



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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been pictured by artists as it really appeared—a rather ugly, barge-like rectangular box.” (p 111)

Henry Morris says, “According to God’s instructions, the Ark was to be designed for capacity and floating stability rather than for speed or navigability.” (*The Genesis Record*, p181)

The Ark was not designed to make a journey from point A to point B. It was designed to float and preserve life. So how big was this boat? The Bible says, “**The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.**”

Look at the following to help us understand a cubit. I pulled these numbers from *The Genesis Record*.

Babylonian cubit	19.8 inches
Egyptian Cubits	20.65 inches (long) 17.6 inches (short)
Hebrew Cubits	20.4 inches (long) 17.5 inches (common)
Another	24 inches

Henry Morris says: “Most writers believe the Biblical cubit to be 18 inches.” (p 181)

He goes on to say:

“To be very conservative, assume the cubit to have been only 17.5 inches, the shortest of all cubits, so far as is known. In that case, the Ark would have been 438 feet long, 72.9 feet wide, and 43.8 feet high. I can be shown hydrodynamically that a gigantic box of such dimensions would be exceeding stable, almost impossible to capsize. Even in a sea of gigantic waves, the ark could be tilted through any angle up to just short of 90° and would immediately thereafter right itself again.”

The ark was a three story wonder with a row of windows around the top.

There are some who claim that Noah could not have gotten all the animals gathered for this endeavor. I underlined a key thought in the text above. God told Noah the animals, “...shall come unto thee...” God brought the animals to Noah. There was only one way into the ark for these animals. There was a door in one of the sides of the ark for entry.

Now is a good time to ask and answer the question of how many of each animal was on board the ark. Most people believe it was only two. Notice what the Bible says however. **Genesis 7:2-3** “*Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female. 3 Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth.*”



Coordinates:
Genesis 6:13-9:17

Sights to See:

- 1- The Ark was prepared by the hand of Noah to preserve life both human and animal from the judgment of God.
- 2- The plans God gave Noah for the construction of the Ark is perfect for the task of preserving life.
- 3- God’s judgment on sin is a serious matter and sin is still serious matter to God and we should therefore not take it lightly.
- 4- God opened up the flood of water that He had held at bay before this time just as He hold the oceans at the shoreline today.
- 5- God’s promises are true and faithful. He has sent local floods but never again will water destroy the entire earth.
- 6- The flood explains a lot about what men find and calls it evident for evolution. When men do not believe in God they will swallow almost anything to keep from having to face the fact that God exists.



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Could all of these fit onto the ark? Harold Willmington in his guide to the Bible says:

“How did Noah possible pack all of these animal on board? First it must be asked how many animals were involved here? Millions? Hundreds of thousands? Hardly. One of America’s leading systematic taxonomist lists the following numbers for animals species according to the best estimates of modern taxonomy:

- Mammals3,500
- Birds8,600
- Reptiles and amphibians.....5,500
- Worms25,500

Taking this into consideration, one may reasonably conclude that no more than 35,000 individual vertebrate animals the size of a sheep (overall average) boarded the Ark. It has been estimated that a modern train haling 150 boxcars could easily handle these animals. But the Ark had a carrying capacity of more than 520 stock cars!” (Willmington’s Guide to the Bible, p 29).

So from east, west, north and south the animal come to the Ark. Notice *Genesis 7:13-16* “***In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark; 14 They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind, and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort. 15 And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life. 16 And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in.***” God closed the door and sealed the ark up for the coming deluge.

II- A Flood:

The Ark is sealed, the rain is coming in a matter not seen before nor seen after.

Genesis 7:10-12 ***And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth. 11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. 12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.***

The pre-flood earth was much different than today. There was a canopy of vapor above the earth. In addition to this there were great depths of water beneath the earth. Morris says this, “constituted the vast vaporous canopy which maintained the earth as a beautiful greenhouse, preventing cold temperatures and therefore preventing wind and rain storms. Being in the vapor state, it was invisible and fully transparent, but nevertheless contained vast quantities of water extending far out into space.” (p 194).

The water in subterranean rivers and lakes was also a source of water on the earth. If we rightly understand this it is as God created the earth He created all the water that would be part of this deluge.

Genesis 7:17-24 ***And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth. 18 And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters. 19 And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered. 20 Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered. 21 And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man: 22 All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died. 23 And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive,***

