

Introduction:

- Luke 1:1-4 Have certainty of the things you have been taught
- Luke 7:22 “Go and tell what you have seen and heard” – Jesus

Question 1: How big was the ark?

- 1 cubit = 18 – 22”; average of 20.5”
- 300 (515’) cubits long, 50 (86’) cubits wide, 30 (51’) cubits high
- The same capacity as 450 semi-trailers (53’ each)

Question 2: How could Noah have built such a huge vessel?

- The sons of Lamach had advanced skills centuries before the ark (Genesis 4)
- The Lord specified the type of wood to be used and how to waterproof it (Gen. 4:14)
- They had advanced brickmaking skills 3 generations after the flood (Genesis 11)
- Evidence of petrified trees more than 400 feet which could have been used in construction

Question 3: How did all the animals fit?

- Only land-dwelling animals and birds; no marine creatures (Gen. 7:21-22)
- Male and female breeding pairs for each “kind”.
- There are fewer than 6,000 “kinds” or family groups in animalia
- “Bring one pair unclean animals, seven pairs of clean animals and birds” (Gen. 7:2-3)
- This would necessitate bringing 20,000 – 30,000 animals onto the ark
- The average animal would be the size of a sheep
- 450 semi-trailers have a capacity of 120,000 sheep-sized animals (more than four times the space needed)

Question 4: Was the flood local or worldwide?

- If the flood was local, Noah could have moved rather than build the ark
- A local flood would not have dealt with the universal sin problem
- Gen. 6:7 gives the Lord’s reason for the flood
- Gen. 7:17-24 all mountains under the whole heaven were covered, every living thing on the face of the ground was blotted out
- No people were living in the ocean, so no need for God’s judgement there

Questions 5: Where did all the water come from?

- The fountains of the great deep burst forth; the windows of heaven were opened (Gen. 7:11; Job 38:8)

Question 6: Was this the first time it rained?

- Prior to the flood the earth was watered by mist (Gen. 2:5-6). No skin moisturizer needed!
- This might explain longevity prior to the flood, and the immediate decline in lifespan
- This mist layer was thick enough to produce 40-days’ worth of rain

Question 7: How could the Himalayas, Rockies and other mountains be covered by the flood?

- Everything was covered to a depth of *at least* 15 cubits (25’). (Gen. 7:19-20; Ps. 104:6)
- The mountains, valleys and seabed were not have been as extreme as they are now
- Evidence of very violent plate tectonic movement in the earth’s crust (Ps. 104:8)

Question 8: Do the fossil records support the flood?

- Fossilized sea creatures found on the highest mountains
- Fossils show evidence of mass, catastrophic death rather than natural death

Question 9: Didn't the flood only last 40 days?

- No, the flood was considerably longer
- The flooding started on "February 17, Noah 600"
- It rained for 40 days and 40 nights after which the flood waters reached their peak
- The ark rested on the mountains of Ararat on day 150, "July 17, Noah 600"
- On "October 1, Noah 600" the mountain peaks were visible
- Around "November 11, Noah 600", Noah sent out a raven, then a dove
- Around "December 2, Noah 600", the dove did not return
- On "January 1, Noah 601", the covering of the ark was removed
- On "February 27, Noah 601", God told Noah and his family to leave the ark

Question 10: Where did all the water go?

- The wind caused the water to evaporate into clouds (Gen. 8:1)
- The landmasses and mountains were raised, and valleys and sea trenches were lowered by the violent plate tectonic movement in the earth's crust (Ps. 104:8-9)

Question 11: Is God unjust for bringing such catastrophic destruction to the earth?

- The charge against God for "*permitting evil*"
- The Lord warns people of His coming judgement:
 - Noah, a herald of righteousness for 100 years (2 Pet. 2:5)
 - Lot's warning to Sodom (Gen 19:12-15; 2 Pet. 2:7-8)
 - Moses' multiple warnings to Pharaoh (Ex. 7-11)
 - Jonah's warning to Nineveh (Jonah 3:1-5)
 - The coming judgement that 2025t. 2:5)
 - Lot's warning to Sodom (Gen 19:12-15; 2 Pet. 2:7-8)
 - Moses' multiple warnings to Pharaoh (Ex. 7-11)
 - Jonah's warning to Nineveh (Jonah 3:1-5)
- The coming judgement that *we are to preach* (2 Pet. 3:8-13)
- God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8), not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. (2 Peter 3:9^b)

Questions to Consider:

1. What is the closest you have come to experiencing a flood?
2. If your home was about to be flooded, what three items would you grab?
3. How do you think Noah & his family reacted when they heard the first raindrops?
4. How do you think the people outside the ark reacted when they heard the first raindrops?
5. How do you believe the flood reflects God's nature and character?
6. What surprised you most as you heard today's message?