

## Genesis 6:9-7:24...Noah and the Flood

### Part 1...Genesis 6:9-22 and the Introduction of the Noahic Flood and Covenant Narrative

**Genesis 6<sup>9</sup>** These are *the records of the generations of Noah (the third Hebrew “toledot”...a literary marker of a new chapter in redemptive history)*

### Sin, Judgment, Destruction and Renewal

#### Significant parallels...

##### Noah and Adam...

***“Noah is depicted as Adam revived. He is the sole survivor and successor to Adam...both “walk” with God; both are the recipients of the promissory blessing; both are caretakers of the lower creatures; both father three sons; both are workers of the soil; both sin through the fruit of a tree; and both father a wicked son who is under a curse.”***

Kenneth Matthews

##### Noah and Moses...

***“As Moses compiled the Genesis account, and then the account of Exodus, he must have marveled at the parallels with his own life.***

***The Hebrew word for “ark” was used in Genesis to refer to Noah’s ship. The only other place that Hebrew word appears in the Old Testament is in Exodus 2:3, 5 when it is translated “basket”—the basket into which Moses’ mother placed him to drift down the Nile. Just as the great pitch-covered ark preserved Noah and his family from a watery death, so the tiny pitch-covered ark/basket preserved Moses (cf. Genesis 6:14 and Exodus 2:3). Moses, the greatest man of the old covenant, experienced a salvation through an ark parallel to that which saved Noah, the man who “found favor in the eyes of the LORD.”***

***Then later, as Moses opposed Pharaoh, he witnessed God's judgment by water when God unleashed the waters of the Red Sea, flooding destruction over the armies of Egypt (cf. Exodus 14:26-31). That was a microcosm of the original deliverance of Noah, and it likewise preserved a people to serve God.***

***Lastly, Moses was given explicit instructions for building the tabernacle, just as Noah had been given detailed instructions for the ark, even down to specifications regarding clean and unclean animals.*** These parallels suggest that Moses saw a comparison between the salvation in the ark of Noah during the forty days and forty nights of rain and the salvation in the presence of the tabernacle during the forty years in the wilderness.”

Kent Hughes, Genesis

## **And significant contrasts....**

### **Noah and Mankind (6:9-12)**

**Genesis 6<sup>9</sup>** These are *the records of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.*

<sup>10</sup> Noah became the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

<sup>11</sup> Now ***the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence.*** <sup>12</sup> God looked on the earth, and ***behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth.***

***Note the repeated use of “corrupt”***

### **Genesis 6:9,10...Righteous Noah**

**6:9b,10...**Noah was ***a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.*** <sup>10</sup> Noah became the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

**Hebrews 11:7...*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.***

***“6:9 Just/righteous refers to his legal standing of justification, and perfect, meaning “complete,” refers to his wholehearted dedication to God or his sanctification. Noah is a spiritually saved person, not by his own righteousness but by God’s grace upon him.”***

Matthew Barrett, RHB Study Bible

“The biblical doctrine of imputed righteousness began before the flood. This is the first of the Old Testament expressions that are made more explicit in subsequent Old Testament texts (cf. Genesis 15:6; Psalm 32:2) and are given full flower in the New Testament (cf. Romans 1:17; 3:21, 22; 5:17, 19; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 3:9; Titus 3:5; Hebrews 11:7; 2 Peter 1:1).

***“That he was also “blameless in his generation” (Genesis 6:9) describes his moral conduct. He, of course, was not sinless, but his conduct was blameless despite the evil context. The demonized culture did not divert or pervert him, nor could it indict him. He was the one bright spot among the numberless darkened souls of the primeval world.***

***And like Enoch he “walked with God.” Enoch and Noah were the only primeval patriarchs to walk with God. They experienced a taste of the intimacy and obedience that pre-fallen Adam and Eve knew when God walked with them in the garden.***

***Noah was a full-dimensional, remarkably complete man of God. He had “found favor [grace] in the eyes of the LORD” (v. 8).”***

Kent Hughes, Genesis

## **Genesis 6:11,12...Sinful mankind. And certain judgment**

**Genesis 6:11,12 (cf 6:5)... “Bookends” of God’s assessment**

***Genesis 6<sup>5</sup> Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.***

**Genesis 6**<sup>11</sup> Now the earth was *corrupt in the sight of God*, and the earth was filled with violence. <sup>12</sup> **God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt**; for *all flesh had corrupted* their way upon the earth.

**“6:11 Corrupt in the sight of God . . . filled with violence.** The corruption and violence flows from the corrupt imagination of the thoughts of [the] heart” (v. 5; cf. Prov. 23:7; Matt. 15:19).

**6:12 Man’s sin is counted against the “earth” (v. 11) and all flesh**—words that include animal flesh throughout the flood account (vv. 13,17,19; 7:15–16,21; 8:17; 9:11,15,–17).

**6:13 I will destroy them. A repeat of the essence of v. 7 but using the word “corrupt” of v. 12 (“corrupted his way”) as part of the judgment: “I will ruin them for ruining themselves.” With the earth shows that the earth would also be destroyed with all its living creatures (vv. 7,17).”**

Matthew Barrett, RHB Study Bible

## **2 Peter 2:5...Noah, a preacher of righteousness in the midst of a thoroughly corrupt world**

**2 Peter 2**<sup>4</sup> For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment; <sup>5</sup> and 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; <sup>6</sup> and *if* He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing *them* to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly *lives* thereafter; <sup>7</sup> and *if* He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men <sup>8</sup> (for by what he saw and heard *that* righteous man, while living among them, felt *his* righteous soul tormented day after day by *their* lawless deeds), <sup>9</sup> *then* the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment,

**“Noah would not have survived had not God, as Peter says, “preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others” (2 Peter 2:5).”**

Kent Hughes, Genesis

## Genesis 6:13-22...the Ark of Salvation

**Genesis 6**<sup>13</sup> Then God said to Noah, “***The end of all flesh has come before Me***; for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth. <sup>14</sup> ***Make for yourself an ark*** of gopher wood; you shall make the ark with rooms, and shall cover it inside and out with pitch. <sup>15</sup> This is how you shall make it: the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its breadth fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. <sup>16</sup> You shall make a window for the ark, and finish it to a cubit from the top; and set the door of the ark in the side of it; you shall make it with lower, second, and third decks. <sup>17</sup> ***Behold, I, even I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth, to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life, from under heaven; everything that is on the earth shall perish.*** <sup>18</sup> ***But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife, and your sons’ wives with you.*** <sup>19</sup> And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every *kind* into the ark, to keep *them* alive with you; they shall be male and female. <sup>20</sup> Of the birds after their kind, and of the animals after their kind, of every creeping thing of the ground after its kind, two of every *kind* will come to you to keep *them* alive. <sup>21</sup> As for you, take for yourself some of all food which is edible, and gather *it* to yourself; and it shall be for food for you and for them.” <sup>22</sup> ***Thus Noah did; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did.***

**“6:14 Make for yourself an ark. Noah is to make the ark in obedience to God’s instructions (v. 22)—a picture of Christ’s work of salvation by His perfect obedience.**

**6:15 Caricatures of the ark in children’s literature do great damage to this impressive work of construction that took about 120 years to build. The ark was roughly 450 feet (137.1 meters) long, 75 feet (22.9 meters) wide, and 45 feet (13.7 meters) tall. The ark was about twice the length of a Boeing 747 (232 feet; 70.7 meters).** Ancient peoples were advanced engineers and could certainly construct such an object.

**6:16 The ark was designed with three levels and a window opening of approximately 1.5 feet (0.5 meters).** Note that the ark described in the Mesopotamian Epic of Gilgamesh is a perfect cube with a side dimension of 200 feet (70 meters) and seven stories high. Such a craft could roll on the open sea, and it is obvious to a nautical engineer that ***the account in Genesis is using seagoing proportions while the Gilgamesh version is a fanciful corruption.***

**6:17** *The word flood is the first mention of the Hebrew word translated in the Septuagint with the word from which we get the English “cataclysmic” which underlines the huge nature of this event. The possible mechanisms of this worldwide event are discussed in 7:11.*

*Every thing that is in the earth shall die. This is a worldwide event (v. 7; 7:4). One might well ask if the flood was a local flood, then what is the point of building a huge boat if all one had to do was go to the nearest high mountain or leave the area?”*

Matthew Barrett, RHB Study Bible

### **Genesis 6:13-17...Noah’s family (and animals) enter the ark...and the Flood comes**

**Genesis 6<sup>13</sup>** *On the very same day Noah and Shem and Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark, <sup>14</sup> they and every beast after its kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, all sorts of birds. <sup>15</sup> So they went into the ark to Noah, by twos of all flesh in which was the breath of life.*

*<sup>16</sup> Those that entered, male and female of all flesh, entered as God had commanded him; and the Lord closed it behind him.*

*<sup>17</sup> Then the flood came upon the earth for forty days, and the water increased and lifted up the ark, so that it rose above the earth.*

### **Genesis 6:18-21...The Noahic Covenant and Noah’s obedience**

**Genesis 6<sup>18</sup>** *But **I will establish My covenant with you**; and you shall enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife, and your sons’ wives with you. <sup>19</sup> And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every *kind* into the ark, to keep *them* alive with you; they shall be male and female. <sup>20</sup> Of the birds after their kind, and of the animals after their kind, of every creeping thing of the ground after its kind, two of every *kind* will come to you to keep *them* alive. <sup>21</sup> As for you, take for yourself some of all food which is edible, and gather *it* to yourself; and it shall be for food for you and for them.”*

**“6:18 I will establish my covenant with you. As with Abraham later (15:18; 17:2), God makes a covenant with Noah (9:9–17). God’s grace is sealed in His covenant agreements.”**

Matthew Barrett, RHB Study Bible

**“The specifics of the covenant were unfolded at the end of the flood, as 9:1-17 will show. This promise, this bare word of God, was what sustained Noah for a century of labor and the final seven days of gathering the animals and then seeing the door slammed tight.”**

Kent Hughes, Genesis

### **Genesis 6:22...The obedience of Noah...**

**Genesis 6<sup>22</sup> Thus Noah did; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did.**

**“God had given Noah two things in his communication to that patriarch—a detailed design for the ark and the covenant promise of salvation. But as important as those are, the one thing we must fasten onto is the brief descriptive statement that caps God’s speech: “Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him” (v. 22).**

**In an epic biblical account like that of the flood, it is the repetitions that most clearly convey the author’s message. Variations of this description of Noah occur four times in the subsequent text, and they are carefully placed. Genesis 7:5 records that in response to God’s instructions for the final seven days, “Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.”**

**“This refrain of obedience represented Noah’s long life—“he did all that God commanded him”—“Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.” An amazing man had risen out of the heart-dead wastes of primeval culture. *Here was a man who knew who God was, knew who he himself was, and obeyed God’s word. Noah was a man alive to God. Here was monumental obedience.***

Calvin gets to the point:

***The prodigious size of the ark might have overwhelmed all his senses, so as to prevent him from raising a finger to begin the work.***

***Let the reader reflect on the multitude of trees to be felled, on the great labour of conveying them, and the difficulty of joining them together. The matter was also long deferred; for the holy man was required to be engaged more than a hundred years in most troublesome labour.*** Nor can we suppose him to have been so stupid, as not to reflect upon obstacles of this kind.

***Building the ark required careful planning and engineering and a century of sweat, but “Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him” (v. 22).”***

Kent Hughes, Genesis

***“6:22 According to all that God commanded him. The salvation of some of mankind from destruction depended upon the obedience of one righteous man (7:1,5); this is a type of Christ (Rom. 5:15–19).”***

Matthew Barrett, RHB Study Bible

**Note Genesis 7:9,16...*Finally after the Flood had ended, as Noah brought supplies into the high and dry ark and collected the animals, we read twice that it all happened “as God had commanded Noah” (7:9, 16). The words everything and all describe Noah’s obedience.***

**God’s sovereignty & the obedience of the animals (Genesis 6:20)**

**Genesis 6<sup>19</sup>** And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every *kind* into the ark, to keep *them* alive with you; they shall be male and female. <sup>20</sup>Of the birds after their kind, and of the animals after their kind, of every creeping thing of the ground after its kind, ***two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive.***

***6.19 Male and female. Estimates of the capacity of the ark are for about 125,000 animals with an average size of a sheep. Estimates of the number of land animals would be not more than 50,000 that Noah would need in total on the ark. The food (v. 21) and Noah’s living quarters would take up the remainder.6:20Two of every sort shall come unto you. God brings all the animals to Noah.”***

Matthew Barrett, RHB Study Bible



## **The obedience of the animals, continued (Genesis 7:9,16)**

**Genesis** 7<sup>8</sup> Of clean animals and animals that are not clean and birds and everything that creeps on the ground, <sup>9</sup> ***there went into the ark to Noah by twos, male and female, as God had commanded Noah.***

***Verse 9 records that the animals entered the ark “as God had commanded Noah.” And again in verse 16, before the door was shut, “those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him.”***

## **Thoughts for Personal/Family Worship: Chapter 6**

From Noah we learn patience and faith. Noah took more than a hundred years to build the ark. He patiently worked and witnessed to the people who rejected his message (2 Peter 2:5). We live in similar days (Luke 17:26) and need to preach faithfully despite the mocking of men against the gospel. The only safe place from the flood was the ark being built. The only safe place from God’s eternal judgment is Christ.

Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord and walked with God. Significantly, Noah found grace before he was described as just and perfect. It is grace that enables faith, and God regarded Noah as just in consequence of that grace that caused him to believe and obey. May the Lord help us to walk with Him. Trust in Christ and obey Him, for then you will abide in His love (John 15:10).

### **AIG...Thinking Outside the Box (The Dimensions, Design and Seaworthiness of the Ark)...Excerpts**

<https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/thinking-outside-the-box/>

Genesis describes the Ark in three verses, which require careful examination:

6:14—“Make yourself an ark [*tebah*] of gopher wood; make rooms [*qinniym*] in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch [*kofer*].

6:15—“And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits.

6:16—“You shall make a window [*tsohar*] for the ark, and you shall finish it to a cubit from above; and set the door of the ark in its side. You shall make it with lower, second, and third decks” (NKJV).

Most Bibles make some unusual translation choices for certain key words. Elsewhere in the Bible the Hebrew word translated here as “rooms” is usually rendered “nests”; “pitch” would normally be called “covering”; and “window” would be “noon light.” Using these more typical meanings, the Ark would be something like this:

The *tebah* (Ark) was made from gopher wood, it had nests inside, and it was covered with a pitch-like substance inside and out. It was 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high. It had a noon light that ended a cubit upward and above, it had a door in the side, and there were three decks.

As divine specifications go, Moses offered more elaborate details about the construction of the Tabernacle, which suggests this might be the abridged version of Noah’s complete directions. On the other hand, consider how wise Noah must have been after having lived several centuries. The instructions that we have recorded in Genesis may be all he needed to be told. But in any case, 300 cubits is a big ship, not some whimsical houseboat with giraffe necks sticking out the top.

Scripture gives no clue about the shape of Noah’s Ark beyond its proportions—length, breadth, and depth. Ships have long been described like this without ever implying a block-shaped hull.

The scale of the Ark is huge yet remarkably realistic when compared to the largest wooden ships in history. The proportions are even more amazing—they are just like a modern cargo ship.

Noah’s Ark was the focus of a major 1993 scientific study headed by Dr. Seon Hong at the world-class ship research center KRISO, based in Daejeon, South Korea. Dr. Hong’s team compared twelve hulls of different proportions to discover which design was most practical. No hull shape was found to significantly outperform the 4,300-year-old biblical design. In fact, the Ark’s careful balance is easily lost if the proportions are modified, rendering the vessel either unstable, prone to fracture, or dangerously uncomfortable.

The research team found that the proportions of Noah’s Ark carefully balanced the conflicting demands of stability (resistance to capsizing), comfort (“seakeeping”), and strength. In fact, the Ark has the same proportions as a modern cargo ship.

The study also confirmed that the Ark could handle waves as high as 100 ft (30 meters)...

Some question whether the Ark was actually built to handle rough seas, but the Bible gives some clues about the sea conditions during the Flood:

- The Ark had the proportions of a seagoing vessel built for waves (Genesis 6:15).
- Logically, a mountain-covering, global flood would not be dead calm (Genesis 7:19).
- The Ark moved about on the surface of the waters (Genesis 7:18).
- God made a wind to pass over the earth (Genesis 8:1).
- The Hebrew word for the Flood (*mabbul*) could imply being carried along.

The 1993 Korean study showed that some shorter hulls slightly outperformed the Ark model with biblical proportions. The study assumed waves came from every direction, favoring shorter hulls like that of a modern lifeboat. So why was Noah's Ark so long if it didn't need to be streamlined for moving through the water? The answer lies in ride comfort (seakeeping). This requires a longer hull, at the cost of strength and stability, not to mention more wood. The Ark's high priority for comfort suggests that the anticipated waves must have been substantial.

### **AIG...How Could All the Animals Fit in the Ark?...Excerpts**

<https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/how-could-all-animals-fit-ark/>

#### **How Large Was the Ark?**

According to Genesis 6:15, the ark was 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high—the proportions of a genuine shipping vessel. A cubit is typically considered to be the length from a man's furthest fingertip to his elbow. While various cubit lengths have been used throughout history, the Ark Encounter calculated the size of the ark based on a 20.4-inch (52 cm) cubit. The result is a vessel 510 feet (155 m) long, 85 feet (26 m) wide, and 51 feet (16 m) high. Accounting for a 15% reduction in volume due to the curvature of the hull, an ark this size could contain the equivalent of 450 semi-trailers of cargo or about 1.88 million cubic feet (53,200 m<sup>3</sup>)—a truly massive ship.

## **Which Animals Were Required on the Ark?**

The Bible informs us that the ark housed representatives of every land-dependent, air-breathing animal—ones that could not otherwise survive the flood (Genesis 7:21–23). Conversely, Noah did not care for marine animals, and he probably did not need to bring insects, with the possible exception of delicate insects like butterflies and moths—since most insects could survive outside the ark. Also, insects take in oxygen through spiracles in their skin, and the Bible specifies that those creatures targeted outside of the ark were those “on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life.”

## **How Many Species Are in the World Today?**

Skeptics often assert that there are millions of species in the world— far more than the number that could fit on the ark. However, according to estimates published in 2014, there are fewer than 1.8 million documented species of organisms in the world. Consider also that over 98 percent of those species are fish, invertebrates, and non-animals (like plants and bacteria). This means that there are fewer than 34,000 species of known, land-dependent vertebrates in the world today.<sup>2</sup>

## **Species or Kinds?**

Though wild animals today are often considered according to their species, the Bible deals with animals according to their *min*, a Hebrew word usually translated as “kind.” We can infer from Scripture that God created plants and animals to reproduce after their kinds (Genesis 1:11–25), and it is clear from various texts that a kind is often a broader category than the current concept of a species. This means that a kind may contain many different species. Since Noah was only sent select representatives from relevant kinds, all land-dwelling vertebrate species not present on the ark were wiped out. Therefore, if we see an ark kind represented today by different species (e.g., horses, zebras, and donkeys of the equid kind) those species have developed since the time of the flood. Therefore, species are simply varying expressions of a particular kind.

## **What Is an Animal Kind?**

There are numerous approaches to defining a kind, but one of the simplest is a distinctly created type of organism and all descendants. Kinds are often referred to as *baramins* (from the Hebrew words for “created” and “kind”), and the study of created kinds is called *baraminology*.

## **What Are the Criteria for Identifying Kinds?**

In 2011, Ark Encounter researchers began in-depth animal studies with the goal of identifying the maximum number of ark kinds. The researchers applied three primary criteria in estimating the ark kinds: hybridization, *cognitum*, and statistical *baraminology*.

Hybrid data is the favored method in identifying kinds. Researchers believe that only closely related animals can successfully produce offspring, and this is consistent with the Bible's emphasis on the relationship between reproduction and created kinds. Since only animals in the same kind are related, hybrids positively identify which animals are part of the same kind. The usefulness of hybrid data is limited, however, in that not all potential crosses have been tested or reliably documented, and some organisms have gone extinct. Hybridization is also strictly an inclusive criterion, as not even all related animals can produce offspring together (i.e., they have lost the ability to reproduce with certain others of their kind).

The *cognitum* approach estimates animal kinds using the human senses of perception. This method assumes that animal kinds have maintained their core distinctiveness even as they have diversified over time. Presently, extinct animals are most often classified using this approach. For example, woolly mammoths are extinct, and no hybrid data are connecting them with elephants. However, their extreme similarity to elephants has resulted in their assignment to the elephant kind.

In statistical analyses, continuities and discontinuities of animals are identified by comparing physical traits using statistical tests called *baraminic* distance correlation (BDC). Like the *cognitum* approach, this method assumes that the physical similarities and dissimilarities identified in the tests are reliable indicators of relatedness. It also assumes that the traits selected for comparison are *baraminologically* significant.

## **How Big Were the Ark Animals?**

People often wonder how all the animals could have fit in the ark, particularly when considering the massive dinosaurs. We see so many illustrations of large creatures packed tightly into a little boat. But this image is inaccurate. Noah's ark was much larger than it is usually depicted, and many of the animals were probably smaller than shown in popular pictures.

Noah's ark was much larger than it is usually depicted, and many of the animals were probably smaller than shown in popular pictures.

It makes more sense to think that God would have sent to Noah juveniles or smaller varieties within the same kind. Consider the following advantages of bringing juveniles or smaller versions of a creature:

1. They take up less space.
2. They eat less.
3. They create less waste.
4. They are often easier to manage.
5. They are generally more resilient.
6. In the case of juveniles, they would have more time to reproduce after the flood.

Indeed, even when the giant dinosaurs and elephant-sized creatures are factored in, the ark animals were probably much smaller than is frequently assumed. According to Ark Encounter estimates, it is projected only 15 percent of ark animals would have achieved an average adult mass over 22 pounds (10 kg). This means that the vast majority of ark animals were smaller than a beagle, with most of those being much smaller. Starting with a mass category of 0.035–0.35 oz. (1–10 g), the animal groups were distributed into eight logarithmically increasing size classes. Amazingly, the size range with the highest projected number of ark animals was 0.35–3.5 oz. (10–100 g).

### **How Many Animal Kinds and Individuals Were on the Ark?**

Based on initial projections, the Ark Encounter team estimates that there were around 1,400 animal kinds on the ark. It is anticipated that future research may reduce that number even further.

The Ark Encounter team projects that there were fewer than 7,000 animals on board the ark. The wide discrepancy between the number of ark kinds and individuals is due to the relatively large number of flying and “clean” kinds—each estimated at 14 animals apiece.

### **Conclusion**

It is worth noting that the numbers included here are only initial estimates drawn from currently available information. On the other hand, a hypothetical 3D-digital ark created by the Ark Encounter design team, complete with all enclosures, interior structural elements, food, and water storage, showed that everything fit extremely well with little space left over.

Just as Noah trusted God concerning unseen things, so too should we trust God in the things we cannot witness.

In the end, the most important reason to believe that all the right animals fit has nothing to do with spreadsheets and 3D models—as helpful as they can sometimes be. We find this reason in Hebrews 11:7, where the writer says, “By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.” Just as Noah trusted God concerning unseen things, so too should we trust God in the things we cannot witness. Since God provided both the ark specifications and the creatures sustained within the vessel (Genesis 6:20), we can know just as surely as Noah that they all fit and were spared the watery judgment.