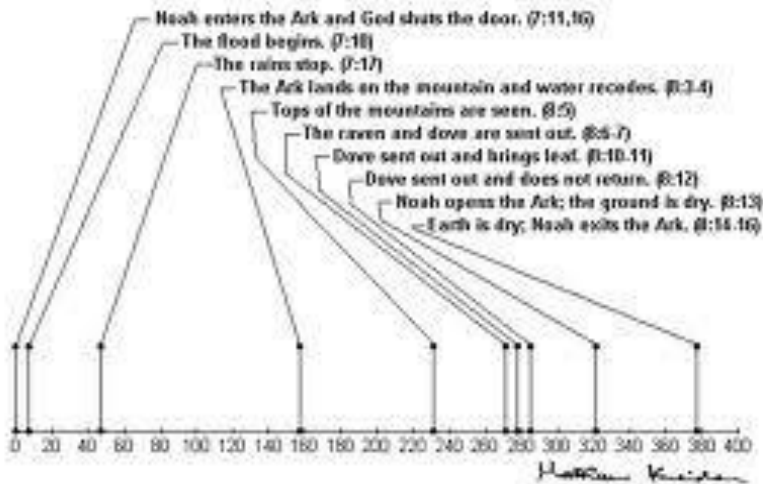




Study #8

Genesis Chapter 8

Timeline of Noah and the Flood



Key verse:

“And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man’s sake...”
V 21.

This is vital information about Noah’s survival, his worship by sacrifice and God’s covenant of mercy – God would never again by water destroy “every thing living”, not while the “earth remaineth.”

Observations – Lessons from this chapter.

1. When the Genesis record states that “God remembered Noah and every living thing” it means that God acted to support Noah and re-establish life outside the ark Ch. 8:1.

Several statements show that God actively operated on the elements to stabilize the earth to make it habitable:

“God made a wind to pass over the earth” v1.

“The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heave were stopped, and the rain was restrained.”

The result was that the waters “were abated” [decreased] v3, the “ark rested” v4, and “the waters decreased continually” v5.

While verses 1-5 in Psalm 104 refer to creation verses 6-9 allude to God working powerfully to rearrange the earth during this post-Flood event. Verse 9 also alludes to God’s covenant with Noah to never flood the whole earth again. It refers to the formation of the seas and the mountains as we know them. See the marginal readings in Ps. 104:8, which refer to the raising of mountains and the sinking of the seas.

2. The world that Noah experienced after he exited the ark was vastly different.

Dr. Henry Morris wrote on the physical changes in the “new world”:

- (1) “The oceans were much more extensive, since they now contained all the waters which once were above the firmament” and in the subterranean reservoirs of the “great deep.”
- (2) The land areas were much less extensive than before the Flood, with a much greater portion of its surface uninhabitable for this reason.
- (3) The thermal vapor blanket had been dissipated, so that strong temperature differentials were inaugurated, leading to a gradual buildup of snow and ice in the polar latitudes, rendering much of the extreme northern and southern land surfaces also essentially uninhabitable.
- (4) Mountain ranges uplifted after the Flood emphasized the more rugged topography of the postdiluvian continents, with many of these regions also becoming unfit for human habitation.

- (5) Winds and storms, rains and snows, were possible now, thus rendering the total environment less congenial to man and animals than had once been the case.
- (6) The environment was also more hostile because of harmful radiation from space, no longer filtered out by the vapor canopy, resulting (along with other contributing environmental factors) in gradual reduction in human longevity after the Flood.
- (7) Tremendous glaciers, rivers, and lakes existed for a time, with the world only gradually approaching its present state of semi-aridity.
- (8) Because of the tremendous physiographic and isostatic [earth's crust] movements generated by the collapse of the subterranean caverns and the post-Flood uplifts, the crust of the earth was in a state of general instability, reflected in recurrent volcanic and seismic activity all over the world for many centuries and continuing in some degree even to the present.
- (9) The lands were barren of vegetation, until such time as plant life could be re-established through the sprouting of seeds and cuttings buried beneath the surface.
- (10) There is even a possibility that the earth's rotation speeded up by about 1.5 percent if the year was really 360 days long." [The Genesis Record pgs. 211-212]

3. The flood impacted the whole earth leaving sedimentary rocks containing multiplied fossils in apparent order of simple organisms on the bottom to complex land creatures near the top.

Sedimentary rocks are formed from sediment with cementing agents present in the water. In the solidifying process, dead creatures and vegetation got trapped and preserved. These formations by the flood-model, by their very nature, generally bury the smallest creatures lower down and tend to bury larger creatures nearer the surface. This pattern, though not consistent, has been hijacked by evolutionists. They interpret them as "geological ages." They attribute them to natural processes at work over vast periods of time. Dr. Morris stated:

" Evolutionists have arranged these supposed "geological ages" in a supposed chronological order, purportedly extending vertically upward through the "geological column" of sedimentary rocks deposited above the crystalline rocks on the bottom. The fossils found in these rocks, proceeding supposedly from simple to complex, comprise their best evidence for the theory of organic evolution. Thus, if the fossiliferous deposits are mainly records of the Flood year, instead of millions of years of upward evolutionary struggle, the entire evolutionary system is scientifically bankrupt. There is little wonder, therefore, that the concept of the geological ages is defended with such fervor, and that "flood geology" is ridiculed or ignored."

4. Every human and animal in the world today are descendants of the ark V15-19.

The new world was re-inhabited from the family of Noah and from the animals that were preserved in the ark. Notice the reference to "kinds" v19. These are the species of animals which would multiply and diversify. There would be variation among animals as they would adapt to their new climatic conditions. They would develop into varieties within their "families," but never into new species.

5. Worship by blood sacrifice was immediately re-instituted in the new world order V20-21.

Worship by blood sacrifice has been the history of the world since the fall of man. God accepted Noah's offering for, "the LORD smelled a "sweet savour". Literally, it was a savour of rest. The term "rest" becomes a theme in this context. Noah's name means rest. The ark rested on mount Ararat v4. The dove, at first flight out of the ark, found no rest V9. God was at rest after the world's judgment and with Noah's offering. Noah and his family could be at rest with covenant of rest, because God promised He would never again judge the whole world by water. As the post-deluvians endured future rains and local flooding that would be a comfort to them.

Application: – How this applies to me.

- This chapter holds vital information on how Noah fared in the ark and how he was re-established in the earth. It fills an important part of world history.
- This history is the Christian's answer to racism, evolution and man-made worship without blood atonement.
- Our God demands blood atonement in order for sinful men to have peace with Him. In sovereign grace, He has also provided the perfect atonement in the death of His Son.