



Genesis – Chapter 7:17-8:19  
The Global Cataclysm! (Part #2)  
(Lesson #15)

Review of the probable original design of Earth as well as a walk-thru of the catastrophic nature of the global flood as described in the Bible and revealed by scientific evidence.

I would summarize, there is the possibility of a canopy and the high probability of subterranean waters on our pre-flood planet.

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More information and about the hydroplate theory visit: <http://www.creationscience.com/onlinebook/>

*7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. 12 And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. 13 On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, 14 they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. 15 They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. 16 And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in.*

*7:17 The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. 18 The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. 19 And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. 20 The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. 21 And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. 22 Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. 23 He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. 24 And the waters prevailed on the earth 150 days.*

**Vs 17 - It rained for forty day and forty nights.** Now some additional information, the flood, this is the Hebrew word, which means **global catastrophe style flood**. This is a **one of a kind flood** and the word is used **uniquely to describe this event**. מַבּוּל (mabbuwl).

We are told what we would imagine that during this time, foundations of the great deep opened, window of heaven opened, and it is raining the flood waters **“increased.”** The Hebrew word רָבָה (rabah), means just that, **to increase, to grow, to multiply**.

The waters are increasing on the earth and the ark, which likely drafted 25 feet, or even more, is **lifted from the face of the ground**.

The point in stating this is obvious, the water level, wherever the ark was constructed, is now deep enough to lift this massive wooden barge afloat! The ark rose **“high above the earth!”**

**Vs 18** - Here we are introduced to a new Hebrew word, one that I believe is worthy of some brief explanation to help you make sense of the account of the global flood.

We are told the waters were **increasing**, **רבה (rabah)** now we are told the waters prevailed. This Hebrew word **גבר (gabar)**, means **to be mighty** to be **strong**, to be **powerful**.

**This has nothing to do with level**, rather the waters were “**mighty**” they are **prevailing** over the earth!

One additional piece, that we already know, but Noah states it flatly. **The ark floated on the face of the waters.**

**Vs 19** - Here we are told for the second time that the water “**prevailed**” again this is the same word we first saw in Vs 18 **גבר (gabar)**.

In fact we are now told that all of the **high mountains under the earth were covered**.

**This removes any possibility of this being a local flood.** The word for flood itself had already done that, but now we find the description does it as well! If this does not the next verse will for sure!

**Vs 20** - Here again is the Hebrew word **גבר (gabar)**. It was first introduced in **vs 18**, it was repeated in **vs 19**, and it is used a third time here in **verse 20**.

The writer (Moses) wants us to understand that at this point the waters are **mighty on the planet!**

We are now told not simply that the mountains are covered, but that they are covered by **15 cubits of water**. Using the Hebrew long cubit, the writer is telling us that the mountains were covered by **25 ½ feet of water!**

**There is no way for this verse to be true if the flood was local.**

**Vs 21** - Notice, “all flesh” that moved on the earth, bird, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth died. And all mankind, all **אדם ('adam)**.

All of mankind perished! In this way, Noah’s flood, the ark, the entire event is a picture of final judgment.

**APPLICATION:** As horrifying as verse 21 is, and it is, imagine what it will be like for men and women who have never placed faith in God’s son to stand before Him on that final day!

**Vs 22** - Moses clarifies to make sure we understand. Everything that lived on the dry land, in whose nostrils was the breath of life **נשמה (n'shamah)** – breath. **רוח (ruwach)** – spirit, wind or life - perished.

**If it lived on the earth, and breathed through its nostrils, it died, it perished.**

**Vs 23** - Here again, to make sure we get it, you see the repetition. God, “**blotted out**” (destroyed) God wiped out, every living thing from the face of the ground. He also blotted out **man אדם ('adam)**.

Now if Hebrew or for that matter English language means anything, God destroyed from of the face of the planet, **everything that breathes (including all mankind)!**

**This is shocking and reminds us of God’s hatred for sin.**

We saw God’s patience in Methuselah’s long life, but we see that ultimately the warning will end, ultimately the pleading will end, ultimately the sermons will end. Ultimately **judgement will fall!**

**Vs 23b** - Now we read this and of course we understand this is true. But do not miss the point, God had **created a rescue plan** for those who lived in Noah’s day.

His rescue plan required you to be in the ark. His rescue plan required them to believe and respond (by faith).

Noah had preached about the rescue plan (IIPet 2:5), and **all who were in the ark, as promised, were delivered from the catastrophe, from the temporal judgment that was the global flood.**

**Vs 24 - We need to pause here just a moment and discuss this word.**

**The Hebrew word translated prevailed is once again the word גַּבַּר (gabar).** It means to be **strong**, to have **strength**, to be **mighty**, to be **great**.

The waters begin to prevail as they covered the face of the earth, and the ark was lifted up on the face of the waters (7:18). The waters prevailed on the earth and covered the mountains (7:19). The waters prevailed 15 cubits above the mountains (7:20).

While the water level was **decreasing from its maximum**, the waters were **still prevailing**. So, the word does not mean increasing, it means being mighty over the face of the earth. **Here we see the waters (prevailed) for 150 days.**

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*8:1 ¶ But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided. 2 The fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, 3 and the waters receded from the earth continually. At the end of 150 days the waters had abated, 4 ¶ and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. 5 And the waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen.*

**Vs 1 -** Again we see **anthropomorphic language**. God had never forgotten Noah, but here we are told, God “remembers” Noah.

This phrase is a **Hebraism**, a Hebrew idiom or expression. It **provides the idea** that **God began to take actions on their behalf**. It is a similar idea to “God hear our prayers.” God hears everything, what we are asking is God **take action on our behalf**.

Here God steps in and begins to take specific action and causes a wind to blow over the earth that is currently covered with water, this is at least one of the things that aids in the **waters subsiding**.

The Hebrew word translated “**subsided**” is only used a few times and means to **appease, assuage, or decrease**.

Now the exact point that God sent this wind is unclear. We can imagine it is somewhere **after the 40 days** of rain and something that is leading up to day 150 when the **ark lands on the mountains of Ararat**, but exactly when the waters start to decrease is not stated, but **I would conclude in this 110 day period**.

**Vs 2-3 -** Here we are told what appears to be **three things**, but it could be **two**:

- 1) The **fountains of the deep** are closed.
- 2) The **windows of heaven** are closed.
- 3) The **rain from the heavens are restrained**. Now we know from clear declaration by God, that it **rained 40 days and 40 nights**.

We do not know at what point the “**fountains of the great deep**” were closed, we can **imagine** on or slightly after day 40, but we cannot be sure. They could have still been allowing water to escape beyond that point. But we recognize as time passes the pressure difference is decreasing and thus the flow is decreasing.

If the window of heaven was a canopy, we can imagine that it was **destroyed relatively quickly** when the flood was initiated.

**Vs 3b – At the end of 150 days the waters had abated**, this statement is a little hard to place.

If this is a summary of the next 150 days, it is a marker that lands on the **600<sup>th</sup> year, 12<sup>th</sup> month, 17<sup>th</sup> day** of the month. Keep that in mind as we develop the chronology of the flood.

**Vs 4** - Now this statement is **very clear**, it is in the **seventh month** and the **seventeenth day of the month**, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat.

If we use a 30-day month, this would be **five months** this would be **150 days** (using a 30 day month). So the waters prevailed during this period, but the level went up to max and then started decreasing although the waters were still **MIGHTY** on the earth.

So for five months, they have been **adrift** on the **waters** and then on the **600<sup>th</sup> year of Noah**, on the **7<sup>th</sup> month**, on the **17<sup>th</sup> day of the month**, the inhabitants here grinding and feel the jolt as the ark begins to **grinds to a halt** in the mountains of Ararat.

We can imagine that Noah would have **written that down in the deck log!**

**APPLICATION:** Can you imagine what it would be like to be **adrift** on the open sea for **five months**. First being slammed by the catastrophe that was the flood and now just **adrift**. Where was God?

**Did they wonder if this was it? If this was the new normal. What went through their minds?**

**Vs 4b** - the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. **Ararat is the highest peak in Turkey around 17,000 feet tall.**

It is important to note that there are many smaller mountains around Ararat, and it could be on one of these smaller mountains the ark landed.

Notice that the ark “**rested.**”

It brings with it the picture of the ark laboring to accomplish the work of saving the occupants from God’s temporal judgment that came during the days of Noah.

**Having completed that work, the ark “rested.”**

As you think about this word. If you remember when we taught through Genesis 1-2 we saw how God rested from the work of creation:

*“And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.” (Ge 2:2 ESV)*

Here the ark finished its work of deliverance from God’s temporal judgment and rested on the mountains of Ararat.

**Two thousand years ago:**

*“When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.” (Joh 19:30 ESV)*

He too rested in the tomb for three days, but it was from that tomb that He stepped out alive and is now seated at the right hand of God!

**\*\*\* One more point \*\*\*\***

It is worth noting, that although the ark has landed back on the ground, and this marked the time when the flood waters are no longer “**prevailing**” mighty, **גבר (gabar)** upon the earth, there is a lot of time left before the land will be dried out enough, and likely stable enough, for Noah and the animals to exit the ark.

They will not exit the ark for another 220 days (over 7 months!)

**Vs 5** - Here we are told the waters **continued to abate** or **continued to decrease**, this is the same Hebrew word in **8:3**, thus we gain a little certainty of our placement of the **second 150 days**, the time when the water was abated.

So, the waters continued to abate until the **10<sup>th</sup> month 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month**. This would be **day 223**, this would be **74 days** since the ark ran aground in the mountains of Ararat.

We can imagine that the **continents** are now very different and in different places. They are still settling, the **massive oceans basins** are still settling, the new mountain ranges are settling, the earth is very unstable due to all the recent catastrophic plate tectonics that has occurred.

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*7:6 At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made 7 and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. 8 Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground. 9 But the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. 10 He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. 11 And the dove came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. 12 Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore.*

**Vs 6** - So this would be **40 additional days**, and Noah opens the window of the ark that he had made.

This would have been **day 263**, this would have been the **600<sup>th</sup> year the 11<sup>th</sup> month, the 11<sup>th</sup> day**.

After opening the **window**, we see in verse 7 that Noah sends forth a raven, and it flies to a fro, likely lighting on floating debris, but it is able to survive outside the ark and thus it does not return.

**Vs 8-9** - Then he sent forth a dove, when we initially read this it sounds like the same day. But when we read ahead in **verse 10** it says: *He waited another seven days...*

It seems that he sent forth a raven, **waited seven days**, it did not return, and at that point he sent forth a dove.

It is possible that he sent the raven and the dove on the same day, but I believe, based on the use of “another” in verse 10, that Noah waited seven days between the raven and the first dove here in verse 8.

Notice Noah sent forth a dove, with the express purpose of seeing if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground.

The Hebrew word translated “subsided” is קָלַל (*qalal*), this is the first time this Hebrew word is used. It will be used again in 8:11 and interestingly enough in 8:21, where it is translated “curse.”

**Vs 9** – We read that the dove found no place to land and build a home, so she returned to the ark, because the waters were still on the face of the earth. We see that Noah reached out and took her into the ark.

This would be day **270**, the **600<sup>th</sup> year, 11<sup>th</sup> month, and 18<sup>th</sup> day.**

**Vs 10** – So, Noah waits **another 7 days...** Again, this seems to imply that there was an initial seven days. The Hebrew word is used **166 times** and means **another** or **other**.

This would be day **277**, the **600<sup>th</sup> year, 11<sup>th</sup> month, and 25<sup>th</sup> day.**

After another **seven days**, Noah sends out a dove. This dove comes back that evening and behold, in her mouth is a freshly plucked **olive leaf**.

Now Noah knows that the waters, here is that Hebrew word again, the waters have “subsided” from the earth.

**Vs 12** - Then Noah waited an additional seven days and sent forth another dove.

This would have been day **284**, it would have been the **600<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> month, 2<sup>nd</sup> day** of the month.

This dove sent out on **day 284** of the global catastrophe did not return to Noah. It found a place to land and begin its new life back here on planet earth.

A planet that was originally created out of water, was then plunged back into water, and now resurrected out of water.

This is possibly a small picture of the New Heavens and the New Earth. Prepared for Noah on those on the ark by God.

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*13 In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. 14 In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. 15 Then God said to Noah, 16 "Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. 17 Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh — birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth — that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." 18 So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him. 19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out by families from the ark.*

**Vs 13** - Here again we find out next time stamp it is the 601<sup>st</sup> year, the first month, the first day of the month.

Looking at our chronology, this would be **day 314** and it would be an additional **14 days** after the waters are said to be **abated (150+150)**. This has been a month since the dove did not return.

Here two weeks later we are told that **“the face of the ground was dry.”**

Then Noah, removed **“the covering”** of the ark.

So up until now Noah had been working and looking through a window and as best we can tell from the language, he could not see down enough to tell what was happening on the ground.

At this point **day 314** in the event he removes the **“covering”** from the ark and sees the ground.

The Hebrew word used here for covering is **מכסה (mikseh)**, it is always translated covering.

This is the **first use** of this word and **indeed the only use** in the entire book of Genesis.

It is used a total of **16 times**, let me show you the other ways. In Exodus the word is used to describe the coverings that covered the tabernacle and the holy items when they transported them:

*“And you shall make for the tent a covering of tanned rams’ skins and a covering of goatskins on top.” (Ex 26:14 ESV)*

This covering may have been the roof that was above the window. It seems this gave them access to the deck and the ability to see further and clearly to the ground around them.

Herein verse 13, the Hebrew word that is translated “dried” and “dry” that is used is **חרב (charab)**. Its more common translation is words like **waste** and **desolate**.

**Maybe**, it should read something like this: **Vs 13** In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were **desolate** from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was **laid waste**.

**Vs 14** - Here is another **time marker**, in this case it is the **601<sup>st</sup> year of Noah’s life**, the **27<sup>th</sup> day** of the **second month**.

This would equate to **56 days later**, after Noah saw dry ground.

Noah and his family stayed on the ark for an additional almost 2 months. We can imagine, the earth was wrecked, and they were in no hurry to exit the ark.

A planet that was teeming with vegetation and life is now a desolate treeless, wilderness.

Notice, the face of the ground was dry, here in vs 14, the earth had dried out?

But it is a desolation, the old world has perished, it has been annihilated, it is a drastically different planet.

**Vs 15-17** - This is the **third time**, recorded in the scriptures that **God has broken down the barrier** between the natural and the supernatural and spoke with Noah.

**The first time** in Genesis 6:13-21, Yahweh informed Noah that he intended to destroy man by sending a flood from off the face of the planet because he was evil and Noah was to build an ark. Noah likely labored and preached for decades while God was silent.

**The second time**, in Genesis 7:1-4, God tells Noah to board the ark and load the animals for in seven days God intends to bring rain on the earth for 40 days. I told you then, it is possible that man had never seen rain.

Regardless of that, it is likely that Noah and his family looked like idiots.

**APPLICATION:** Sometimes following God causes you to look foolish to a world who has rejected God.

**Here is the third time**, as best we can tell **for 377 days**, through the flood, through the catastrophe, through what appeared to be Noah and the ark **aimlessly adrift, God was always with them**, although as best we can tell He never said a word.

**He was there protecting, guiding, and superintending, but He was very quiet.**

**APPLICATION:** God may not say (verbally, with His outside voice) anything to you today, but you have His complete word, He is with you, and like **Noah he is working all things together for your good and His glory! Even when He is quiet you can trust our sovereign God!**

**Vs 18** - We are not told what this looked like or how it was accomplished.

Notice they went out by families, we can imagine them leaving the ark as they had been loaded by their kinds, with the mandate to fill the earth once again.

Thus the flood is over, but let's quickly walk back over the details and consider. An event that lasted **370 days or 377 days** if you count the 7 days of final preparation is finally over.

**Man** - (eight men and women) are placed back on the earth, but it is a much different place. Consider how many have perished under the judgment of God. Think for a moment how many friends and relatives of the eight have perished. We can only imagine how this broke Noah and his surviving family's hearts.

**Canopy** – if the earth had one, it has been destroyed.

**Long life spans of man and animals** – This is over. Men and animals will now live very abbreviated lives. Man who averaged 912 years old pre-flood will now be lucky to live 100 years. (A tenth!)

**Rain** – If it had a canopy and it had not rained before, it rains now. At times these rains can bring local catastrophes.

**Massive oceans** – A planet that was likely originally comprised of more land than water on the surface is now more water than land on the surface. (Is 45:18).

**Lush vegetation** – It is now a desolation, with only very small plants and trees sprouting out.

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