



In the Beginning

A study of Genesis Chapters 1 - 11

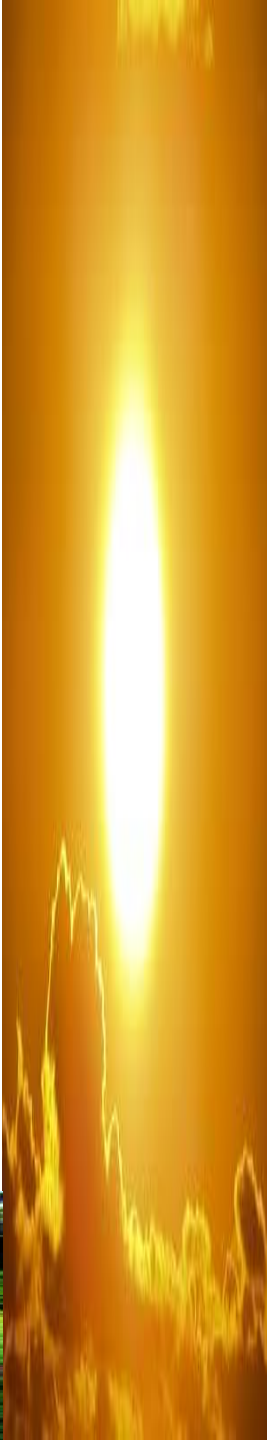
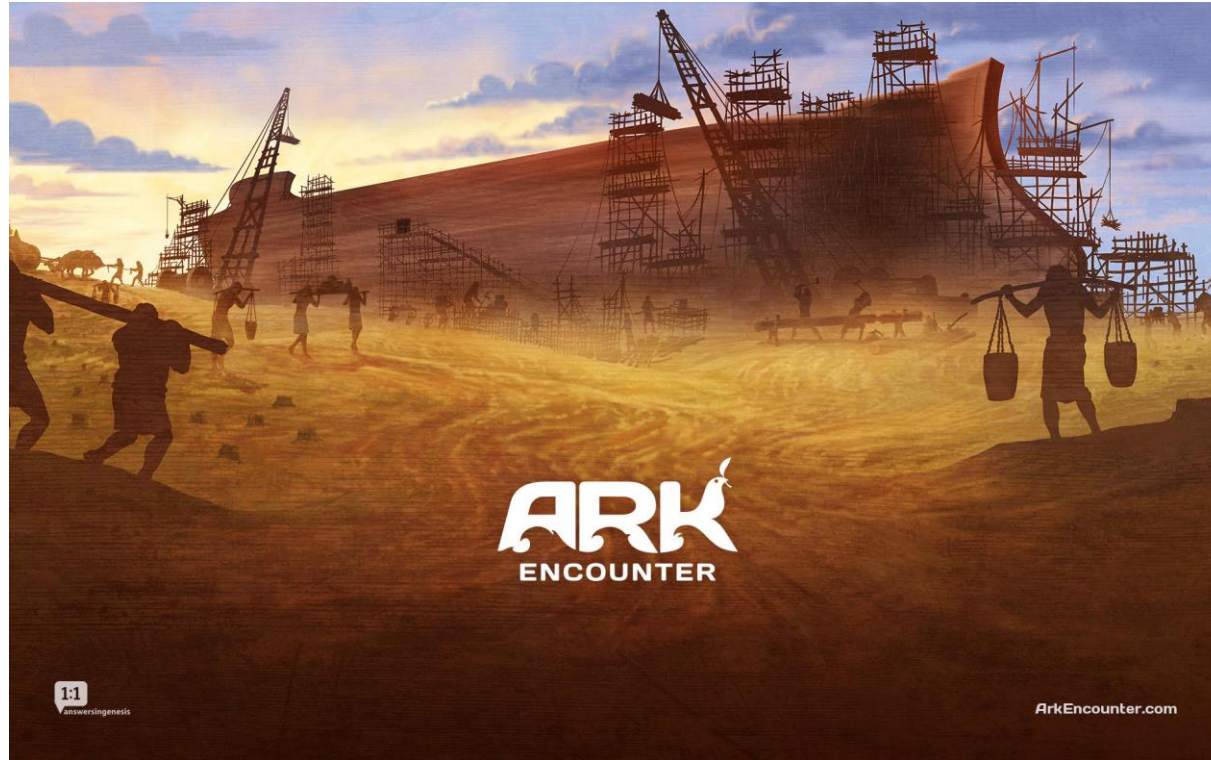
Christian Life Assembly

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The Journey 2018

In the Beginning

Noah's Ark



In the Beginning

- Genesis 6:17 I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. 18 But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. 19 You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. 20 Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground **will come to you** to be kept alive. 21 You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them.” 22 Noah did everything just as God commanded him.



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- Notice this phrase, “every creature that has the breath of life in it”.
- A clear indication that in the judgment of the great flood sea life would not be affected like land animals and humans.
- In fact, they are going to feed on the drowned and rotting carcasses of the animals and people who drown.



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- When mammals drown, their bodies tend to bloat and float – the fish of Noah's day may well have fed on such flesh, but they would not eat the bones.
- The bones would sink – now imagine the bodies of billions of people and animals floating to surface and being consumed by the fish.
- It would take at least weeks of bloating and floating for them all to be consumed – meaning that their bones would be scattered all over the globe.



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- And yet, for the billions of people and the billions of animals destroyed in the flood, creation scientist Henry Morris tells us that relatively few fossils from that period have been found.
- Genesis 6:7 “I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them.”



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- Of all the fossils ever found and documented, only about 0.125% are vertebrates.
- We should take God at His word when He says, “I will wipe from the face of the earth”.
- We will talk more about fossils in another lesson, but when it comes to pre-flood fossils, there just are not very many, almost none in fact.



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- Genesis 7:1 Then the Lord said to Noah, “Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this time. 2 You shall take with you of every clean animal by sevens, a male and his female; and of the animals that are not clean two, a male and his female; 3 also of the birds of the sky, by sevens, male and female, to keep offspring alive on the face of all the earth. 4 For after seven more days, I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights; and I will blot out from the face of the land every living thing that I have made.” 5 Noah did according to all that the Lord had commanded him.



In the Beginning

- Then the Lord said to Noah, “Enter the ark, you and all your household, *for you alone* I have seen to be righteous before Me in this time.
- Up until now I have said that it is at least possible that some believed Noah’s message, were saved, and died before the flood.
- If any of that was going on, it wasn’t going on at the time of the flood because there were only 8 righteous persons on the earth. (Noah and his family)



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- When the flood is over God will start populating the earth again and all of the peoples of the world today came from the gene pool of just these 8.
- He started with just Adam and Eve and even Paul confirms as much in Acts 17:26 “and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth.”



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- I bring this up again now because when Noah and the animals come off the ark someone will want to know how many labradoodles were on the ark. 😊
- And the answer will be that there were probably just two animals of the “dog” kind and from them came all of the variations that we have today.
- The same was true for people – we are not told what Noah looked like, whether he was red, yellow, black, brown, or white.



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- Nor are we told of Noah's features, his height, or any specifics about him, but we do know that from Noah and his family came all of what we call "races" of people today.
- In fact, we use the term race just for our convenience – the bible teaches there is just one race, the human race.
- What we generally call "race" is really ethnicity.



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- In fact the genetic differences from one person to another is a paltry 0.2%. (2/10's of 1 percent, remember those 3,000,000 lines of genetic code?)
- What we call racial characteristics, skin color, facial features, eye shape is 6% of that 0.2% variation or 0.012. (12/100's of 1 percent)
- Said another way, what seems to divide us so much amounts to so little in terms of who and what we really are.



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- “You shall take with you of every clean animal by sevens, a male and his female; and of the animals that are not clean two, a male and his female; 3 also of the birds of the sky, by sevens, male and female, to keep offspring alive on the face of all the earth.”
- Answers in Genesis estimates the number of “kinds” of animals brought on the ark was about 1,000 and the bible tells us that they came to Noah in pairs.



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- Why 2 of most kinds, but 7 of every “clean” kind?
- Genesis 8:20 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.
- There are debates over the numbers of “clean” animals – many believe there were 7 pairs of each instead of 3 pairs and one extra.



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Leviticus 11 defines the difference between clean and unclean animals, but Noah lived before the giving of the Law. We are not told how Noah knew which animals were clean and unclean, but he obviously knew the difference. Sacrifices to God were made before the Mosaic Law (Genesis 4:4), which means God had somehow communicated to man what animals were suitable for sacrifice (and, later, for eating).

From gotquestions.org.



In the Beginning

- Genesis 7:4 “*For after seven more days*, I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights; and I will blot out from the face of the land every living thing that I have made.” 5 Noah did according to all that the Lord had commanded him.
- God came to Noah in Gen 6 to tell him that judgment is coming – now 120 years have reeled off, the ark is complete, the animals are about to come in, and time is up. (not what God wanted, but what He must do)



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- “*I will send rain* on the earth forty days and forty nights; and I will blot out from the face of the land every living thing that I have made.”
- It is probable that Noah had never seen rain, because rain was not needed in the pre-flood world.
- Genesis 2:6 But a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground. (mist (flows), think springs of water)



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- Our older English bibles read “mist”, but a better translation is “flows”, or “streams”.
- Pre-flood, there was no need for rain because God had set-up his own watering system from below the surface.
- Perhaps so many streams that all plants could realize, “like a tree planted by streams of water”.



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- So God announces that He will send “rain”, but if you recall Moses already recorded this for us
- Genesis 2:5 Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, **for the Lord God had not sent rain upon the earth**, and there was no man to cultivate the ground.
- It is not until Genesis 7 that God announces that He is about send rain – so it is highly likely that no one had ever seen rain before.



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- But now it is going to come and will not stop for 40 days – in fact, the rain will start and then turn to something devastating.
- The word for “rain” changes from verse #4 to verse #12 – the “rain” in verse #4 is one that we would use for normal rain.
- The word for rain in verse #12 is one that indicates much heavier rain, a deluge of sorts.



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- Genesis 7:4 For after seven more days, *I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights*; and I will blot out from the face of the land every living thing that I have made.
- Genesis 7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day *all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened*. 12 The rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights.



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- *“all the fountains of the great deep burst open”*
- So what we have here is a reference to subterranean reservoirs of water deep in the earth.
- God would use the water below and the water above to bring so much water that every person and non-aquatic entity would be destroyed.



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- It is also quite likely that this is the time when the continents of the earth were formed.
- We know the earth that Adam had was one large land mass and we know what we have today.
- So if the continents were not formed in Genesis 7, then when could they have been formed?



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- *“the floodgates of the sky were opened.”*
- Floodgates? What floodgates? Remember what we read months ago when we started this study?
- Genesis 1:6 Then God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” 7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. 8 God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.



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Questions

