

Could God “Do” a *Global* Noahic Flood?

Can God have caused a single flood so deep as to have submerged the entire globe including the highest mountains in the world? The answer is emphatically yes! Believing as I do that God brought the entire universe into existence out of nothing through the Big Bang, I deem it an utterly inconsequential matter for God to multiply the volume of water needed to inundate earth’s loftiest peaks. Nevertheless the question of what God *can* do and what He *chose* to do in order to judge the world in Noah’s time, are two entirely different matters. To state that God flooded the world in a *specified* way is to commit oneself to examine the geological evidence to see if it is consistent with the text of Genesis 6-8.

Global flood advocates (**GF**)¹ hold that there was a single catastrophic event which transformed virtually all of earth’s geological landscape into its present state, including mountain peaks fourteen of which are over five miles high. It is indeed noteworthy that sea-bed fossils appear in rocks at the summit of Mt. Everest,² and on those grounds, are argued by GFs to prove that the “*the Bible’s GF view*” is correct after all.³ But does it really affirm a GF? If it was really so that the Bible teaches a GF, then we should expect the geological record to show that all fossils everywhere were formed on the very same occasion because Noah’s single deluge is declared to have occurred within a year (Gen. 7:11; 8:13).

The problem then with the GF view is that the *actual* fossil record, taken as a whole rather than piecemeal, utterly contradicts its interpretation of Genesis 7-9. The most flagrant example is the fact of the multiplicity of layers of fossilized sedimentation occurring here and there over the entire world, almost all of which represent *successive* events on unrelated occasions.⁴ Given the fact that, in order for fossils to be preserved, the formation processes absolutely requires each specimen, together with its parent rock, to harden **prior** to the next deposition of gooey-sediment being laid on top of the previous fossil layer. This reality alone renders the GF view to be simply **impossible** in light of the fossil record.⁵

I now hasten to declare that the Genesis account of Noah’s flood is **NOT thereby undermined**. For I argue elsewhere that even in the English language there are clear indicators that in Genesis 6-8, Moses teaches a localized flood. Study of the *Hebrew* text further clarifies this same position.⁶

Nevertheless, certain GF advocates seek to maintain their view by suggesting that whenever the “Bible” (i.e. their interpretation of it) contradicts the witness of nature, that view must be deemed the final authority. Yet God, to the contrary, fully expects us to take the facts of nature at face value instead of explaining them away (Rom. 1:18-20).⁷ He will not be party to falsehood (Num. 23:19. Hebrews 6:18, and for that reason does not demand that we interpret Genesis in ways which contradict facts about the natural order. Although He *could* cause a global flood in Noah’s time, **God evidently chose not to do so**. Earth’s features were not formed at Noah’s localized flood, but rather fashioned at creation (Ps. 104:3f).

¹ This view is defined in my first sentence, while the *local flood* view by contrast holds that Genesis limited the scope of Noah’s flood to a geographical area sufficient in size to inundate the human population that was clustered together before they were scattered (Gen. 11:8).

² <http://mathisencorollary.blogspot.com/2012/03/crinoids-on-mount-everest.html>

³ The answer is instead that tectonic activity caused continental plates previously on the ocean floor to buckle into very high mountains. Ibid.

⁴ See my paper, “The Biblical Extent of Noah’s Flood Revisited,” pp. 2-3, which together with all of my papers can be accessed at my website: www.christianityontheoffense.com

⁵ Ken Ham completely ignores this reality (<https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/global/biblical-necessity-global-flood/>)

⁶ Ibid. ** See also Hugh Ross. *Navigating Genesis*. (RTB, 2014), pp. 139-155.

⁷ See my paper, “Does the Bible Permit us to Denigrate Science in Order to Maintain our Faith?” Op.cit. (4).