the ark, "after their kind"; Noah did not have to round up the animals, but they went unto Noah. God further said to Noah, "And take them unto thee of all food that is eaten, and gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them. Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he" (Genesis 6:21,22).

At times, the charge has been made that the size of the ark was insufficient for Noah to take the many thousands of varieties of living creatures which lived on land and breathed air into the ark. "And Jehovah said

unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation. Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee seven and seven, the male and his female [the additional number of clean animals taken on the ark was for the purpose of offering sacrifices, eating after the flood, etc.]; and of the beasts that are not clean two, the male and his female; of the birds also of the heavens, seven and seven, male and female, to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth" (Genesis 7:1-3).

When the animals went in unto Noah, each "after its kind" (Genesis 6:20), one should not confuse the "kind" with the modern taxonomic definition and groupings of "species," a very subjective classification of animals and plants. As noted earlier, the term "kind" (Hebrew, *min*) represents any major group of animals (or plants) which can reproduce. God created the "grass, herbs yielding seed, and fruit-trees bearing fruit after their kind, wherein is the seed thereof, upon the earth" (Genesis 1:11,12). God created the animals of the sea "after their kind" (Genesis 1:21). He created the creatures of the earth "after their kind, cattle, and creeping things, and beasts of the earth after their kind" (Genesis 1:24,25). Finally, He created the man and the woman, male and female, to bring forth offspring after humankind (Genesis 1:26-28). If two animals can breed, they are in the same "kind."

The Lord programmed into the deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) [which is the molecular basis of heredity in plants/animals] the capability to undergo **limited** change, or variation, **within** the kinds (sometimes by evolutionists misleadingly called "microevolution"), but **not** "leaps" between the kinds, that is from one kind to another kind

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(called "macroevolution"). Charles Darwin saw, as we do, numerous varieties of finches and other animals. He had years earlier arbitrarily ruled out the miracles of the Bible and sought to account for the existence of the teeming forms of life on earth solely by the workings of nature. He reasoned that there is no supernatural, nothing "supra," above or beyond, nature, and he set about to prove it. Having seen the **evidence** that limited change exists in living organisms, he took a giant leap into speculation and assumed that since there is evidence of limited change, then given enough time, there can be produced unlimited change between the major groups, or kinds, of animals. The astute student of science is able to see that there is a difference between the scientific **evidence** [which is in the public domain and is visible to all] of limited change within the kind, or in each major animal group, and the evolutionary **interpretation** that the limited change "proves" that unlimited change has taken place and is taking place. Dear reader, we must not allow ourselves to be confused as to where the evidence ends and the interpretation begins; we must be able to distinguish between the two.

The hypothesis that unlimited change **between** the major groups of animals (and plants) has taken place is unwarranted and unsupported by the scientific evidence. Never has such unlimited change been documented in paleontology, the study of the fossil record, or in the laboratory. Generally recognized as the **only possible area of support** for the evolutionary hypothesis, paleontology has shown a total lack of evidence of intermediate life forms between the major groups of animals. In fact, the evidence from paleontology is

devastating to the evolutionary interpretation; it is, however, in complete harmony with the Bible account of creation--animals and plants created instantaneously to reproduce after their own kinds.

The question is sometimes asked, Could evolution have taken place, given enough time? Many things are impossible, even given "enough" time. For example, given enough time, can a person leap the Grand Canyon? Thomas Hunt Morgan, with his associates, began experimenting with the *Drosophila Melanogaster*, the fruit fly, early in the twentieth century. They carefully documented mutations naturally occurring in the eyes, wings, abdomen, bristles, etc. Then, they increased the process of change (mutation) quite drastically by bombarding the flies with x-rays. Other methods have been used to mutate such organisms, including radical changes in temperature, the use of chemicals in their food, et al. In fact, since the *Drosophila* has thousands of offspring after only several weeks, the fruit fly has been studied genetically throughout the equivalent of millions of years of mammal or reptile "evolution." But, what does such modern genetic research prove? The fruit fly has doggedly persisted in remaining a fruit fly; in no case has it evolved into a cricket or a grasshopper. Mutations are **not** beneficial to the organism. The change can go only so far, at which point it is lethal to the organism or the organism snaps back to its state in the wild, its normal condition.

From the foregoing, it is herein affirmed that Noah did not have to take all of the different varieties or "species" of animals on the ark. Even the scientists dispute among themselves regarding the definition of and what constitute "species." The meaning is highly arbitrary.

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Many articles in the "learned" scientific journals debate between "lumpers" [who favor classifying more animals into fewer species] and "splitters" [who favor classifying fewer animals into more species] as to which animals belong in which species. Bible believers do not equate Biblical "kinds" with species. The "kinds" are permanent, as they were created. Paul wrote, "...but God giveth it a body even as it pleased him, and to each seed a body of its own. All flesh is not the same flesh: But there is one flesh of men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fishes" (I Corinthians 15:38,39).

We are not to think that Noah took every variety of cat, dog, swine, horse, rat, et al. on the ark. Think of the countless varieties of cats within the DNA of a pair of cats. And, what would indicate that Noah would have taken full-grown animals on the ark. No doubt dinosaurs were included; however, as with the other animals, young and healthy ones would have been ideal--taking up less space, eating much less food, and not having offspring while confined in the ark. In view of these considerations, there was absolutely no problem to accommodate the animals on the ark. Feeding was no problem; many, perhaps most of the animals would have hibernated, leaving a very manageable number to have been fed and otherwise cared for by Noah's family.

When God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1-2:3), He knew the potentiality of man's sin. In placing the water vapor canopy above the firmament, He provided for His offspring, mankind, a veritable tropical paradise. He also placed Adam and Eve into the beautiful Garden of Eden (Genesis 2). Unfortunately, the man and the woman forfeited their place in the

garden; they rebelled against God and, because of His justice, had to be put out of the garden. Still, the earth was a tropical paradise. Approximately two thousand years later, the wickedness of mankind was so rampant and terrible [no hope of turning it around] that God had to send the universal flood to purify the world; otherwise, no doubt, no one eventually would have been saved from the eternal punishment awaiting the wicked. God in His infinite wisdom had provided, through the vapor canopy, the means of destroying the world by water (II Peter 3:5,6). [The next and final destruction and dissolving of the world, and the universe, will be by fire (II Peter 3:7).]

Having told the animals to go in unto Noah and having commanded Noah and his family to enter the ark, God now "shut him in" (Genesis 7:16). Through God's grace and providence, His instructions, and Noah's obedient faith, Noah's family and the animals were now prepared for the great deluge.

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## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. Why would some people tend to be prejudiced against the tremendous amount of scientific and Biblical evidence of the worldwide Genesis flood?
2. Discuss the fact that God is not only infinite in power, infinite in goodness, and infinite in grace, but He is also infinite in justice. How does this impact the fact of His sending the flood?
3. How did Christ preach to the antediluvians?
4. Did Noah have to capture the animals to take onto the ark? Why, or why not?
5. Contrast the taxonomic term "species" with the "kinds" of Genesis.
6. What mistake did Charles Darwin make relative to "limited" and "unlimited" change?
7. Do the terms "evidence" and "interpretation" mean the same thing? Is the evolutionary hypothesis the "evidence," or rather the naturalistic interpretation?
8. What does the experimentation with the fruit fly say about mutations?
9. Is the classification into "species" an "exact science"?
10. What does all of this say about the number of animals taken on the ark?

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### THE FLOOD COMES

Speaking of His second coming at the last day, our Lord Christ stated,

And as were the days of Noah, so shall be the coming of the Son of man. For as in those days which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and they knew not until **the flood came**, and took them all away; so shall be the coming of the Son of man (Matthew 24:37-39).

Yes, the flood came as God had warned through the preaching of Noah. Very sad indeed is the fact that the wicked would not repent.

Seven days after Noah and his family had entered the ark, the inspired record states, "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights" (Genesis 7:10-12). God through His omniscience was prepared in His original creation for judgment upon man, in the case of man's great wickedness. And, as always, God would practice the Law of Parsimony in bringing about this judgment upon the world which was so wicked that "it

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repented Jehovah that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart" (Genesis 6:5,6).

The Law of Parsimony (also termed the Law of Divine Economy) is not unlike what is practiced by human beings. We do not use a large piece of lumber to kill a housefly on the table but rather a fly-swatter. Automobile manufacturers generally design the engine to fit the size of the vehicle; they do not equip them with huge jet engines. The amount of energy is expended to accomplish the task--energy is conserved. No unnecessary energy is used.

As relates to God, He has never used "special providence" [where He takes over directly ("hands on," as it were) and works through the laws of nature] when He could accomplish His purpose through "general providence" [He sends the rain upon the just and the unjust, Matthew 5:45]. And, during the time when God performed miracles [which He no longer does (I Corinthians 13:8-13; Ephesians 4:8-16), since the purpose of miracles was to confirm the Word of God (Hebrews 2:3; Mark 16:17-20)]. The Word was fully revealed by God before the close of the first century A.D., before the last apostle of Christ died (II Peter 1:3,20,21; Jude 3; Revelation 22:18,19; Galatians 1:6-9), and was confirmed by miracles as it was revealed and was perfect, complete (James 1:25)]. He never used a miracle when He could accomplish His purpose through "special providence" [an example of special providence is God's causing it not to rain in Palestine for three and one-half years, in answer to Elijah's prayer (James 5:17,18; I Kings 17,18)].

Unlike "general providence" and "special providence," a miracle was the suspension of or a working above, beyond and separate and apart from, in

contradiction to, the laws of nature. Remember that God created the universe; consequently He can "dip into" the laws of nature any time it suits His purpose. However, after the divine revelation [the Bible] was completed, He **chose** in His divine wisdom to **limit** the exercise of His infinite power. Dear reader, you have the capability of leaping through a window of a twenty story building. But, you **choose** to limit the exercise of this capability. So it is with God. However, when He decrees it, Christ will appear the second time to raise the dead from their graves--both good and bad (John 5:28,29), receive the righteous unto Himself, and destroy the universe [that which was created on day one (Genesis 1:1)] (I Thessalonians 4:13-18; II Peter 3:1-3). So, God is not performing miracles today. God thus used many **natural** phenomena, as well as the **necessary** miracles in bringing about the flood. What caused the breaking up of the fountains of the great deep, as noted above, has been the subject of much study and speculation. The great deep is no doubt referring back to the deep of Genesis 1:2, the oceanic waters upon the surface of the earth and to waters trapped underground. What caused the fountains throughout the earth, both on land and under the oceans, to be "cleaved open," broken up, thrusting out huge amounts of magma and waters? What set it off?

Many possible suggestions have been given, including the close, catastrophic visit to the earth of an "ice planet" or comet; the rapid shifting of the earth on its axis; an impact on the earth of a meteorite; or some other phenomena. Of course, each of these phenomena would have been timed just right to correspond with

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Jehovah's purpose of destroying the world at the end of the 120 years of warning and pleading.

Could not the Lord have miraculously initiated the events which, by chain reaction, then brought about the flood? Could the One who created the universe, created Adam from the dust, and Eve from the rib removed from Adam's side, enabled the Israelites to pass through the Red Sea on dry land, caused the earth to open up and swallow evil people, raised Christ bodily from the tomb, et al., have miraculously caused the bursting up of the earth's crust, causing great volcanoes and springs to spew forth ash, pumice, lava, water, etc.? He had earlier spoken to the animals, had He not? The writer does not himself, personally, deem it necessary to attempt to account for the initial breaking up of the earth's fountains by the above proposed natural phenomena. God miraculously brought about the flood (Genesis 6:17).

But, someone will ask, could not God have miraculously have caused all of the flood events--causing the mountains to rise and valleys to sink, bringing about the removal, the disappearing of the waters as they "assuaged," etc.? Indeed He could have, but the text does not seem to indicate it, and such would have gone against the Principle of Divine Economy. Why? It is because the Lord had built into the original creation of the earth the means of naturally accomplishing much of His purpose in the flood. The water vapor canopy was already above the atmosphere, poised for God's use in the possible event that He needed it for another and additional purpose. The underground storehouses and rivers, part of the vast subterranean water system implied by the earlier flow of the rivers (Genesis 2:10-14,

previously noted), were prepared to be unleashed at the bidding of God. To explain every event in the flood by God's exercise of His miraculous power is neither necessary nor appropriate; on the other hand, whatever purposes were not able to be accomplished naturally, God brought about miraculously to be sure!

It is very significant that the Bible connects the cleaving open of the fountains and the deluge of rain from heaven. "...on the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, **and** the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights" (Genesis 7:11,12). This first event, the great geologic upheaval, both on land and under water, would have thrust tremendous amounts of volcanic dust and other particles, including salt (NaCl) crystals, from volcanoes and from the oceans. It is not unusual for volcanoes to expel dust 60,000 feet or farther into the atmosphere. Such action would disrupt the atmosphere as well as the canopy of water vapor floating upon the atmosphere, likely at an altitude of from 10,000 to 20,000 feet and above. This disruption would spread rapidly, because of the existence of thousands of volcanoes throughout the earth and their virtually simultaneous eruption.

The particles penetrating the vapor canopy would have served as more than an adequate volume of "nuclei of condensation." That, combined with the cooling effect of expanded gases, would cause the vapor to begin becoming liquid through condensation or solid (snow) through sublimation, then coalescing and falling in the form of rain, snow, hail, or sleet. It would require forty days and forty nights for the water to fall from the canopy, raining not "cats and dogs," as we sometimes in

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the United States describe a hard downpour, but "elephants and dinosaurs," so to speak. Interestingly, there is only about two inches of water in the atmosphere today, and were a global rain to take place, it would be rained out in but approximately from one to one and one-half days--not sufficient for a forty day and forty night heavy rain. When the windows of heaven were opened, a huge downpour [*geshem* in the Hebrew, as opposed to the Hebrew words for a normal or sprinkling precipitation] came down.

What was the result? "...the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth. And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high mountains that were under the whole heaven were covered. And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both birds, and cattle, and beasts, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man; all in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, of all that was on the dry land, died" (Genesis 7:17-22). The sole survivors were Noah and those who accompanied him on the ark (7:23). The waters maintained that level upon the earth 150 days before they started decreasing (7:24).

## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. Define the Law of Parsimony. How do we practice that law today as human beings?
2. Give the implications of the Law of Parsimony as it relates to God's bringing about His purpose in the flood. How was God prepared for the flood, should it be needed? Has God ever been caught unprepared for just any contingency?
3. Only when did God use miracles to accomplish His purpose?
4. Are miracles still being performed by God today? Why, or why not?
5. What natural phenomena have some proposed that might have broken up the fountains of the deep and started the flood?
6. Could God have broken up the fountains by a miracle? Is this a superior, or inferior explanation to those natural proposals? Why?
7. What chain reaction must have been set off by the breaking up of the fountains? How?
8. How would the volcanoes supply nuclei (dust particles) on which the water vapor could condense?
9. Does adequate water exist in the clouds/atmosphere today to supply adequate amounts for a universal flood?
10. How long did the waters persist at the level above the mountains?

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## CHAPTER NINE

### "THE WORLD THAT THEN WAS, BEING OVERFLOWED WITH WATER, PERISHED"

The apostle Peter affirmed the catastrophic results of the flood of Genesis. No other event or group of events in the geologic history of the earth can compare with it. And, just think; only rarely has this amazingly documented event [in the Bible; in the hundreds of flood traditions from throughout the world; in the worldwide water-laid strata; in the fossil evidence, including the massive occurrences of fossil graveyards worldwide; in the evidence of complex life forms in the lowest, supposedly earliest, strata; in the evidence from many scientific phenomena which indicate the very young age of the earth, et al.] been taken into consideration when trying to account for the physical features and realities which exist all about us. Many questions you have already asked, dear reader, and many puzzling things occurring in the natural world can be answered and resolved in your mind as we study the great flood. Please remember that the Lord urges you to investigate, to look at the **facts** of science and of the Bible, and to use your reasoning power--logic (Isaiah 1:18; Romans 12:1). Paul urged, "...prove all things; hold fast that which is good" (I Thessalonians 5:21). What happened when the world "perished" in the universal flood?

In the greatest physical occurrence on earth since creation, an extremely important universal catastrophe, it is difficult to contemplate the disastrous, radical changes which would have been/were brought about by the "cleaving open" of the fountains of the great deep

and by the forty day and forty night deluge. Think of the tremendous power of the thousands of volcanoes; of the flow of magma [molten materials underground, which made their way up through the earth's crust to the surface, exuded often and extensively across the earth's surface as huge lava flows]; of the power of the tremendous volumes of water; and of the indescribable pressures at work and the erosive activities. Could not this account for virtually all of the existing geologic features of the earth? Indeed so!

You will remember that by the time it had rained forty days and forty nights, all the high mountains on the whole earth were covered. Also remember that the waters of the flood persisted at that level for one hundred fifty days--the level of the water was maintained for another 110 days after the flood rains ceased. How was this possible; how did the waters maintain that level? The key in understanding this phenomenon was that the fountains of the deep were not closed for 150 days after they were broken up.

And God remembered Noah, and all the beasts, and all the cattle that were with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assuaged; the fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained; and the waters returned from off the earth continually; and after the end of a hundred and fifty days the waters decreased (Genesis 8:1-3).

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Only after the fountains were closed did the waters begin to assuage (7:24). In no way can such be reconciled with the contention that this was merely a local flood (See Romans 29:10; Isaiah 54:9). [Some who have claimed to believe in God and in His inerrant Word, even, have unfortunately for several centuries tried to harmonize evolution, uniformitarianism, the long age of the earth, the geologic timetable, et al., with the Biblical record. They have arbitrarily ruled out the universal flood which Peter states destroyed the world that then was, rejecting and rationalizing away the clear statements of the Bible. We must be very careful not to redefine clear Bible truth in a vain attempt to harmonize it with unproven hypotheses. Such ends up being neither scientific nor Biblical, as a study of the scientific implications of the flood will show.]

What could have maintained the water level after the flood rains ceased? The volcanoes enabled the water from the subterranean storehouses to be unleashed, and they are actually water generators. Much "new" water ("juvenile water") reaches the earth's surface from volcanoes; that was especially true during the flood. Volcanoes such as Mount Etna, Paricutin, and others have spewed forth millions of gallons of water daily. Notice the reference to such water sources in Proverbs 8:23, "When there was no depths, I [wisdom] was brought forth, When there were no **fountains abounding with water**. Before the mountains were settled, Before the hills was I brought forth."

The writer and his family flew over Mount St. Helens and drove along the Toutle River and the Columbia River in Washington State, USA, observing the tremendous devastation of the pumice, ash, and

millions of tons of water produced by this rather small volcano, May 18, 1980. His wife and he have stood above Spirit Lake, north of the volcano, and looked into its "face" and witnessed the steam coming from the dome area. That volcano spewed its emissions well above ten miles into the atmosphere; the chickens in Yakima, Washington, went to roost because of the darkness, though it was noon on Sunday. Mount Etna, mentioned above, produced 4,600,000 gallons of water daily over 100 days. Imagine the water which could be produced by thousands of volcanoes throughout the world; no wonder the waters maintained their level for another 110 days after the canopy rained out. The Hebrew *baqa*, "broken up," is used in Zechariah 14:4, where is recorded, "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east; and the mount of Olives shall be **cleft** in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south" (cf. Proverbs 3:20). What a catastrophe took place when all the fountains were "burst open"!

One can but begin to imagine the tremendous process of erosion, the upheavals of the earth's crust, the tectonic activity, the transporting of huge amounts of sediment--rock debris, plants, animals, et al., the heat generated by the magma being exposed at the surface, the uprooting of the plants and trees, the world-wide depositing of debris, et al. Dear reader, was the antediluvian world overflowed with water, as Peter wrote? The **fact** that the universal flood took place is a major watershed between creation and evolution--catastrophe and uniformitarianism.

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As "the waters prevailed and increased greatly" in the deluge, they would have uprooted vast amounts of tropical plants and huge timbers. When the writer's father, his brother, and he hiked up Mt. LaConte in the Great Smokey Mountains (which is over a mile in height), we passed along a stream not very far up the mountain, where some very large trees had been snatched up by the roots and washed down the mountain. An informational sign told that this disaster had been caused by a flash flood some decades earlier. That truly impressed me with the sheer power of water. Another event which impressed the writer with the force of water was the time (mentioned earlier) when in Vicksburg, Mississippi, he and several other men struggled against a nearly shoulder-deep, swollen flash flood to pull our wives and children (in a neighbor's small aluminum fishing boat) to safety.

Rivers which are flooding today transport many tons of material and do much scouring. In fact, not uncommon is it for such rushing water to roll along boulders weighing tens and even hundreds of tons and many feet in diameter. You have likely seen, dear reader, huge gullies which were cut into plowed fields and in forested areas during rainstorms and recent floods. What must the destructive forces have been like in the global catastrophe? Think of the vast amounts of uprooted plants and trees being transported also by the global flood.

Have you seen the destruction along the United States' southern and eastern coasts, after their having been battered by hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico or in the Atlantic Ocean? Have you witnessed the rough, rugged Pacific Coast of the U.S. or those embattled

coasts of other countries/continents of the world? If the ocean waves in today's storms are so powerful, just envision the disastrous forces unleashed during the flood. Nothing could withstand such power. Add to that the destructive power of the *tsunamis* [huge tidal waves caused by underwater earthquakes and/or volcanoes], and the havoc is unimaginable. Even in our lifetime, *tsunamis* have killed thousands of people and caused untold damage. All of these effects were in operation during the Noahic flood.

The Bible records, "...and the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of a hundred fifty days the waters decreased. And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat. And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen" (Genesis 8:3-5). The ark came to rest on Mt. Ararat, approximately 17,000 feet above sea level. Noah and his family would not be able to depart from the ark until another two months.

Much scientific evidence exists that more water is present on the earth now than before the flood, as indicated by the evident former existence of a huge river (likely formed by the assuaging of the flood) which ran from near the Atlantic Ocean to the valley of the Mississippi--the Teays River; by the existence of the alluvial plain of the Mississippi River, composed of water-laid sediment hundreds of feet deep and many miles wide (unexplainable by uniformitarian processes--the required volume of water to lay down this sediment could not under present conditions fall on the North American continent); by the existence of continental

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shelves, which give evidence that the original level of the ocean was hundreds of feet lower than at present; etc. This additional water on earth would certainly harmonize with the opening of the "windows of heaven." The great pressures exerted by the waters covering the earth and the breaking up of the fountains of the great deep harmonize with and no doubt contributed to and caused the building of mountains ["the mountains rose and the valleys sank"], and it explains the **facts** relating to both orogeny and plate tectonics.

## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. Why would some likely refuse to take into consideration the universal flood of Genesis?
2. Discuss whether or not the Bible believer should fear an investigation into the facts of science and of the Bible.
3. How long did the flood waters maintain their level above the highest mountains? What possible explanation can account for this phenomenon?
4. What potential dangers exist when Bible "believers" try to redefine Bible truth in an attempt to harmonize it with unproven hypotheses?
5. How were/are volcanoes "fountains"?
6. What is the major watershed between creation and evolution? Why?
7. Discuss the potential destructive force of rapidly moving water.
8. What causes more erosion and carries larger rocks/boulders, clear water or muddy water? (Thought Question)
9. What would the fact that rivers have much larger channels carved out of rock than they now use indicate? (Thought Question)
10. Give scientific evidence that there evidently is more water on the earth today than there was originally.

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## CHAPTER TEN

### GEOLOGIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE FLOOD (PART ONE)

The modern scientists who hold to the evolutionary hypothesis [thousands of scientists are Biblical theists; they believe in creation] have accepted and placed their faith in the doctrine of uniformity, as noted earlier. They believe that, "the present is the key to the past," the assumption that one can extrapolate infinitely into the past those natural processes which are now in operation. Thus, they must account for the geologic column [the sedimentary deposits in the surface of the earth, which contain fossils of marine animals, land animals, plants, coal, oil, salt deposits, etc.] by the phenomena which are observable today and essentially by the same rates as today, not by catastrophic events of the past (such as the universal flood, which they reject). This is also sometimes termed "historical geology."

The sedimentary deposits, or strata, have been postulated by the evolutionists to have been laid down over many millions of years. They have tried to affirm [based on applying their wishful assumption to the radiometric dating methods] the earth to be some 4.5 billion years old. During the last 600,000,000 to 1,000,000,000 years, according to their assumptions, the strata were deposited. These strata, or layers of sedimentary rock, such as one sees in a "cut" along a highway in hills or mountainous areas and/or in such canyons as the Grand Canyon, are supposed to have been very slowly deposited at an average rate of about one foot every 2,000 years. The eras of the so-called

"Geologic Time Table" have been termed the Archeozoic (1,800,000,000-1,000,000,000 years ago), Proterozoic (1,000,000,000-600,000,000 years ago), Paleozoic (600,000,000 to 200,000,000 years ago), Mesozoic (200,000,000 to 70,000,000 years ago), and Cenozoic (70,000,000 to 25,000 years ago). In other words, the lowest levels of strata belong to the Archeozoic era followed in chronological order by the Proterozoic levels, the Paleozoic, etc., on up to today.

The evolutionist assumes further that while the layers of sediment were being deposited over the one billion years or more, evolution from molecules to man was taking place. Life had just been spontaneously galvanized into activity from dead matter [in clear contradiction to and violation of the **law of biogenesis**, which scientific law states that life proceeds only from life--not from non-life]; now it began, they assume, its long journey by chance and by accident [in clear violation of the principle of entropy, the **second law of thermodynamics**], evolving from a single celled animal and red algae through the Line of Descent [protozoa--primitive metazoa--worms--fish--amphibians--reptiles--birds and mammals--man] to human beings. Therefore, they say, the geologic column is the record of man's evolution from the single cell; that is, as evolution was taking place over the last 600,000,000 years, the strata were being deposited, capturing remains of life [both plant and animal] in the form of fossils as living organisms were passing through the limitless and varied stages of change from the least complex forms of life to the most complex forms of life, the least complex in the lowest strata, progressing through the intermediate degrees of increasing complexity until reaching the most

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complex life forms in the highest strata. The authorities among evolutionists proclaim that paleontology offers the **only** direct, historical, documented "evidence" of evolution.

Dear reader, what if the geologic column can be shown to have been laid down in the Noahic flood? The evolutionary hypothesis collapses like a house of cards. [But, even without ever considering the flood, the study of the fossil record constitutes the strongest proof in science **against** evolution, because the forms of life which are fossilized in the strata **do not evolve**, they are **unaltered**, they **appear suddenly** as they will always appear, and there is not the slightest hint that one major group of animals evolved into another major group of animals--or plants. The museums are absolutely destitute of fossil "evidence" of evolution. AND, the evolutionists admit it, yet still arbitrarily rule out God and creation. Note: the author is not denying the value of geology; he is arguing against "historical geology," the so-called "geologic time table," the doctrine of uniformity.] If the evolutionary hypothesis is scientific fact, as often claimed, then that very evidence of evolution should be observable in the geologic column, as the animals and plants were evolving and were captured in their various stages of evolution in the fossil record. [Let it be noted that inasmuch as organic evolutionists closely tie their theory to geology, the biologists look to the geologists, and the geologists look to the biologists--a kind of circular reasoning. Let it also be noted that it is common knowledge that the fossils are dated by the strata they are in, whereas the strata are dated by the fossils that are in them--another example of circular reasoning.]

One would think (with the geologic time-table depicted by the evolutionists in such exactness) that a drill could be inserted virtually anywhere on earth and come up with the entire geologic time table in the geologic column, with its steadily progressing evidence of evolution. But, such is **not** the case. The time table has not been discovered anywhere on earth as the geologists would like to find it. The progression which they need to substantiate their hypothesis is just not found. The evidence which supports the evolutionary interpretation simply does not exist. So, what does the Genesis flood say about all of this?

Many authorities have raised serious questions about the **assumption** that the presently occurring processes of nature have always occurred. Why? Such questioning has come about as a result of scientific evidence for sudden, mass extinctions of vast percentages of animals (including the extinction of the dinosaurs), the abrupt change in climate, evidence of a universal deluge, huge fossil graveyards, rapidly frozen mammoths in the frigid regions of the earth (with tropical plants in their mouths and stomachs), et al. Might the flood of Genesis account for such phenomena?

As the water vapor canopy condensed on the dust particles, coalesced into larger and larger droplets, and fell in the form of rain, sleet, and snow at a catastrophic rate and as the fountains of the great deep were broken up, tremendous volumes of debris-laden flood waters transported and deposited multiplied tons and tons of plants, animals, and rocks. One can but imagine the indescribable numbers of trees uprooted from the earth. This water-transported debris would be deposited according to the scientific principles of hydraulics. There

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would be rapid burial of organic and inorganic materials; such is clearly evidenced in the strata by widespread, universally occurring ripple marks, rain drop prints, and tracks and trails left by birds, worms, dinosaurs, reptiles, and man. Such required that the layers which capped the imprints cover them quickly after they were produced. These phenomena abound in the geologic column. In addition, vast destruction and fossilization of animals which lived both on land and in the ocean took place it seems at the same time--the result of one sudden catastrophe.

In addition, as the debris was being laid out in sediments by the flood waters, it would tend to be deposited in layers, with the sediments and organisms which were picked up by the waters first being deposited deepest in the sequence. This would include marine organisms and marine substances. Next would follow the less complex, less mobile organisms, and those of greater density. The degree of the organisms' mobility would influence their places in the strata, for those more mobile and larger, including man, would move more rapidly to higher ground, thus for a time escaping the onslaught of the flood waters. They would therefore be deposited in less deep strata. In fact, many, perhaps most of them, would thus escape being laid down in the sediment, rather decaying on the surface or being devoured by scavengers in the sea. This explains the moving--in the main--from the simpler to increasingly complex animals in the strata.

The flood also explains the prevalence of fossil graveyards, containing remains of many animals naturally antagonistic to one another; evidently they fled en masse, seeking protection from the pursuing waters which

eventually found them isolated together, transported, and buried them in one deposit.

In studying the stratigraphy factors involved in the forming of the strata, one would expect to find certain characteristics as lamination, bedding, cross bedding, et al. You have observed, dear reader, the ripple lamination produced at the ocean or the river's edge. You have also observed debris being layered out as to the degree of turbidity of currents, direction of currents, density and size grades of loads carried, etc., on a small scale when you examined the layers of sediment which will be deposited by rain overnight in your garden. Very clear are the evidences of sorting which the transporting water accomplished. Just envision all of the action of the universal deluge.

Incidentally but importantly, one must not get the idea that fossilization takes place every day under ordinary circumstances--an impression which the evolutionists would like to leave with people--to fit the doctrine of uniformity. Fossilization takes place under very special conditions, rarely occurring. What likelihood is there that a dog hit by a car, or a dead cow which a farmer drags to the back of his field, or a dead tree, or crops left in a field will fossilize? The chance is not great, is it? Fossilization universally, simultaneously taking place, required by what is found in the strata throughout the world, is **not occurring** today and is **not possible** under uniform conditions required by atheistic evolution.

The scientific, geological evidence of the universal flood is amazing and will be studied further in chapter eleven.

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## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. What is "historical geology"? How does it fit into the doctrine of uniformity?
2. In what way is the fossil record supposed to be a record of evolutionary development?
3. What assumption of the evolutionist does the scientific law of biogenesis [**bio**--life; **genesis**--beginning] contradict? How?
4. Discuss the so-called "Line of Descent."
5. Why is it significant that paleontology is held by evolutionists to be the only direct evidence of evolution? How is it rather the strongest proof in science **against** evolution?
6. Give and discuss two examples of circular reasoning.
7. Where can the geologic time table be evidenced in the geologic column, **if** it can be? What would this seem to say about how the time table came about?
8. How would the flood account for the existence of less complex forms of life in lower strata and more complex forms in higher strata? [Note: the next chapter will show how the flood--not uniformity and evolution--accounts for very complex life forms in the earliest strata.]
9. What is the significance of fossil graveyards?
10. Research what is necessary for fossilization to take place. Why would very few animals/plants undergo fossilization today?

## CHAPTER ELEVEN

### GEOLOGIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE FLOOD (PART TWO)

For as long as history has been recorded, mankind has been amazed by the beauty of the mountains, valleys, and streams of water. He has endeavored to understand the marvels of nature and has sought to explain the existence of the layers of rock in the earth's crust and of the fossils within them. This has led to a scientific discipline known as geology. Whereas the area of "physical geology" studies what exists in the earth at present, it is a science. However, "historical geology" tries to reconstruct the history of the earth from present processes. It cannot rightfully be called science, since these scientists were not available in the past ages to **observe** that history; it is speculative at best.

As noted before, Charles Lyell is termed the founder of modern geology. An attorney, not a geologist, Lyell postulated the geologic time table, which resulted from his acceptance of the principle of slow, gradual changes. *Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary* represents the "historical geologists" as proposing that the record of animals is as follows: invertebrates (Proterozoic Era); fishes, amphibians, reptiles, insects (Paleozoic Era); mammals and birds (Mesozoic Era); placenta mammals and man (Cenozoic Era). However, there are many scientific problems with the geologic time table.

**A first problem with the time table is that it depends upon so-called "index fossils,"** preferably marine and extinct, by which certain periods in the earth's "history" might be dated. The assumption is that by

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examining the earliest stratum in which a certain extinct animal's fossil is found and the latest stratum in which it is found, one can determine the point at which it evolved into existence and evolved out of existence or became extinct. Then, whenever that fossil is located in a stratum, scientists can thereby identify and date that layer of rock. [This method remains one of the archaeologists' system of dating the layers of occupation of a tell (a mound occupied by ancient peoples) by the types of pottery found in the various levels. The fact that pottery is broken quite easily makes that method quite valuable in dating finds, yet it is not foolproof and reliably accurate, which is another subject altogether.] The use of "index fossils" is not nearly so accurate.

After Lyell and his followers had formulated the time table, numerous "index fossils" have been discovered today--living, not extinct at all (though the dating of the various strata are dependent upon their having died out many millions of years ago). Examples would include the tuatara (a large spiny reptile which lives on islands off the coast of New Zealand--supposedly extinct for 135,000,000 years), the coelecanth (a large type of fish--extinct 70,000,000 years), the segmented mollusk *Neopilina galathea* (found living off Central America--extinct 280,000,000 years). Question: why are fossils not found in the so-called recent millions of years of strata, if they were not extinct at all? Termed "living fossils," they refute the timing of the uniformity hypothesis. Even the evolutionists have had essentially to abandon the theory and use of "index fossils."

**A second problem, alluded to in chapter ten, is that the geologic time table can be found no place on earth.** It is not the case that the fossils in the strata move

from the least complex life forms in the lower strata to increasingly complex life forms as the strata move to the upper levels. Instead, many of the strata are missing, countless ones are out of sequence, "millions of years" (as the doctrine of uniformity calculates it) of old strata have been (supposedly according to the evolutionists) thrust onto the top of young strata, and "millions of years of strata" are inverted. These are genuine problems for the uniformitarians, requiring huge catastrophic events to explain (especially when the "overthrusts" involve many hundreds of square miles and often lacking any evidence of faulting. The author has seen the Lewis overthrust in Glacier National Park, Montana, which has darker rocks above, dated by the uniformitarian geologists to be one-half billion years older than the lighter rocks below. Yet, there is not the scientific evidence to prove that there was an overthrust, as is required by the evolutionist.).

**A third problem is that the time table depends upon no complex life forms being found in the lower strata.** But such is not the case. Instead of seeing the evolutionary sequence presumed by the evolutionists, many very complicated forms of life are found also in the lowest strata. The flood, on the other hand, explains the presence of these very complex fossils in the deepest levels. Many of them may well have been trapped or sick and unable to make their way to higher levels as the water approached. They thus would have been deposited in the earlier layers of debris.

**A fourth problem is that the time table depends upon the absence of polystrate fossils.** Very prevalent in the record are the fossils of petrified trees and very large animals which extend through more than one, sometimes many sedimentary strata--poly (many, much), strate

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(strata). Were the strata to have been laid down slowly, as the doctrine of uniformity requires, the animals and trees would have long rotted before being covered with sediment over many thousands of years. However, tree trunks through tens of strata, representing (by uniformitarian calculations) thousands, perhaps millions of years are very common. **AND**, countless numbers of the trees are **horizontal** and even **upside down**. Most of the tree limbs are missing, as well as many of the roots; they were not deposited *in situ* (in the original position).

**A fifth problem is the existence of numerous substances which could not be formed under present conditions.** The presence of dolostone, evaporates, conglomerate, graywacke, chert, and other such kinds of rock are not forming today; they evidently depend upon a catastrophe such as the flood to explain their existence in the strata. Another such substance which has not been shown to be forming today anywhere on earth in fresh water peat bogs, as the doctrine of uniformity affirms, is coal, which shall be discussed later in the chapter.

Can the universal flood answer the above problems and explain the existence of these phenomena. Indeed so! As noted previously, as the flood waters increased, debris--plants, animals, and various forms, types, and shapes of rock--materials would be deposited, in general order from the animals of less complexity to more complexity. It would be deposited in layers. [And, the precipitation of certain minerals and materials necessary to the forming of the above mentioned rocks was possible in the flood.]

As the strata were formed, the trees which had been uprooted and transported by the rushing seas would be deposited, sometimes leaving huge lengths of

their trunks exposed, around which other layers of sediment would be deposited as the direction and speed of flow changed [The speed of flow would influence the density, shape, et al., of the sediments laid out]. Since the root end of the stumps were heavier, they would tend to be deposited floating upright. However, the thickness of the sediment borne along by the water would sometimes cause a tree to be buried inclined or upside down. [Dear reader, have you ever grown a tree upside down--through **SOLID ROCK**?] The same principle applies to the huge, polystrate animals. [Note: before the solidification of the strata which were deposited during the flood, the forces of orogeny (mountain-building) pushed many strata up to great heights. The strata had not yet hardened into solid rock and thus bent and twisted, rather than being cracked and shattered as solid rock layers would be. What is seen in the geologic column in the sites described is a **bending** of "millions of years" of strata (as calculated and postulated by historical geology); but, had the layers been there millions of years, they would have been hardened into solid rock and would **not** have bent but would have cracked and fractured throughout the site. The flood, not uniformity, explains this phenomenon and explodes the evolutionary theory of uniformity.] The flood--not uniformity--accounts for the polystrate fossils.

The flood also explains the existence of many mineral substances in the strata, such as those listed above. For example, as the layers of sediment were being deposited, the flood caused conditions which formed the huge coal beds throughout the world. Coal is composed, in the main, of the carbon from plant debris, and the coal beds cover continuously many thousands of

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square miles. The coal seams are sometimes fifty feet or more in thickness and are found in as many as one hundred strata (layers) in one given location, with layers of clay, limestone, etc., between each layer of coal.

The uniformitarian explanation of coal formation is the *autochthonous* theory, which affirms that coal was formed in fresh water peat bogs during millions of years, the plants having accumulated in such abundance as to enable such to take place.

The *allochthonous* process of coal formation is held by those who believe in Biblical catastrophism. This is the affirmation that during the universal flood, huge amounts of vegetation (which had been growing in the earth's tropical paradise) were transported by the flood waters and deposited in huge swaths, followed by deposits of other sediments, followed again by plant debris, followed by other sediments, on and on, in many cases. Whereas the former fails to fit the facts of science, the water-transported origin seems to explain what is known about coal.

**First**, the evidence is that the layers of sediments below and above coal seams were water-laid, thus indicating the coal to have been water-laid. Also, beds of coal are immediately above and below strata containing marine fossils and rocks--that is, deposits from the depths of the ocean, not fresh water. Any evidence that the vegetation grew where the coal exists is non-existent. **Second**, marine fossils and salt water substances are prevalent also in coal beds. **Third**, the tree trunks preserved in coal strata are sometimes found in horizontal and upside down positions, clearly water transported and deposited--not grown in place.

**Fourth**, the hundreds, even thousands of feet of plant debris necessary for thick coal seams is not possible under uniformitarian conditions, only by its being transported in **en masse**. **Fifth**, thick boulders in coal seams show transportation is by water rather than naturally occurring there, some of them being fifty, one hundred miles, or more from the closest place where those boulders naturally occur. Likely, many of them were entwined within the root systems of huge trees and were thus washed into position. **Sixth**, and of great significance, no fresh water peat bogs have been shown to be producing or to have produced coal. **Seventh**, coal does not require millions of years to be produced, as the theory of uniformity would preach. The allochthonous process fits both the scientific **facts** and the Biblical flood.

The religion of uniformity has been unable to come up with an acceptable mechanism for oil's origin; but, the flood accounts for the layering out of organic matter in the presence of water and gives the explanation of the pressure and heat necessary for its change into petroleum. Involved in this process are the necessary chemicals being present and its buoyancy in water. And, more is being learned, from recent sediments of organic material, about the transformation into hydrocarbons taking place in only thousands, perhaps hundreds of years--not millions.

The eruptions of Mount St. Helens since May 18, 1980, have given scientists certain insights into how catastrophic processes can bring about geologic features very quickly, which features are assumed by the doctrine of uniformity to have occurred over thousands upon

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thousands, perhaps millions of years. Such features would include very rapid and deep erosion in the Toutle River Valley (resembling that of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River in miniature); the gradual yet persistent sinking of trees from the log mat which floats on Spirit Lake just north of the mountain, in which the heavier root end of the log generally causes the tree to stand upright (resembling certain petrified forests, supposedly growing and stratified over millions of years); the layers of peat being accumulated in the bottom of Spirit Lake (resembling the layering out, even the texture of various coal deposits).

The evidence of the universal flood catastrophe is everywhere. The author has found such evidence as shark's teeth, marine fossils, et al., in numerous ones of the United States, as you likely have in your area, dear reader. The simplest explanation and one which also fits scientific **fact** is the Biblical account in Genesis chapters 6 through 8.

## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. Of the difference between "physical geology" and "historical geology," which one can be strictly described as science? Why?
2. Describe the difficulty of dating strata from "index fossils."
3. Why would the uniformitarian scientists need to say that certain huge areas of geologic strata have been thrust over other huge areas of land? Would not evidence of cracked, sheared, deformed rocks be present?
4. Discuss how the presence of polystrate fossils throughout the geologic column constitutes a severe problem for the geologic time table.
5. How does the flood account for the existence of polystrate fossils?
6. Contrast the **autochthonous** and the **allochthonous** theories of coal formation. Which one is the uniformity theory?
7. How must marine (ocean) fossils have gotten into coal and into surrounding strata?
8. Give other evidence of the **allochthonous** formation of coal. Is coal being produced in fresh water peat bogs today?

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9. How would huge boulders get into coal seams often far from the likely sites of origin?

10. Discuss the possible implications of Mount St. Helens' findings to this study.

## CHAPTER TWELVE

### GEOLOGIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE FLOOD (PART THREE)

Whereas about 10% of the land surface of the earth is now covered with ice, most of it being in Antarctica and in Greenland with some glaciers existing in many mountainous areas, scientific evidence reveals that three or four times that much ice covered many continental surfaces in the "recent past" [to use the uniformitarian view of time]. Huge ice sheets, they say, advanced over continents in the Northern Hemisphere, including North America, disappearing [using uniformitarian estimates] less than 10,000 years ago. It is estimated that the ice advanced down into the United States hundreds of miles below the Great Lakes.

You, dear reader, have possibly seen evidence of this great glacial activity in the form of **striations** in bedrock or boulders where former glaciers had flowed downhill, cutting scratches as the rocks which they had engulfed were sliding along bedrock surfaces. Have you seen the milky colored streams flowing from existing glaciers, lakes left by earlier glaciers, the *cirques* (amphitheater basins) formed by former glaciers in mountainous areas, or the **till** left by a glacier? The once **vast** glacial activity evident on the earth, commonly termed **the ice age**, seems very much to indicate a catastrophic past--not that "the present is the key to the past." Also, the rapidly frozen and well-preserved mammals, et al., frozen in arctic and antarctic regions of the world indicate the necessity of a catastrophe.

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When animals are being processed for food, people are warned not to delay in refrigerating or freezing the meat. And, there is limited time within which it must be eaten. Our imaginations are, therefore, captured when we hear that huge mammoths and mastodons are cut out of the glaciers and permafrost (permanently frozen) areas of the north and south (areas which were once tropical in climate), and their meat is still edible; tropical plants (readily recognizable as poppies, buttercups, bluebells, grasses, etc.) are found in their mouths and stomachs; and their ivory tusks are complete with pulp (which, if not frozen quickly, will rot and thus stain and ruin the ivory). The doctrine of uniformity struggles in vain to account for such phenomena. Can the Genesis flood possibly account for these finds? Can it account for such rapid freezing?

Dr. Joseph C. Dillow, in his significant volume, *The Waters Above: Earth's Pre-Flood Vapor Canopy*, not only fully documents such finds (including that of the Beresovka mammoth, found on the banks of the Beresovka River and excavated by Dr. Otto F. Herz, zoologist with the Russian Academy of Science's museum, M.E.V. Pfizenmayer, of the museum, and M.D.F. Sevastianov, a geologist of Yurievsk University, which mammoth had to have died before it could swallow its last meal of poppies and other such plants and to have been frozen suddenly. In addition, mammoths were not adapted to cold weather [pp. 318-320, 340]), but he also calculates [with the help of Bird's Eye Frozen Food Corporation in New York, Armour Meat Company, and other experts] the suddenness and amount of temperature drop necessary thus to preserve the Beresovka mammoth. Then, he formulates how the

condensation of the canopy and the resulting flood and deep freeze could explain the sudden temperature drop and the fact that the area of the Arctic where the mammoth was buried in ice has remained frozen.

Having stated that much of the heat load in the canopy would have been transported by the falling rain into the oceans, raising their temperature to a negligible degree (pp. 277, 278), Dr. Dillow postulated that mountain uplifts and volcanic activity began to occur, bringing about great amounts of rainfall. Becoming low pressure areas, these areas of uplift would become centers into which strong winds would flow, filling the vacuum left by the updrafts. Located throughout the world, these activities would lower the temperature drastically in those places, freezing plants and smaller animals.

Second, as the volcanoes would spew their ash, pumice, and other materials into the atmosphere, the canopy would be greatly cooled; it would shield the earth from the warming rays of the sun, thus dropping the temperature further.

Third, with the anticipated resulting rain over the storm areas, the atmospheric pressure in those areas would be greatly reduced, resulting in a drastic drop in surface temperatures. The same result would begin to spread away from the uplift areas, as the nuclei of condensation would spread. When pressures are lowered, the temperature of gases decreases.

Fourth, as the cold air rushed over even colder air (warmer air rises), it would be cooled even more from the resulting atmospheric expansion in the higher altitudes. He calculates that the temperatures would have reached in some places -185 degrees Fahrenheit, in

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the midst of much snow, hail, etc. Thus certain mammoths and other animals and plants were caught in great blizzards. The freezing temperatures, he says, would have begun in certain areas in the north and south and would have spread. Some would be frozen in ice, others captured in Siberian muck, etc. In time, the freezing would extend hundreds of feet deep in what is today called permafrost (pp. 392-419).

Incidentally, Dr. Dillow speaks of numerous individual volcanic ash falls which are interbedded in glacial ice and in Alaskan muck, very likely tying together the volcanic eruptions and the ice age (pp. 186, 416). Whereas the above is a reasonable scenario, other elements may have been involved also. The Bible is right; the world was drastically changed, and the uniformitarian is without viable explanation, whereas the flood catastrophe accounts for flower petals, poppies, sedges, et al., undigested and preserved in huge animals in what are now frozen wastelands.

Whenever the subject of the flood, the age of the earth, and how long has man been on earth are discussed, the question always arises, what about the **dinosaurs**? These terrible lizards did indeed roam the earth at one time, and they provide great support for creation. They varied in size from that of chickens to about 100 tons. Supposedly 200,000,000 years in evolving, there are no intermediates, just as there are no intermediates between other major groups of animals, as noted earlier. God made them the way they were.

Fossils of dinosaurs exist in many parts of the world, from Alaska, to the Arctic, to Antarctica, and many places between. They have been located in lands now very frigid and covered with ice, in hot desert areas,

and in very arid regions. When they lived on earth, though, those areas must have been of ideal climate and able to support lush, well-watered vegetation. The Bible says that God created the beasts [including the dinosaurs] and man on the sixth day of creation. And, many feel that in the Paluxy River near Glen Rose, Texas, dinosaur and human footprints exist together. Whether or not that is correct, the book of Job is likely describing them also in chapter 40, termed behemoth, and in chapter 41, termed leviathan.

Dinosaurs were egg layers, and they came in many types and sizes. Some had spikes, or horns, on their heads and armor plates on their necks (Triceratops); others had spikes on their tails and bony plates on their backs (Stegosaurus); still others had armor all over their tails (Ankylosaurus): even others had duck looking bills (Trachodon); etc. Others are known for their great teeth (Allosaurus, Tyrannosaurus Rex, et al.). Still others are known for their size (Brachiosaurus, Brontosaurus, et al.). Yet others were much smaller (Struthiomimus, Oviraptor, et al.).

What caused their disappearance? A number of suggestions have been put forth, including such untenable ideas as the outbreak of a disease; the evolving of mammals, which ate the dinosaur eggs; a change in the type of plants available, which they could not digest; a huge asteroid which hit the earth so changing conditions as to make life impossible; etc. Think about the asteroid theory. If such killed all the plants and small animals leaving the dinosaurs nothing to eat, would not such a catastrophe also have wiped out all the birds, thin skin animals (including the mammals), etc.? Does paleontology record that?

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Might the Genesis flood account for the extinction of the dinosaurs? Think about the tremendous changes resulting from the flood. Any number of changes likely impacted the ability [or lack of ability] for the dinosaur to survive. [Without doubt, Noah took dinosaurs (healthy, baby ones) on the ark.] First, the world was no longer a tropical paradise, making sufficient growth of plants necessary to feed such huge animals--tons of food for certain dinosaurs daily--essentially impossible. Second, the life span of man greatly and steadily decreased after the flood, from over 900 years on average to 70 years. If the animal life decreased proportionally, that would likely have affected the dinosaurs. Dr. Dillow observed that reptiles continue to grow until they die. Whereas mammals have "secondary centers of ossification in the growing ends of their bones" and when the ossification replaces the surrounding cartilage the mammals cease growing, reptiles do not have such secondary centers. Thus their bones grow all their lives (pp. 156, 157). Shorter life spans would mean smaller size.

Third, not only did the pre-flood canopy protect living organisms from the ultraviolet rays of the sun, which deteriorate the D.N.A. and thus shorten life spans (as does the ozone [O<sub>3</sub>] layer today, but much, much, better), but it also helps likely to explain longer age span in another way, for man and for animals prior to the flood. The atmospheric pressure with the canopy in place must have been at least double the present pressure, thus increasing the amount of oxygen in the atmosphere. Compare this with the effects of treating patients in hyperbaric chambers today; scientists are learning more about the slowing of the aging process in hyperbaric

oxygenation. Also interesting is the implication regarding the dinosaurs. The size lungs which the dinosaurs seem to have had could have oxygenated their huge bodies with the greater abundance of oxygen [per cubic inch] in the atmosphere [increased atmospheric pressure] but not in the decreased amount of oxygen, post-flood, especially if they were warm-blooded, as many scientists now think (pp. 154, 155).

The flood has many implications as one examines the features of the beautiful, spectacular world in which we live, answering many puzzling questions which all of us have contemplated. Let us take into consideration the **facts** of science as we study the history of our planet.

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## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. Compare the amount of ice covering the earth presently as compared to the past. Discuss the destructive force of which glaciers are capable.
2. What evidence exists that many mammoths were killed by a catastrophe? Why must ivory be processed/frozen quickly when an animal dies or the ivory is removed?
3. Discuss several phenomena which may have occurred when the flood came, accounting for the very rapid freezing.
4. What happens to a gas [the atmosphere in this case] when the pressure is lowered? What would have decreased surface pressure as the flood started?
5. What phenomenon seems to tie together the ice age and volcanic eruptions?
6. Discuss what seems to be the cause of today's fascination with dinosaurs. Should Christians capitalize upon this interest to teach Biblical catastrophism?
7. In what areas of the earth are dinosaur fossils located? Are all of those areas characterized by ideal climates today, the kind which would support these huge animals, providing their needs?
8. Describe some of the dinosaurs. Does evidence exist that they evolved, such as intermediate forms between the major "kinds"?

9. Name and discuss some uniformitarian suggestions as to what might have caused their sudden disappearance.

10. Name three possible explanations for their disappearance relating to the changed conditions brought about by the flood.

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## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

### THE AGE OF THE EARTH

The Word of God records, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). Also in the beginning, God created the inhabitants of the earth, including the man and the woman--Adam and Eve. In setting up the Hebrew week, God said, "Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is a sabbath unto Jehovah thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days Jehovah made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore Jehovah blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it" (Exodus 20:9-11). Christ Himself stated, "But from the beginning of the creation, male and female created he them" (Mark 10:6). When God created the non-living, inorganic material of the universe, He also created living organisms, both plants and animals--and man. When He created, the Psalmist records, "For he spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast" (Psalm 33:9). Genesis 2:1,2 reads, "And the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made." God is not still creating; new "kinds" of plants and animals are not evolving. He created the universe, the solar system, and earth in six twenty-four hour days (solar days), and He created all of the living "kinds" (plants and animals, and man) in those solar days--at the

beginning.

When was the "beginning of creation?" Bible believers maintain that the earth is less than 10,000 years old, likely not over 7,000 years old. How does that age compare with that claimed by uniformitarian philosophy? The evolutionist claims the solar system to be approximately 4.5 billion years old. One recognizes immediately that there is great disparity between these two chronologies [creation (catastrophism) versus evolution (uniformitarianism)].

Why would some people aver that the earth is nearly five billion years old? Those who reject that God created the heaven and the earth out of (from) nothing must assume that the evolutionary hypothesis is correct. There must be the eternity of matter, spontaneous generation (life from dead matter), and unlimited change from the least complex forms [even the one-celled animal is exceedingly complex, for this single cell must carry on all of the necessary functions for an organism to live, whereas in multicellular organisms, various different cells carry on individual, varied functions] to the increasingly complex forms; in other words, **no** life is simple! All of these developments (this change) take vast amounts of time, according to the evolutionary hypothesis. [Creationists insist that in view of the Bible and also in view of true science (the facts and laws of nature), it is **not** the case that given enough time evolution could happen. Evolution requires the violation of the **law of biogenesis**, of the **first and second laws of thermodynamics**, of the **fixity of the "kinds,"** et al. Dear reader, you know that 10 billion times zero equals zero, just as certainly as one times zero equals zero. That is

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fact, and it will not be violated. A person might purpose and claim to be able to jump the Grand Canyon, for "given enough time, anything can happen," as it is claimed. He might get back from the rim of the canyon and take a running jump, "marking" as it were, how far he was able to leap (so as to begin there with the next leap). But, will he be physically able to take the next leap, and would marking how far he got make any difference anyway?].

In spite of the fact that many evidences from science point to a young earth (as will be noticed later in the chapter) uniformitarian scientists disregard these phenomena and center on radiometric dating processes. Those methods are far less nearly accurate, for it takes so much longer to get in the results than with the methods which indicate a young earth--thus being susceptible to many more errors.

### **URANIUM-LEAD METHOD**

One of the methods used by evolutionists to estimate the age of the earth is to utilize the decay of certain radioactive elements into other elements which are stable. In radioactive materials, the nuclei are unstable, and they disintegrate, giving off particles and/or radiation. When the decay, or disintegration, takes place, the element passes through what is termed "daughter" elements and eventually is disintegrated into a stable isotope. An example of this method is the decay of Uranium 238 into Lead 206 (U 238 : Pb 206). The number designates the atomic weight of the elements; thus, this uranium atom is 238 times the weight of hydrogen (H), which has an atomic weight of 1. As it

emits alpha and beta particles, it passes through some twelve or more elements until it becomes Lead 206. This process is considered to be a "time clock" which can date rocks containing radioactive substances, such as Uranium. Others would include Uranium 235 : Lead 207; Thorium 232 : Lead 207; Potassium 40 : Argon 40; et al. The decay rate of a substance is measured in half-life, which is the amount of time that it takes (according to today's calculations) for the substance to lose one-half of its radioactivity; for example, U 238 : Pb 206 has a half-life of about 4.5 billion years.

The assumption is made that by calculating the amount of the parent element (uranium) as compared with the amount of the daughter (lead) [or ratio] in the sample igneous rock, the age of the rock can be determined. How accurate are such radiometric dating methods?

Many problems exist in using this means of dating the rocks. First, their accuracy depends upon the rocks being composed only of the parent element (in the above case, uranium)--no lead and/or other daughter elements. Why would the Creator not have placed some of the daughter substances in the rocks as He created them, especially since He created all things with "apparent age," giving the appearance of being "full grown." Were the rivers full of water when created; the animals fully developed, ready to reproduce; the plants with fruit/seeds; Adam and Eve grown and responsible before God; the stars created with their light, as though they had been "hung" in the heavens for billions of years; et al.? Indeed so! Then why not the rocks also? That would certainly make sense, since the Lord made the uranium, instantaneously creating its makeup. It would

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be only natural for Him to create the intermediate elements also. One can certainly see how that if the rocks were created with daughter elements already present, the "evidence" for an old earth from radiometric dating would disappear.

Second, many discrepancies exist between the various radiometric dating processes. Third, some of the uranium/lead containing rock has shown signs of the intrusion of lead from other sources, brought about by volcanic activity and/or the flow of magma, interfering with the geochronometer. Also, some of the parent/daughter elements could escape in the same way. Such was very possible in the flood. In no way can a person make a determination scientifically and of certainty as to the amount of the parent element in the original site. Fourth, the flood and other phenomena could have altered the decay rates of the elements, skewing the results. Fifth, as the process moves from one daughter element to another, one of those elements is Radon 222, which has a tendency to escape the rocks in the form of a gas. Such would certainly be enhanced by the process of leaching, caused by flood waters. The supposed "proofs" of the old earth are founded upon the wishes of evolutionists--not upon the scientific evidences. The source is the same as that of the "geologic time table." "The wish is the father of the thought."

### **CARBON 14 METHOD**

Someone might ask, Does not the Carbon 14 dating method prove an old earth? Carbon 14 is an unstable atom, whereas Carbon 12 is stable. Formed by radiation colliding with nitrogen atoms, C14 is converted

in the atmosphere to carbon dioxide, as is C12. Carbon is absorbed by green plants, and animals and human beings eat the plants. The C14 is absorbed by animals and people. When a living organism dies, the radioactive carbon (C14) begins to decay. The half-life is approximately 5,730 years. Thus, in several half-lives, the small amount of radioactivity left in the organism makes dating very inaccurate. The ratio of C14 and C12 are used in measuring time. The industrial revolution has also made the C14 : C12 method increasingly inaccurate, because much more carbon than before has in recent years been released into the atmosphere. Furthermore, with the water canopy in antediluvian times, the prevalence of the much greater growth of vegetation in the universal tropical climate indicates a much larger proportion of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere than today, since plants greatly thrive in higher concentrations of carbon dioxide. It is not correct that radioactive carbon dating can be used to determine the age of the earth.

### **DATING PROCESSES WHICH INDICATE A YOUNG EARTH**

As noticed earlier, the evolutionary hypothesis requires a very old earth; a young earth is devastating to the doctrine of uniformitarianism. However, many scientific phenomena exist which give evidence to the earth's youth (even uniformitarian methods of estimating). These would include the amount of helium in the atmosphere; the rate of deterioration of comets encircling the sun; the rapid depletion of the earth's magnetic field; the amount of sodium, chlorine, et al., in

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the oceans; the small amount of dust on the moon; the amount of dust from meteors on the earth's surface; etc.

## IN CONCLUSION

The purpose of this book has been to give an alternative view of the origin and history of the earth to that proposed by the evolutionary hypothesis. It is not exhaustive but is an introduction to the study. May the material contained herein motivate the reader to examine more closely the question of origins in view of the established facts of science, instead of the subjective, uniformitarian interpretation based upon a prejudging that the God of the Bible does not exist.

"In the beginning God created...." And, "The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament showeth his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). Because of man's wickedness, God had to send the universal flood. These facts are in **perfect harmony** with the facts of science, what is evident in the world around us. To live one's life in obedience to the Word of God brings great and lasting fulfillment and joy; it exalts the dignity of human beings and fills mankind's deepest longings and needs. Further, it gives hope of an eternal existence with God in heaven. Dear reader, you can become a Christian by hearing His Word (Romans 10:17), and believing the Word (Hebrews 11:6), by dying to the love and practice of sin in repentance (Luke 13:3,5), by confessing that Christ is the Son of God--His deity (Acts 8:37; Romans 10:9,10), and being baptized [immersed] in water for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:26; I Peter 3:21). The Lord will add you to His church, the church of Christ (Acts 2:47; John 3:3-5; Romans 16:16). Through God's

grace, when the child of God lives a humble, faithful life of Christian service, he will receive a crown of life (Revelation 2:10; II Timothy 4:6-8).

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## REVIEW, THOUGHT, AND DISCUSSION

1. Describe God's setting up the Hebrew week. What might lead one to try to make the "days" of Genesis One long eons of time? Would those Hebrews have reasoned (Exodus 20:9-11) that "one day is with the Lord as a thousand years," as some today misapply II Peter 3:8-9?
2. What evidence exists that God is not still creating? Would He be still creating, if He used the evolutionary process in creation (as the "theistic evolutionists" attempt to affirm)?
3. Give the passage that says the heavens, earth, and sea, and all the inhabitants of the earth were created in six days. What day were the heavens and the earth created?
4. Why do some people "need" the earth to be extremely old? Does the mere affirmation make it a fact? Why, or why not?
5. Discuss whether or not "time" can cause just anything to happen.
6. What is radiometric dating? On what assumption is it based?
7. Discuss some of the problems with these processes of dating the earth, e.g., U 238 : Pb 206.
8. Could the flood have adversely effected such attempts to date the rocks.

9. Can radiocarbon dating be used to give the age of the earth? Why, or why not? Name some scientific dating processes which demonstrate that the earth is young.

10. Since God created all things; because I am made in His image (Genesis 1:26,27); because Christ came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10) and to die on the cross of Calvary to cleanse me of my sins through His atoning blood; and because a mansion is prepared in heaven for the faithful children of God (John 14:1-6), what should be my response to all this?

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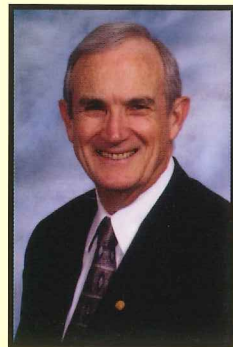
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*Numerous additional very beneficial books have been written on science and the universal flood of Genesis, which is introduced and set forth in this book. The reader is encouraged further to investigate the subject.*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Curtis A. Cates, son of a Gospel preacher and father of two Gospel preachers, preached his first sermon in 1958. For more than a quarter of a century he has been engaged in training preachers of the Word.

He has earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in Bible, English, science, history, and education from Alabama Christian College, Livingston University, and Samford University. He received a Master of Theology degree from Alabama Christian School of Religion (now Southern Christian University) and the Doctor of Education degree from the University of Alabama. He has done post-doctoral work at Abilene Christian University.



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