

A Quick Summary of Chapters 6-8

So far in our study of Genesis, we have come to Noah and the global Flood described in Genesis 6, 7, and 8.

In Genesis 6, God was grieved by widespread human wickedness and violence, and resolved to destroy His creation via a global deluge.

“But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord,” we are told (Gen. 6:8).

God then instructed Noah to build an Ark, which would successfully _____ his family and animal life from God’s coming judgment.

Chapter 7 opens with God telling Noah to enter the Ark that he had built.

God commanded him to bring his family and a pair of every animal kind into the ark.

Then rain fell for _____ days and nights, and “all the fountains of the great deep burst open” (Gen. 7:11).

The waters covered the highest mountains, destroying every living creature on dry land.

Only Noah, his family, and the animals shut inside the ark survived as the floodwaters prevailed on the earth for 150 days.

Genesis 8 concludes the flood story, describing how God ended the global destruction and once again restored life on _____.

The chapter begins with God “remembering” Noah and his family; God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the floodwaters began to recede.

Over time the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat, and the tops of the mountains became visible as the water level fell.

Noah opened a window in the ark and first sent out a _____, which flew back and forth until the waters subsided.

He then sent out a dove.

The dove found no resting place, and not being as _____ as the raven, returned to the ark to rest.

After seven more days Noah sent the dove again; it returned in the evening with a freshly plucked olive leaf, signaling that vegetation had reappeared, and water levels were dropping.

Seven days later Noah released the dove for the third time, and this time it did not return, indicating it found suitable dry land.

As the days passed, the waters continued to decrease.

By the first day of the first month, the mountain tops were visible; and by the twenty-seventh day of the second month, the earth was sufficiently dry for God to command Noah to leave the ark with his wife, his sons, their wives, and all the living creatures.

Noah obeyed and brought out both people and animals to _____ the earth.

In grateful response to God's preservation of their lives, Noah built an altar and, in worship to God, offered burnt offerings of every kind of clean animal and bird.

God smelled the pleasing aroma of Noah's sacrifice and made a solemn declaration—He will never again curse the ground or destroy every living thing by a flood, despite the persistent inclination of the human heart toward evil.

God also established the enduring _____ of nature—seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night—as ongoing rhythms for the world (Gen. 8:22).

Thus, Genesis 8 moves the narrative from judgment to covenantal mercy, marking the renewal of life and the beginning of a restored relation amongst God, humanity, and the created world.

The World That Was

Three things that we can be sure about the First Age are supplied by information given in the Scriptures.

The ordered structure of the First Age “was _____” (Gen. 6:13; 2 Pet.3:6).

The destruction was by a “flood of water” (Gen. 6:17; 2 Pet. 2:5).

The water-based destruction was initiated by the Creator-Judge on a single day (Gen. 7:11; Luke 17:26-27).

What happened to the planet was _____ — a worldwide catastrophe.

Unless the words of the three Flood chapters in the book of Genesis (6, 7, and 8) are absolute nonsense, the language cannot be understood as referring to anything less.

There are some Biblical commentators who suggest that the “_____” of those passages doesn't really mean “_____,” and that the descriptions of the mountains being covered only refer to the hills of the Mesopotamian River Valley.

But if such comments are correct, then the words of Scripture are not worth reading.

If we can't trust the words to mean what they would normally mean in the context of the events described, then they have no more authority than the poetic license of the novelist or the imagination of the playwright.

The Flood of Waters

The Scriptures list two main sources for the waters of the Flood—the _____ of the great deep, and the rain that continuously fell for 40 days and 40 nights.

Of those two, the 40-day rain is the best remembered.

The source of this unique rainfall must have been the “waters above” that were somehow suspended above the planet in the antediluvian (pre-flood) world.

That collapse lasted for nearly six weeks!

Most of the many flood accounts from other cultures focus on rain as the main water source for the Flood.

However, Scripture seems to indicate that an even greater source of the floodwaters was “the fountains of the great deep.”

The trigger for the whole judgment event was the day that God caused the _____ of those fountains (Gen. 7:11).

That explosion of subterranean waters, along with the 40-day rain, flooded the entire earth.

The Biblical record tells us that the “waters...greatly increased” (Gen. 7:18) until the mountains were covered, and the ark was floating around by their peaks; and the water “prevailed” on the earth for _____ days (Gen. 7:24) before it began to recede.

Taken together—the constant rain for nearly six weeks, along with the bursting open of the deep subterranean and submarine reservoirs of water—their combined force resulted in an end to the First Age, for “the world at that time was destroyed” (2 Pet. 3:6).

But God



Genesis 8:1-22

1 But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the cattle that were with him in the ark; and God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the water subsided. 2 Also the fountains of the deep and the floodgates of the sky were closed, and the rain from the sky was restrained;

The “but God” statements in the Bible are highly significant because they represent divine pivot points.

These two words act as a holy conjunction that interrupts human failure, hopelessness, or tragedy with God’s _____, intervention, and grace.

And right here in Genesis 8:1, we find the very first one in the Bible.

After the Flood had “prevailed” for 150 days (Gen. 7:24), utterly destroying “the world at that time” (2 Pet. 3:6) and leaving the remains of multitudes of dead organisms buried in its sediments or still floating in its waters, God began to bring it to a termination.

The Bible says, He “remembered” Noah and the animals in the Ark, and was ready to start them on their way to the new life they would find in the new world.

Now the fact that “God remembered Noah” is not suggesting that God somehow _____ about Noah and everything that was happening on the earth.

God cannot forget anything since He is omniscient.

He knows everything.

Rather, God “remembering” Noah is a Hebrew idiom meaning that God began to _____ again on his behalf.

Several times in the Bible, the phrase “God remembered” is used.



Genesis 8:1

1 But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the cattle that were with him in the ark.

In the book of Exodus when the Hebrew slaves cried out to the Lord in Egypt, we read,



Exodus 2:24

24 So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

And in the Psalms God says,



Psalms 98:3

3 He has remembered His lovingkindness and His faithfulness to the house of Israel.

Unlike our limited brains, the mind of God is infinite and all-knowing (Isa. 40:13-14; Psa. 147:5; 1 John 3:20), and His knowledge is perfect (Job 37:16).

God even sees the _____ things that others cannot.



Hebrews 4:13

13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

In addition, God is perfect, not subject to man's sins and shortcomings (Deut. 32:4; Psa. 92:15).

So when the Bible says that God "remembered" something, it is not implying forgetfulness or negligence.

Rather, the statement that "God remembered" places an emphasis on His faithfulness and everlasting care.

And in each passage that says that "God remembered," we see that the phrase is followed by some sort of _____ on behalf of God's people.

When God "remembered" Noah and his family floating in the ark, He caused a wind to blow, which began to dry up the waters that covered the earth (Gen. 8:1).

In Exodus 2:24, God "remembered" His people who were enslaved to the Egyptians, and He set in motion His plan to _____ the Israelites.

And in Psalm 98:3 we read that God "remembered" His covenant promises, "His lovingkindness and His faithfulness" toward His people, with the result that "all the ends of the earth [had] seen the salvation of our God" as He acted on behalf of His people.

SO, we conclude that God never forgets, but instead works on behalf of those whom He loves.

Such expressions as "God remembered" or "God's arm is strong" are examples of anthropomorphism.

An anthropomorphism is a figure of speech in which certain traits of finite _____ are ascribed to the infinite God.

Such figures are often found in the Bible because they help us understand God's work from a human perspective.

Thus, when God "remembers" sin, He punishes it (Psa. 25:7); when God "remembers" His people, He blesses them (Neh. 13:22).

Passages in which God “remembers” are always followed by proofs that God never forgets.

Because God remembered Noah and everything else that was in the Ark with him, we are told that three specific actions were taken by God.

- 1 He caused a wind to pass over the earth;
- 2 He stopped the fountains of the deep from further eruptions;
- 3 He closed the _____ of the sky from further downpours.

The nature and effects of the “wind” mentioned here need a little discussion.

This is the Hebrew word ruach and can legitimately be translated either as “wind” (an impersonal force) or “_____” (a personal force), depending on the context.

The fundamental meaning of the word is probably something like “invisible force.”

Thus, it is quite possible that the energizing power of God’s Spirit is again intended here.

If so, that would be analogous to His work on the _____ day of Creation.



Genesis 1:2b

2 ...and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

And so, with waters covering the earth as in the beginning, God exerted His power once again to separate the lands and the waters (cf. Gen. 1:9), either by a natural wind, or by the Spirit of God again at work as at the beginning (cf. Gen. 1:2; 8:1).

The Mountains Rose and the Valleys Sank



Genesis 8:3-5

3 and the water receded steadily from the earth, and at the end of one hundred and fifty days the water decreased. 4 In the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark rested upon the mountains of Ararat. 5 The water decreased steadily until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains became visible.

Under the force of all that water and the accompanying submarine _____ and earthquakes that likely occurred, there was a drastic rearrangement of terrestrial topography, with continental land

masses rising from the waters, and ocean basins deepening and widening to receive the waters draining off the lands.

We read about this, not in the books of Moses, but in the _____.



Psalm 104:6-9
6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment; The waters were standing above the mountains. 7 At Your rebuke they fled, At the sound of Your thunder they hurried away. 8 The mountains rose; the valleys sank down To the place which You established for them. 9 You set a boundary that they may not pass over, So that they will not return to cover the earth.

The first five verses of this psalm clearly apply to the creation period, but it is obvious that verses 6 through 9 apply to the _____, with an allusion to God's covenant with Noah in verse 9.

According to this Psalm, "the mountains rose; the valleys sank."

This indicates that much of the mountain building that we see around the globe today was the result of the Flood.

And so, as the Flood waters started to go down, both mountains and _____ that did not exist prior to the Flood began to form.

This also means that fossil-bearing sediments were being raised up, explaining why we often find _____ fossils on the tops of mountains like the Himalayas, for example.

Actually, if one were to level out the entire surface of the land on the earth today, there's enough water on the surface of the earth to cover it to a depth of about two miles.

So there is plenty of water to flood the whole earth.

It makes sense that God raised up the mountains at the end of the Flood as part of the tectonic movement that occurred as a result of the weight and movement of the Flood waters.

Some scholars also believe that during the Flood the previously _____ continent broke up into the several different continents that we see today.

In any case, after the 150 days, as the waters started to recede, the Ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat.

Please note that the text does not say "Mount Ararat."

Rather, we are told that the Ark landed on the _____ of mountains that includes Mount Ararat.

Many creation geologists don't believe that the Ark could have landed on what we today call Mount Ararat, as it was formed at the end of the Flood due to volcanic activity.

Obviously, as Moses (inspired by God) compiled the text of Genesis, he would have used names in the post-Flood world that people would be familiar with to understand where these events occurred.

But we really don't know the exact location of where the Ark landed, except that it was in the area we today call the mountains of Ararat.

This area included mountain ranges in Eastern Turkey and likely extended further east into Armenia as well.

Have We Found Noah's Ark?

There have been many claims that the Ark, or pieces of the Ark, have been found; but most creation geologists reject those claims.

The discoveries have been in various locations, ranging from Mount Ararat in Turkey, to a mountain range in Iran, to an entirely different location on Mount Ararat (with a visitors' center).

Such a find would probably be the greatest archaeological discovery of our time.

BUT do we really _____ to find Noah's Ark?

Would it be enough to convince people of the existence of God?

In other words, would the discovery of Noah's Ark cause people to turn to God in faith?

There is already overwhelming _____ confirming the Flood of Noah's day—for example, the massive fossil record found all over the earth's surface today; and all the gas, coal, and oil deposits around the globe.

Furthermore, all over the world we find evidence for a watery catastrophe consistent with the global Flood account as recorded in Genesis 6-9.

But despite all this evidence, the majority of people, including the majority of scientists, reject the global Flood as a real event in history.

Why?

The simple answer is because it's a _____ issue.

Because of their sinful hearts, those who reject God's Word DO NOT want to accept the account of the Flood.

*John 3:19-20*

19 This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

2 Peter 3:3-7

3 Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation." 5 For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was

In 2 Peter 3, we read that in the Last Days people will willingly reject the accounts of creation, the

*2 Corinthians 4:3-4*

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

*John 3:19-20*

19 This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

Flood, and the coming judgment by fire.

The spiritual nature of this _____ over evidence can be seen in the Biblical account of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead.

The chief priests wanted to kill Lazarus to get rid of the _____, because they refused to acknowledge that Jesus was the Son of God (John 12:10-11).

Then in Luke 16 we have the account of a rich man and a man called Lazarus.

Both had died.

The rich man was in a place of torment, whereas Lazarus was with Abraham.

The rich man wanted Abraham to send Lazarus back to earth to warn his brothers about the place of torment after death.



Luke 16:29-31

29 But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' 30 But he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!' 31 But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Now, it's true that evidence is important. Jesus once said to the Jews,



John 10:37-38

37 "If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; 38 but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father."

Jesus' _____ gave people evidence of His divine nature.

But most still did not believe He was the Messiah, because of the spiritual state of their hearts.

Moses gave _____ evidence that God was telling him to take the Israelites out of Egypt.

But Pharaoh kept rejecting the evidence.

The spiritual nature of that battle is seen in the Biblical account when Pharaoh "hardened his heart" (Ex. 8:32) and refused to accept the evidence.

The Bible is clear that it is GOD Who opens people's blind eyes and deaf ears to the Truth, which is why it's important to understand that "faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ" (Rom. 10:17).

Yes, we need to give answers for what we believe.



1 Peter 3:15

15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence....

Our responsibility is to do all we can to convince people of the truth, using whatever evidence we can—but always pointing them to the _____, since only God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, can open a person's blind eyes and cause him to be Born Again (John 3:1-21).

So, does it really matter if we find Noah's Ark?

No, it doesn't.

It would be really interesting!

But God has already allowed us all the evidence we need confirming Noah's Flood.

God has also given everyone enough evidence that He is the _____.

And if they don't believe that, they will already be without excuse, just as Romans 1 tells us.



Romans 1:20

20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

Mountaintops Become Visible



Genesis 8:5

5 The water decreased steadily until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains became visible.

The Genesis account once more provides accurate timing, down to the day.

The previous verse said that the Ark's _____ had landed.

Land was not yet visible, but the Ark's hull, way below the surface, had finally rested on something solid.

But it would still be some time before any dry land would appear.

"The water decreased steadily," until the mountaintops became "visible," poking out of the water.

However, there were still a few months to go before the Ark passengers could disembark.

Noah Sends Out the Birds



Genesis 8:6-12

6 Then it came about at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made; 7 and he sent out a raven, and it flew here and there until the water was dried up from the earth. 8 Then he sent out a dove from him, to see if the water was abated from the face of the land; 9 but the dove found no resting place for the sole of her foot, so she returned to him into the ark, for the water was on the surface of all the earth. Then he put out his hand and took her, and brought her into the ark to himself. 10 So he waited yet another seven days; and again he sent out the dove from the ark. 11 The dove came to him toward evening, and behold, in her beak was a freshly picked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the water was abated from the earth. 12 Then he waited yet another seven days, and sent out the dove; but she did not return to him again.

The last time God had _____ to Noah was when he told him to enter the Ark with his family.

God doesn't speak again until Genesis 8:15. But note that Noah didn't just sit back and wait for God to tell him what he should do.

Noah's family must have been busy looking after the animals during the time they were on the Ark.

But Noah also saw that the earth was getting dry, nearly ready for them to get off the Ark.

And at an appropriate time, Noah opened a window and sent out a raven and then a dove.

God always expects us to do what we can do—that's our _____.

We do whatever is humanly possible; but at the same time, we trust God to guide and direct us, and for Him to do what is not humanly possible.

First, Noah sends out a raven—the Hebrew is literally “the raven,” *hā'ērēb* (הָעֶרֶב).

However, “it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth.”

The Hebrew expression means “that the raven flew back and forth repeatedly.”

This is easy to picture, since the raven is a _____, and could easily find food from carcasses still floating in the floodwaters.

There was no need for it to return to the Ark, because it could rest on floating debris, or on the mountaintops which were now more exposed than when they first became visible.

Because the raven did not return, Noah could deduce that there was a substantial amount of land _____.

But he wouldn't have been able to tell whether the rest of the Ark passengers could safely disembark.

Next, we are told that Noah sent out a dove (Hebrew "the dove," hayyônāh (הַיּוֹנָה), specifically "to see if the water was abated from the face of the land" (v. 8b).

The dove and the pigeon are members of the Columbidae family—"dove" refers to the smaller species and "pigeon" to the larger species, but they are fairly interchangeable.

The dove is used as a positive symbol in the Bible, depicting youth and _____ (Song of Songs 1:15, 4:1, 5:12), love (Song of Songs 2:14, 5:2, 6:9), and innocence (Mat. 10:16).

And at Jesus' baptism, "the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove" (Luke 3:22).

Doves and pigeons have very strong flight muscles, making up around a third of their weight.

So they are powerful flyers, and the Bible hints at this (Psa. 55:6, Isa. 60:8, Hos. 11:11).

Combining strength with their maneuverability, they can cover a long range in a day.

But they don't normally eat carrion, they usually prefer valleys to mountains, and they like _____, clean places for nesting.

The first time the dove was sent out, it found no suitable nesting spot—"no resting place for the sole of her foot" (v. 9a).

So the dove returned to Noah's outstretched hand, and Noah brought her back inside the Ark.

The timing of the release of doves was one week apart (seven days), which showed Noah's _____, despite his likely desire to be free to walk the earth again.

In verse 10, we read that Noah sent out the dove a second time, perhaps the same one.

This time it returned "toward evening," implying that it was out somewhat longer.

And this time she had "a freshly picked olive leaf" in her beak.

This indicated that olive trees were now beginning to _____.

From the olive leaf in the dove's beak, Noah could deduce "that the water was abated from the earth" (Gen. 8:11).

However, though olives can sprout from wet ground, doves won't nest (or rest) on such a surface, and the trees were obviously not yet of a sufficient size.

So the ground was not yet dry enough to disembark.

So, seven days later, Noah sent out the dove once again.

But this time she did not return to him. From this Noah could deduce that there was both enough food and enough dry land for it to nest.

Thus, he knew that their time in the Ark was coming to an _____.

The New World



Genesis 8:13-14

13 Now it came about in the six hundred and first year, in the first month, on the first of the month, the water was dried up from the earth. Then Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and behold, the surface of the ground was dried up. 14 In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry.

It's interesting to note that Noah waited still another 29 days after the dove did not come back, until the first day of the first month (_____ days after the Flood began), to remove the Ark's covering (presumably a part of the roof) and see the dry ground for himself.

He must have observed that there was still much water about and a forbidding, _____ landscape in general.

He thus waited still another 57 days (371 days after the Flood began) before he determined that they could leave the Ark and undertake life in the new world.

This was on the 27th day of the second month.

(These months were apparently 30 days in length, as is inferred from the data in Genesis 7:11, 24 and 8:3, 4.)

The Flood had started on the 17th day of the second month; so they were in the Ark a total of 371 days, a period of exactly 53 weeks.

"Go Out of the Ark"



Genesis 8:15-19

15 Then God spoke to Noah, saying, 16 "Go out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and your sons' wives with you. 17 Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you, birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, that they may breed abundantly 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 their families from the ark.

Now God _____ to Noah (whether directly, in a dream, a vision, or in some other way, we are not told) to tell him to leave the Ark with his family and with all the birds and animals that had been preserved through the Flood.

God said the animals were to “breed abundantly” on the earth, _____ after their kind.

God also told Noah and his family “to be fruitful and multiply on the earth.”

In other words, have children, so that the _____ of the world would once again increase.

When Noah came out of the Ark, he would have been walking on earth which contained the remains of billions of animals and plants that were buried by the flood.

Many of these remains were turned into _____.

Most of the fossil record is actually the graveyard of the Flood, not the graveyard of “millions of years” as evolutionists claim.

Or as Ken Ham loves to say, “If there really was a worldwide flood, you would find billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth.”

And guess what?

That is EXACTLY what we find all over the earth!

But now the floodwaters were abated, and the land was dry.

And I’m sure that after being cooped up in a wooden ship with all those animals, Noah and his family couldn’t wait to get out of the Ark.

And you thought a 5-hour flight to the east coast was bad?! ;-))

The enormity of the _____ planet must have hit Noah and his family within moments after they disembarked.

For a year they had been enclosed in the confines of the Ark, and had seen nothing but the animals and each other.

No doubt they had spent long hours remembering the world from which they had come.

And now, as they compared it to the New World in which they had landed, this new “_____” began to sink in.

The world had not been annihilated by the Flood, but it was drastically _____.

*2 Peter 3:6**6 ...the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water.*

When they left the Ark which had preserved them through that year of God's awful wrath, Noah and his family truly disembarked into a New World.

The lands that once had teemed with animals and people and lush vegetation had been replaced by a _____ wilderness.

The air which formerly was warm and gentle now moved in stiff and sometimes violent winds, and there was a chill on the mountain slope where the Ark rested.

Dark clouds rolling about the sky, which had once been perpetually and pleasantly bright, seemed to at times threaten more rains and a recurrence of flood conditions.

At the same time, however, the earth had been _____ of the wicked hordes that had made its physical beauty only a mockery; and God had granted a gracious opportunity for a new beginning for the children of Adam.

Some of the implied physical changes after the Flood are as follows:

The oceans were much more extensive, since they now contained all the waters which once were "above the firmament" and the subterranean reservoirs of the "great deep."

The land area was _____ extensive than before the Flood, with a much greater portion of its surface uninhabitable.

The thermal vapor blanket had dissipated, resulting in strong temperature differentials, leading to a gradual buildup of snow and ice in the polar regions, rendering much of the extreme northern and southern land surfaces also essentially uninhabitable.

Mountain ranges which formed during the Flood resulted in the more rugged topography of the postdiluvian world, with many of those mountain regions also becoming _____ for human habitation.

Winds and storms, rains and snows, were possible now, thus rendering the total environment less congenial to man and animals than had previously been the case.

The environment was also more hostile because of harmful _____ from space, no longer filtered out by the vapor canopy, resulting (along with other contributing environmental factors) in reduction in human longevity after the Flood.

Tremendous glaciers, rivers, and lakes existed for a time, with the world only gradually approaching its present state of semi-aridity.

The _____ of the earth was in a state of general instability, reflected in recurrent volcanic and seismic activity all over the world for many centuries, continuing even to the present.

The lands were barren of vegetation, until such time as plant life could be reestablished through the sprouting of seeds and cuttings buried beneath the surface or planted by Noah and his descendants.

There is even a possibility that the earth's _____ sped up by about 1.5 percent if the year really was 360 days long at that time.

Noah Worships God



Genesis 8:20

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.

Notice the very first thing Noah did after leaving the Ark.

He didn't start building a house for his family.

He didn't dig a well to ensure his future grandchildren would have clean drinking water.

He didn't start planting shade trees to protect his family from the rays of the sun, now harsher than those they were used to.

Instead, the very first thing he did was to build "an altar to the Lord."

In other words, he put God—and _____ God—first.

And what a fantastic lesson that is for each and every one of us!

Just as Jesus said in Matthew chapter 6,



Matthew 6:33

33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Animal sacrifice had already been established by God Himself in the Garden of Eden, when He clothed Adam and Eve with _____ skins.

That initial sacrifice set the stage for a formal ceremony of sacrifice that appears to have continued throughout the centuries of the First Age.

Surely this was the case at the time of Cain and Abel's recorded offerings to the Lord (Gen. 4:3-4).

Later, after Seth's son Enosh was born, the line of Seth began to "call upon the name of the Lord" (Gen. 4:26), which implies a _____ practice of sacrifice and worship.

Noah and his family were direct descendants of the line of Seth (Gen. 5:6-32).

Thus, they would have been aware of this practice, and would have followed the family commitment to the Creator.

It's clear from the records in Genesis that Noah lived during the same time period as all of the direct descendants of _____.

The only exception was Enoch, who was taken directly into Heaven when he was 365 years old.

Family gatherings during those centuries would have ensured that the family history and traditions were carefully preserved.

Indeed, it is likely that Lamech, Noah's father, would have personally known _____, since their lives overlapped by 56 years; and as the very first human, Adam would have held a place of great importance among his descendants and would have been sought out by them.

Therefore, Noah would have known of the spiritual relationship that his family had with the Creator.

Noah would have been keenly conscious of his responsibility to worship the One Who had made all things, Who sustains all things, and Who had sovereignly worked through Noah to save the human race from _____.

The Altar

So after unloading the animals from the Ark, Noah gave his attention to the formal worship that he had no doubt practiced with his father's family prior to the Flood.

The phrase "_____" is used over 600 times in the Old Testament, and it always has the meaning of dedicating something or submitting oneself to the authority of God.

Contrast that practice with the later effort of Nimrod and his followers at Babel, as they endeavored to build a tower that reached "into heaven" (Gen. 11).

That focus was not on the God of creation, but on their human attempts to reach heaven.

When Noah “built an altar to the Lord” (Gen. 8:20), he must have either gathered stones from the area or used materials from the Ark to erect a platform of some kind, since the offerings included some larger animals.

Later instructions given to Moses about the Tabernacle and to David about the Temple provided very specific details about the size and function of the formal altar of sacrifice; so perhaps the altar that Noah built also had some divine guidance behind its construction.

This is the first mention of an _____ in the Bible.

Although public worship of the true God Yahweh began with Seth and Enosh (Gen. 4:26), there is no mention of any altar.

Scholars have suggested that perhaps they sacrificed at the gate of the Garden of Eden, which may have been a place of the visible manifestation of God in the Shekinah Glory.

But now that Eden had been destroyed by the Flood, an alternative means of worship was needed.

However, when all is said and done, the Bible’s silence about any pre-Flood altar is not conclusive proof that none existed.

What we do know is that Noah built, as his very first act in the New World, the _____ altar which Moses specifically mentioned in the book of Genesis.

The Animals

The sacrifice of “_____ clean animal and of every clean bird” was a major gift of resources to God.

Although God had insisted that Noah bring “of every clean animal by sevens, a male and his female...also of the birds of the sky, by sevens, male and female” into the Ark (Gen. 7:2-3), this offering would have represented more than a tenth (a _____) of the total means available to the entire family.

This represented their livelihood and future security.

They were all alone in the earth.

There was nothing else to draw from—except the _____ that God had preserved them and the animals to “keep offspring alive on the face of all the earth” (Gen. 7:3).

Many centuries after the Flood, God met with Moses on Mount Sinai and gave him specific instructions for the nation of Israel.

A good portion of those laws dealt with _____ restrictions, including descriptions of the clean animals God's people were permitted to eat (Lev. 11).

The instructions God gave to Noah in Genesis 7:2-3 appear to assume that Noah would know which animals were clean.

The details of Noah's post-Flood sacrifice do not specify the kinds of animals Noah offered, but it is certain that the offering would have included the cattle (bulls, goats, lambs, etc.) and the fowl (doves, pigeons, etc.) that were to be the centerpieces of the sacrificial system of future Israel.

The Attitude

Even though God does not _____ (Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8), it is clear that the physical act of sacrificing animals is not at the core of God's desire for human worship (Heb. 10:5-6).

These offerings were the required practice of the nation of Israel—and evidently for the pre-Flood line of Seth, as well.

However, as Samuel clearly announced to a disobedient King Saul, “to _____ is better than sacrifice” (1 Sam. 15:22).

God is always pleased with a heart that joyfully loves Him (Mark 12:33), a heart which sacrifices even more than might humanly be considered prudent (Mark 12:41-44).

Noah had already proven himself to God through his lifelong behavior of righteousness.

Several different Biblical references highlight Noah's _____.



Genesis 6:22

22 Thus Noah did; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did.



Genesis 7:1

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.



Genesis 7:5

5 Noah did according to all that the Lord had commanded him.

*Hebrews 11:7*

7 By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

*2 Peter 2:5*

5 and [God] did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;

*Ezekiel 14:14 (cf. 14:20)*

14 even though these three men, Noah, Daniel and Job were in its midst, by their own righteousness they could only deliver themselves,” declares the Lord God.

Once the ordeal of the Flood was over, Noah responded in the way that he had always responded—he _____ his Creator.

As the head of his family, Noah built an altar and sacrificed from each of the clean animal kinds, as he had been taught to do.

Everything was different now.

The world they knew before the Flood was gone, and they faced a future filled with unknown challenges.

Noah wanted to begin life in this new world with the proper _____ of the Creator and Judge.

And it's clear from the very next verse that God was very pleased with Noah's actions and sacrifice.

God's Merciful Promise

*Genesis 8:21*

21 The Lord smelled the soothing aroma; and the Lord said to Himself, “I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done.”

After Noah completed the sacrifices, God “smelled the soothing aroma” (Gen. 8:21).

This should not be understood in the sense that God loves the smell of barbecued beef and mutton.

The “soothing aroma” when sacrifices are made—something often spoken of in Scripture (Ex. 29:18, 25, 41; Lev. 1:9,13, 17, etc.)—is primarily a _____ of the heart attitude and worship that brought the person to the altar in the first place.



Psalm 141:2

2 Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

And in the New Testament we see some of this same sacrificial language applied to our _____.



Hebrews 13:15

5 Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

The “sacrifice of praise” is continually offered in the same manner as the old daily sacrifices—as we bring our petitions and thanksgiving to our Lord.

Even in the courts of Heaven, the prayers of the saints are blended in an eternal “_____” before the throne and offered in golden bowls to God (Rev. 5:8; 8:3-4).

So as Noah stood again on dry land and offered sacrifices to God, the Lord heard and respected the believing—though perhaps unspoken—prayer of Noah, represented by the rising smoke of the burnt offering.

Generations yet unborn, including our own, have benefited from Noah’s sacrifice of thanksgiving and intercession, and God’s response to it.

For right after accepting the worship and sacrifice of Noah and his family, God responded with a promise that would impact all His future dealings with _____.



Genesis 8:21b

21 ...and the Lord said to Himself, “I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man’s heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done.”

God relieved any apprehensions Noah and his family may have had by promising never again to destroy all life on the earth.

The “curse” of Genesis 8:21 is not primarily the Flood, but refers to the original “curse” of Genesis 3:17, which will prevail until the new earth of Revelation 22:3 is created.

This is evident in that the language is so _____ in both cases (“curse the ground for man’s sake,” where “man” is the same word as “Adam”).

God was not removing the Curse at this time (though Noah had brought comfort concerning the ground which the Lord had cursed—Genesis 5:29), but rather promising that there would never again be a worldwide judgment on man’s _____, such as the Edenic law of death or the Noahic visitation of death, both of which had affected the entire earth.

God would neither curse the ground again with an additional curse to the one pronounced in Eden, nor again destroy everything living, as He had done with the Flood.

He has judged _____ places, like Sodom and Gomorrah, since the Flood.

But never has He judged with another global judgment like the Flood.

The reason for this promise at first seems strange—“for the intent of man’s heart is evil from his youth.”

This would seem to be justification for smiting the earth, rather than for promising not to do so, except for the great paradox of the love and grace of God.

Here is a testimony to what theologians call “_____ sin” and “universal depravity,” and also to God’s redeeming love, grace, and mercy.

Because man is helpless to save himself—his very thoughts born and nurtured in sin—he desperately needs the grace and forgiveness of God.

On the basis of an _____ sacrifice, God’s salvation and blessing are received by faith and repentance.

Thus, for the very reason that man is completely unable to save himself, GOD must save him!

Truly, He is the God of all grace!

Noah had “found favor/grace in the eyes of the Lord” (Gen. 6:8) and, because of his faithful obedience and his believing sacrifice, so have multitudes of his descendants.

He did, indeed, “give us rest from our work and from the toil of our hands arising from the ground which the Lord has cursed” (Gen. 5:29).

God cursed the ground in Genesis 3:17 because of man's sin.

God had just flooded the entire earth because of the wickedness of man.

But even destroying the earth with a Flood could not change man's sinful _____.

The prophet Jeremiah reminds us of how sinful human hearts are when he says,



Jeremiah 17:9

9 "The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?"

What a good reminder that the only way we can be changed is to be Born Again through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ!



John 3:3

3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."



Ephesians 1:7

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace



Acts 4:12

12 "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."

There is coming a day, however, when there will be a final global judgment—but this time by _____, when God puts a final end to this sin-cursed creation, and makes new heavens and a new earth.



2 Peter 3:10-13

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. 11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! 13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

Another Merciful Promise

The last part of God's declaration in Genesis 8 almost seems like an afterthought.

Tagged on at the end of the other two promises, God makes another vow:



Genesis 8:22

22 "While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, And cold and heat, And summer and winter, And day and night Shall not cease."

Although the new hydrologic cycle would produce _____, and sometimes local floods, God assured Noah that there would never again be a worldwide flood which would destroy all life on the land.

In fact, He assured him that a regular order of nature, with a fixed sequence of _____ and a fixed cycle of day and night, would prevail from that time on.

That regularity of nature known to modern scientists as the "principle of uniformity" was instituted by God after the Flood.

The seasons, heat and cold, day and night, are now controlled primarily by the _____, which supplies all the energy for the earth's physical processes.

The earth's orbital revolution around the sun, its axial rotation and inclination, and its marvelous atmosphere also help establish these constants of nature, which in turn control most other geological processes.

It is, of course, only these present processes which modern scientists can actually observe, describe, and analyze.

The _____—not the past nor the future—is the proper domain of true science.

The earth and its people have benefited from that promise of constancy for so many centuries that it almost seems irrelevant.

However, set in juxtaposition with the horror of the First Age and the catastrophe of the Flood, this promise has stunning applications.

No longer will the earth and its resident life spin rapidly downward into _____ and destruction, but they will be maintained with the supernatural intervention of the Creator Himself.

The _____ that spoke the heavens and earth into existence (Psa. 33:8-9; 148:1-5) is the same Word that now keeps the "seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night" working in constant and preserved function.

We may never know the full reason why the God of the Flood judgment was moved in His heart to hold together and preserve the earth for the past many centuries.

But we can know the main reason— 2 Peter 3:9 9 The Lord ... is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

Long before the world was created, the triune Godhead determined that the Second Person of the Trinity would one day come to earth and...



Philippians 2:7-8

7 [empty] Himself, taking the form of a bond- servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

The same Savior Who “_____ the world” and Who accomplished that work 2,000 years ago at Calvary (1 Pet. 1:18-19; Rev.13:8), is also our Creator Who has promised to preserve our world through the regular cycles of “seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night.”

Chronology of the Flood Year

Year (Noah)	Month	Day	Event	Duration (Days)	Reference
600	2	10	Noah entered the Ark		7:7, 10, 11
600	2	17	Heavens and earth opened	7?	7:11
600	3	27	Rain stopped, and presumably also the fountains of the deep. So water began receding.	40	7:12
600	7	17	Ark rested on Ararat mountains (since Flood prevailed for 150 days, this number must be 150-40)	110	8:3-4
600	10	1	Tops of mountains seen	74	8:5
600	11	10	Raven—did not return	40	8:6-7
600	11	18	Dove—returned	7	8:8
600	11	25	Dove—returned with leaf	7	8:10-11
600	12	2	Dove—did not return	7	8:12
601	1	1	Covering removed—ground dry	29	8:13
601	2	27	Everyone disembarked	56	8:14-16
			Total Duration of the Flood	370 Days	