

WORLD UNDERWATER



Early in the Flood the original supercontinent now known as Rodinia broke apart. The large landmasses collided, temporarily forming an underwater supercontinent now known as Pangaea.

CREATIONISTS DEVELOP MODELS LIKE THESE . . .

When the first humans rebelled against the Creator, they brought death and decay into the universe. Over the next 1,500 years, violence increased to the point that the holy God announced that He was destroying the earth by a global flood.

God first told Noah to build an Ark to protect his family and to house representatives of every kind of land animal and bird. God then brought hand-picked animals onto the Ark and shut the door.

Far away, in the depths of the world's ocean, catastrophe struck. The earth had been a time-bomb waiting to go off. Cold, dense material at the seafloor was floating on top of hot, lighter material deeper in the mantle. The seafloor suddenly broke open in the middle, while the edges began diving into the mantle below. The crack in the seafloor spread around the globe.

As hot magma rose into these cracks, seawater flashed instantly into steam. Supersonic jets of steam roared into the upper atmosphere, carrying seawater with them. Clouds of this ejected material spread out across the planet, cooled, and fell in torrents on land and sea.

As cold ocean crust was replaced with hot, expanded magma, the seafloor rose, and with it, the sea level rose worldwide. Step by step, the rising waters wiped out the environments that God had carefully created, beginning with hot-water reefs at the edges of the continental shelves, then the shallow sea environments near the shore, where trilobites and other strange creatures thrived. Next to perish

was a bizarre forest that floated atop the pre-Flood oceans, hosting a range of semi-aquatic creatures like *Tiktaalik*.

Moving inexorably forward, the Flood's tidal waves washed away the continent's beaches, depositing vast layers of sand that later became the Permo-Triassic sandstones of the world. Moving inland, the waves destroyed forests, swamps, and grasslands filled with different, well-designed ecosystems. The waters kept rising until the highest mountains were covered.

As environments were systematically inundated, the plummeting seafloor dragged continents along at five to ten miles per hour. In the course of the year-long Flood, the original continent was ripped apart, the pieces were reassembled into a supercontinent known as Pangaea, and Pangaea was pulled apart into the present configuration of continents.

Meanwhile, ocean currents, laden with sand and mud, circled the earth, dumping layer after layer of dead animals and plants across the moving continents. The earth became a tomb, a time capsule that preserved a record of the world judged by God.

Eventually, the process ran out of steam. Once all the cold material from the seafloor sank into the mantle, everything ground to a halt. The fountains of the deep were shut off, and the torrential rain ceased. As the new, hot seafloor cooled and shrank, the sea level once again dropped. The waters drained off the continents, carrying piles of sediment with them back into the ocean.

The old world perished, but Noah's Ark survived.

. . . BY STUDYING THE FACTS OF GOD'S WORD AND GOD'S WORLD.
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WORLD UNDERWATER . . .

Starting with the facts of God's Word and world, we fashion models to know God and see His truth.

GOD'S WORD

Noah's Flood was global, not local.

"All the fountains of the great deep were broken up. . . . The waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills that were under the whole heaven were covered. The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward; and the mountains were covered.

"All flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of bird, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth, and every man. All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died.

"Every living thing was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the birds of the heaven. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and they that were with him in the ark remained alive" (Genesis 7:11, 19–23).

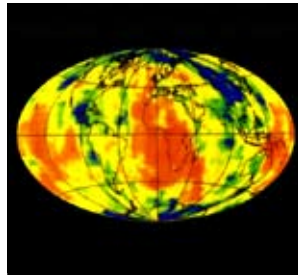
Noah's Flood reshaped the earth.

- "On the same day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up" (Genesis 7:11).
- "The fountains of the great deep stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained; and the waters returned from off the earth continually" (Genesis 8:2–3).

The Flood buried the animals and plants on earth.

- "God said, I do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh" (Genesis 6:17).
- "All flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of bird, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth, and every man" (Genesis 7:21–22).

GOD'S WORLD



Crustal plates at the base of the earth's mantle.

Scientists have discovered cold material that sank from the earth's crust to the base of the mantle. The base of the mantle is 7232°F (4000°C) hotter than the crustal material. How did this material get there? Based on today's slow movement of the earth's plates, this cold material should have melted before it ever reached the bottom of the mantle.

In the 1980s, creation physicist John Baumgardner developed a theory for the rapid motion of the earth's crust during Noah's Flood. His theory suggested that, within a few short weeks, the crust beneath the pre-Flood oceans sank 1,800 miles (2900 km) to the base of the earth's mantle. This suggests that continents moved rapidly during the Flood and that the Flood occurred thousands of years ago, just as the Bible suggests.



Thick, uniform deposits spread across continents.

Today we find thick, uniform rock layers that are spread across entire continents. These layers are made of sand, mud, and lime that were transported from distant sources, sometimes thousands of miles away. For example, the Navajo Sandstone of the western United States, best seen at Zion National Park, has been traced to a likely source in the Appalachian Mountains of

the eastern U.S., about 1,250 miles (2012 km) away.

No imaginable rivers could have carried so much material so far. The global Flood of Noah's day, in contrast, had the worldwide water necessary to erode so much sediment and carry it so far away.



Remarkable preservation of extinct species.

The earth is covered with nearly a mile of fossil-bearing rocks. That seems like a lot, but if the earth were billions of years old, it would not be much at all, and the fossil record would have preserved very few species from the past.

But multiple studies of mammals and mollusks have shown that more than 70% of the living species are known as fossils. This suggests that the rocks preserve an extremely good record of past creatures. In fact, we probably know about most extinct species. Such remarkable preservation is just what one would expect if the earth's sediments were deposited in the Flood and the centuries immediately afterward.