

The Genesis Account of
NOAH'S ARK

12-Lesson Video Study



Answers
PRESS

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Answers in Genesis

Answers Press

Teacher Guide

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ISBN: 978-1-9844-1337-6

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Printed in China.

Welcome to The Genesis Account of Noah's Ark

Welcome to *The Genesis Account of Noah's Ark*! This 12-lesson curriculum explores the real history of Noah, the ark, and the global flood as recorded in Genesis. Each lesson features a video, engaging questions, and bonus materials to uncover the truth of this fascinating biblical account.

Students will examine God's attributes, the evidence for a global flood, and how Noah could have built the ark and cared for the animals. Along the way, they'll see the Bible's reliability and its connection to science and history, equipping them to defend their faith and trust in God's Word.

The gospel message is woven in throughout the lessons. Just as the ark offered salvation for Noah's family, Jesus Christ offers salvation to all who trust in him. Our prayer is that this study will deepen students' trust in God, sharpen their faith, and inspire them to share the good news of Jesus Christ.



Access to Lesson Videos



You can access *The Genesis Account of Noah's Ark* videos by scanning the QR code in each lesson with the camera on your smartphone or tablet. You can also access the videos by typing out the URLs next to the QR codes into the browser of your choice.



LESSON 1

Introduction



Have you ever talked with a friend about Noah’s ark or the global flood described in Genesis? If so, you may know that many people today don’t believe this event really happened—they think it’s just a fairy tale! But the Bible is the true history book of the universe. The words of Scripture are inspired by God and entirely true (2 Timothy 3:16). We can trust everything God says because he was there and he cannot lie (Numbers 23:19).

In this course, we will explore many of the most-asked questions about Noah’s ark and the worldwide flood (perhaps questions you’ve wondered about too). By the end, you’ll be better equipped to speak confidently about the trustworthiness of the Bible when talking with someone who doubts that this event ever happened.

Objectives

In today’s lesson, we will dig into Scripture to gain an overview of the entire account of Noah and the flood and explore why it happened. We will also consider why it’s important to be equipped with answers to the questions people commonly ask.

Prayer

It is always important to begin your study of God’s Word with prayer and a humble heart, eager to seek the truth God has shared with us in the Bible. Take a moment to pray for God’s guidance as you study his Word today.

Memory Verse

Throughout this study, we will focus on learning one key Bible verse about Noah—Hebrews 11:7. Write it in the space below, then read it aloud a few times along with the Scripture reference.

The World Before Noah

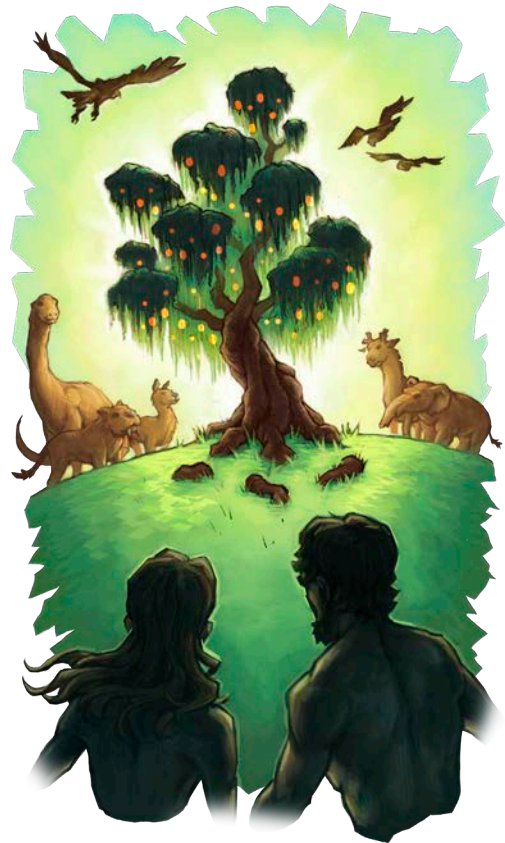
When God originally created the world, it was a wonderful place—free from sin, pain, and death. God declared everything he had made to be very good (Genesis 1:31).

God wanted the best for the people he created and desired their trust and obedience to his commands. He warned Adam—and Eve knew too—not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He explained that if they ate from it, they would die (Genesis 2:17).

However, Adam and Eve made a terrible choice. The serpent (Satan) tempted Eve to question God’s command about the tree (Genesis 3:1, 4–5). She was deceived and ate from the tree. Adam, though not deceived (1 Timothy 2:14), chose to disobey God and also ate the fruit. Because of their disobedience, they faced God’s punishment. Adam’s sin brought death, suffering, and separation from God into the world. Even the animals were cursed to die, and the ground itself was cursed because of Adam’s sin (Genesis 3:14, 17, 5:29; Romans 8:19–22).

Adam and Eve had many children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and so on, and the earth began to be filled with people. They farmed, built cities, crafted tools from bronze and iron, and created and played musical instruments. But over time, sin consumed their hearts more and more. After many generations, the world became a terrible place—filled with wickedness, pain, violence, and death.

God is patient with mankind and desires for all to turn from sin and trust in him (2 Peter 3:9). But eventually, the sinfulness, violence, and evil of the people at that time became so extreme that God decided to judge the entire world. He determined to destroy every person and air-breathing, land-dwelling animal—except for those he saved on the ark.



Overview of The Genesis Account of Noah’s Ark

Read Genesis 6:5–9:19 and answer the following questions, citing at least one Bible verse reference for each answer.

- 1. Why did God decide to flood the whole earth?**
Because of the extreme wickedness and violence on the earth (Genesis 6:5, 13)
- 2. What was the flood meant to accomplish?**
To blot out man, animals, creeping things, birds, and the surface of the earth (Genesis 6:7, 13)
- 3. In Genesis 6:8, what did Noah find in the eyes of the Lord?**
Favor, or grace (Genesis 6:8)
- 4. List three characteristics of Noah given in Genesis 6:9.**
Righteous, blameless, walked with God (Genesis 6:9)
- 5. What were the names of Noah’s sons?**
Shem, Ham, and Japheth (Genesis 6:10)
- 6. What did God instruct Noah to build?**
An ark (Genesis 6:14)

7. **What material was the ark made of?**
Gopher wood, covered in pitch
(Genesis 6:14)
8. **What were the dimensions of the ark?**
Length: 300 cubits, width: 50 cubits, height:
30 cubits (Genesis 6:15)
9. **How many decks would the ark have?**
Three decks (Genesis 6:16)
10. **Who did God say would go
into the ark with Noah?**
Noah's wife, his sons, and his sons' wives
(Genesis 6:18)
11. **What types of animals were to go on the ark?**
Birds, animals, creeping things
(Genesis 6:20)
12. **Did Noah have to go and find the animals,
or did God send them to Noah?**
God sent them—"two of every sort shall
come in to you to keep them alive"
(Genesis 6:20).
13. **Apart from people and animals, what else
did God tell Noah to bring onto the ark?**
Food (Genesis 6:21)
14. **In Genesis 7:3, what reason is given
for taking the animals on the ark?**
To keep their offspring alive (Genesis 7:3)
15. **How old was Noah when the flood started?**
600 years old (Genesis 7:6, 11)
16. **In Genesis 7:11, what were the two
sources of water that caused the flood?**
"The fountains of the great deep" and "the
windows of the heavens" (Genesis 7:11)
17. **Who shut the door of the ark?**
God shut the door (Genesis 7:16).
18. **Which mountains did the
floodwaters cover?**
All the mountains on earth—"all the high
mountains under the whole heaven"
(Genesis 7:19)
19. **How high above the mountains
did the floodwaters rise?**
15 cubits—more than 20 feet—above
the mountains (Genesis 7:20)
20. **What happened to the people and
animals outside the ark?**
Everything "in whose nostrils was the
breath of life died" (Genesis 7:22).



21. Where did the ark come to rest?
On the mountains of Ararat (Genesis 8:4)

22. The flood started on the 17th day of the second month in Noah's 600th year (Genesis 7:11). On the first day of the 10th month, what could be seen?
The tops of the mountains (Genesis 8:5)

23. Why did Noah send out a raven and a dove?
To see if the floodwaters had subsided (Genesis 8:6–11)

24. Looking at Genesis 7:11 and Genesis 8:13–14, approximately how long were Noah and his family aboard the ark?
About one year—from the second month of Noah's 600th year to the second month of Noah's 601st year (Genesis 7:11, 8:13–14)

25. Once the earth dried up, what did God tell Noah to do?
To leave the ark, along with his family and all the animals, and to "be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth" (Genesis 8:17, 9:1, 7)

26. What change in diet did God allow after the flood?
Man's diet was originally only plants, but after the flood God permitted them to eat meat (Genesis 9:3–4).

27. Why did God forbid murder and what reason does he give?
Humans are made in the image of God (Genesis 9:6).

28. Who did God make a covenant with?
Noah, his descendants, and all the types of living creatures that had been on the ark (Genesis 9:9–10, 16)

29. What was God's promise to them?
That he would never again send a flood to destroy the earth and all living things (Genesis 9:11, 15)

30. What is the sign of this covenant?
The rainbow (Genesis 9:16)

AND NOAH DID ALL THAT THE LORD HAD COMMANDED HIM.

GENESIS 7:5

ALL SCRIPTURE IS BREATHED OUT BY GOD AND PROFITABLE FOR TEACHING, FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, AND FOR TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS.

2 TIMOTHY 3:16

The flood was God's judgment on the wickedness of mankind. Yet in his mercy, he provided a way to be saved—the ark. One day, there will be another judgment, this time by fire. But the good news is that God has once again provided a way to be saved—through his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Importance of Biblical Authority

Unfortunately, most people today do not believe what the Bible teaches about the flood. Many deny that the flood was a real event or that there was a real ark. In 2 Peter 3:3–6, we learn that scoffers will deny the flood—just as many people do now.

1. Read Luke 17:26–27. Do you think Jesus believed there was a real ark and a real flood?
Yes. Jesus spoke clearly about the flood as a real historical event.

If Jesus believed these events really happened, then so should we. The Bible is the true history book of the universe, and we can trust it from the very first verse. If we can't trust what the Bible says about the flood, why would we trust what it says about other topics, including the gospel? It is vital to stand on the authority of Scripture because God's Word is truth.

2. Read 1 Peter 3:15. What does Peter say we should always be ready to do?

We should always be ready to give a defense for the hope we have. This means that we should be able to logically explain why we believe what we believe.

Scripture teaches us that we should be prepared to give an explanation when people have questions. This doesn't mean we will always know the answer to every question, but we can learn answers to common questions and also point people to the Bible and other resources where they can find answers.

3. What does Peter say our attitude should be when we answer peoples' questions? (1 Peter 3:15)

We should answer with gentleness and respect.

Our ultimate goal in answering questions about our faith is not to appear clever or to win arguments but to share the love of God and the truth of the gospel. This should always be in our minds as we interact with others.

In this course, we will consider some common questions about the account of the flood in Genesis and explore how we might answer them.



VIDEO 1

▶ Watch the Videos

Scan the QR code to watch video 1 and explore some of the questions people often have about Noah and the ark.

Which question mentioned in the video intrigues you the most?

Answers may vary.

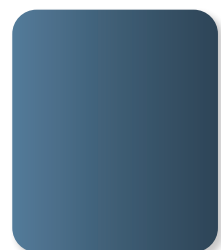
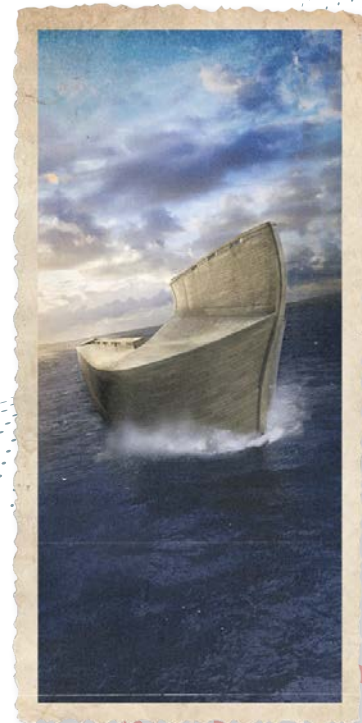
Watch supplementary video 1.2, then answer the following questions.

1. What would we expect to find on earth today if there really was a global flood that covered the highest hills under all of heaven?
We'd expect to find billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth (i.e., the fossil record).
2. How many dogs did Noah need to take onboard the ark?
Two

3. Noah's ark is a picture of what?
Salvation
4. Who is our "ark" of salvation?
The Lord Jesus Christ
5. What do the flood legends from various people groups around the world attest to?
That Noah's flood was a real event and that the Bible really is the true history book of the universe

APOLOGETICS IS THE RATIONAL DEFENSE OF ONE'S FAITH. IT IS GIVING REASONS FOR WHAT ONE BELIEVES.!

— MARK BIRD



VIDEO 1.2

† Answer the Skeptic

Does “apologetics” mean you are apologizing for what you believe? Watch supplementary video 1.3, then answer the following questions for Kayla.

Does “apologetics” mean you are apologizing for what you believe?

VIDEO 1.3

1. What is “apologetics”?

Apologetics is about answering why a biblical worldview makes rational sense and investigating how the Bible’s truth is confirmed by the world around us, based on fields like science, history, and philosophy.

2. The word *apologetics* comes from which Greek word, and what does that Greek word mean?

It comes from the Greek word *apologia*, which means “answer” or “defense.”

3. Is apologetics only for certain groups of Christians?

No. Peter’s command in 1 Peter 3:15 is written to all believers.

4. What is the purpose of apologetics?

Apologetics is an accessible tool for all believers to strengthen their faith and share Christ’s hope in love.



🗋 A Question to Think About

Before diving into the details of the flood and the ark in the upcoming lessons, take a moment to reflect on any questions you may have about this event. If you do, write them down below.

Answers may vary.

¹ Mark Bird, *Defending Your Faith: Leader’s Guide* (Answers in Genesis, 2006), 7.



LESSON 2

Was There Really a Noah's Ark?



In the previous lesson, we discussed the importance of being able to give a “reasoned defense” for what we believe, helping others overcome stumbling blocks in understanding God’s Word.

Objectives

Today, we will begin exploring a couple of key questions people often ask about the historicity of the ark:

- What size was Noah’s ark?
- How could Noah have built such a huge ship?

Memory Verse

Write out the memory verse, Hebrews 11:7, then read it aloud. Begin working on memorizing the first few phrases.

Prayer

Pray for God’s guidance in understanding the truth from his Word.

▶ Watch the Video

Read through these questions, then listen for the answers as you watch video 2. Feel free to make brief notes of key points as you listen.

VIDEO 2

1. Where is the true history of the universe described?

The Bible

2. What size was Noah's ark?

300 cubits in length, 50 cubits in height, and 30 cubits in width

3. What is a cubit?

An ancient measurement of length based on the distance from the elbow to the tip of the longest finger. A cubit was the primary unit of measure in the Old Testament.

4. What were the two types of cubits used in many ancient cultures?

An older or royal cubit and a common or shorter cubit

5. What other cultures in history built huge wooden ships?

The ancient Greek and Chinese cultures

WORD TO REMEMBER: CUBIT

A CUBIT IS AN ANCIENT UNIT OF MEASUREMENT BASED ON THE DISTANCE FROM THE ELBOW TO THE TIP OF THE LONGEST FINGER.

6. Who built the temple?

Solomon

7. Who might have helped Noah build the ark?

Noah's sons, hired laborers, other relatives (e.g., Methuselah and Lamech)

8. How long did Noah have to build the ark?

Somewhere between 55 and 75 years

9. What other items were people making at that time?

People in Noah's day were building complex musical instruments, forging metal, and building cities.

10. What did the ancient Mayan people build?

Ancient Mayans were the first people to build stone cities and astronomical observatories, demonstrating a mastery in mathematics.

Fairy-Tale Ark?

Pictures like this, which depict Noah's ark as a fairy tale, are one reason many people believe the ark was not a real historical ship. A boat like this obviously could NOT carry thousands of animals and supplies. It's important to share the true details given in the Bible so people don't reject God's Word based on incorrect representations.



What Size Was Noah's Ark?

After watching the video, if someone said to you, "There's no way Noah could have fit all the animals on the ark!" What would you say? To answer that, we need to know how big the ark was and how many animals Noah needed to put on it. Let's review what we've learned about the size of the ark in this lesson, and we'll discuss exactly how many animals were on the ark when we reach lesson 9.

1. Read Genesis 6:11–22. What are the three dimensions God gives for the ark in Genesis 6:15?

Length: 300 cubits, width: 50 cubits, height: 30 cubits

2. A cubit was a unit of measurement based on the length of a forearm (from the elbow to the fingertips). Naturally, this measurement would vary depending on the size of the person, so different cultures had different cubit lengths.

- a. Get a tape measure and measure your forearm (from elbow to fingertips). What is the length of your cubit?

Answers will vary.

Ask some adults among your family and friends if you may measure the length of their cubits.

- a. What is the shortest measurement?

Answers will vary.

- b. What is the longest measurement?

Answers will vary.

3. After extensive research, experts at Answers in Genesis concluded that Noah likely used a cubit of about 20.4 inches—just over 1.7 feet per cubit (0.518 meters per cubit). Using this measurement, calculate the approximate size of the ark in feet or meters.

Length: 300 cubits is approximately 510 feet/155 meters.

Width: 50 cubits is approximately 85 feet/26 meters.

Height: 30 cubits is approximately 51 feet/16 meters.

4. Watch supplementary video 2.2 on the size of the ark, then answer the following questions.

- a. Approximately how many standard semitrailers could fit within the volume of the ark?

About 450 semitrailers

- b. Approximately how many sheep would fit into that amount of space?

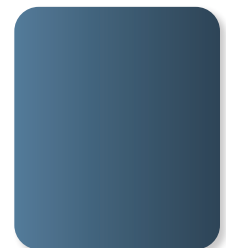
About 120,000 sheep

We've seen that Noah's ark was truly a massive ship! God designed it to carry all the people, animals, food, and supplies needed to survive the flood.

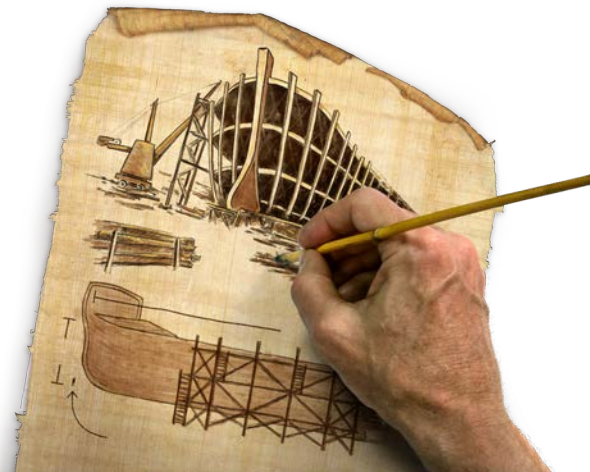


**NIPPUR CUBIT
MEASURING ROD**
20.4 INCHES

THIS IS A REPLICA OF ONE OF THE OLDEST FOUND CUBIT MEASURING DEVICES FROM THE SUMERIANS IN MESOPOTAMIA.



VIDEO 2.2



How Would It Be Possible for Noah to Build Such a Huge Ship?

Many people think building the ship described in the Bible sounds completely impossible. But how long did Noah have to build it? Did he have the skills and technology? Did he have to build it alone? Let's see what Scripture says. Read Genesis 5:32, 6:3, and 7:6, then answer the following questions.

1. What were the names of Noah's sons?

Shem, Ham, and Japheth

2. How old was Noah when his first son was born?

500 years old

3. How many years in advance of the flood did God warn that he was going to stop striving with man? (In other words, how much time did God give people to repent before bringing judgment to the earth?)

120 years

4. How old was Noah when the flood started?

600 years old

5. The Bible doesn't specify exactly when Noah began building the ark, but it may have been after his sons grew up and got married. If Noah was 500 years old when his first son was born and 600 years old when the flood started, how long would you estimate he might have had to construct the ark (assuming he waited until his sons were married)?

Answers will vary. The estimate given in the video is 55 to 75 years. [Video 5:40–6:02]

6. What other huge construction project in the Bible is mentioned in the video? [Video 4:56–5:38]

Solomon building the temple



7. Does the Bible say that Noah had to build the ark on his own?

No.

8. Who might have helped Noah build the ark? [Video 4:56–5:38]

Noah's sons, hired laborers, other relatives (e.g., Methuselah and Lamech)

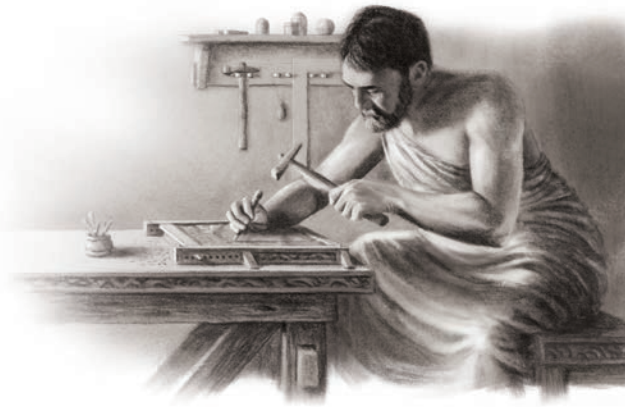
9. How do we know that the people of Noah's time had the skills and technology to tackle this project? Read Genesis 4:17–22 and list things mentioned in this passage that were being made or built before Noah's day. [Video 6:31–8:07]

Cities, tents, musical instruments (lyre and pipe), metal items (bronze and iron)

From all this, we see that Noah had plenty of time to complete this massive construction with the help of his sons (and possibly others). The people of that time were already designing and constructing complex tools, buildings, and cities, so they clearly had the skills and technology required to build the ark.



By the time of Noah, and with people living for hundreds of years before the flood, who knows what sort of knowledge was accumulated and the kind of sophisticated technology that was developed? Noah may have had tools and other impressive technology that we would be jealous of! And remember, we don't know how ancient people built many of the stone structures in South America or even the remarkably constructed Egyptian pyramids. The ancients obviously had a technology we just aren't aware of, as it seems no record was kept or the records were destroyed.¹



—Ken Ham

+ Answer the Skeptic

Having studied what the Scriptures tell us about Noah and the ark, how would you respectfully respond to Michael?

Answers will vary. Some key points that could be mentioned are:

- Noah did not have to build the ark by himself. He may have had help from relatives.
- Noah had plenty of time to construct the ark (possibly 55 to 75 years).
- The people were not primitive—they were already forging metal and building cities before Noah's day.

There's no way Noah could have built such a huge ship all by himself! People in that day were too primitive!



🔍 A Question to Think About

What does Psalm 119:98–100 teach us about gaining true understanding in all areas of life?

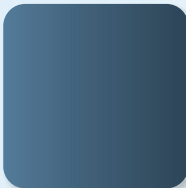
Answers may vary.

🌿 Digging Deeper



How Long Was the Original Cubit?

Read this article to learn more about ancient cubits.



How Long Did It Take Noah to Build the Ark?

In this article, learn more about how long it took to build the ark.



¹ Ken Ham, "How Did Noah Build the Ark?," Answers in Genesis, March 8, 2016, AnswersInGenesis.org/blogs/ken-ham/2016/03/08/how-did-noah-build-ark/.