

At the Time of Noah

The World Then and God's Reaction— The people in Noah's day were very wicked and their thoughts were only evil all the time. The earth was corrupt in God's sight and full of violence. The LORD was grieved that he had made people on earth and his heart was filled with pain. Genesis 6:5-7

God's Plan— The LORD said he would wipe out mankind, who he had created, from the face of the earth. This included people and creatures on the ground and in the air. The LORD did this because he was grieved. Only one person, Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. Genesis 6:1-13

Noah— Noah was the son of Lamech who was 182 years old when Noah was born and lived 595 years after that, according to the genealogy from Adam to Noah. Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth after he was 500 years old. Genesis 5

Noah's Father's Prediction— At Noah's birth, his father said that Noah "would comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed." Gen. 5:29

Noah's Character— Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. Genesis 6:9



God's Plan for the Ark

What God Said to Noah— God told Noah that he would destroy all people and the earth, for the earth was filled with violence. He told Noah to make himself an ark of gopher wood (maybe cypress).

Measurements of the Ark— The ark was to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high (about 138 meters long, 23 m wide, and 13.5 m high).

God's Design for the Ark—

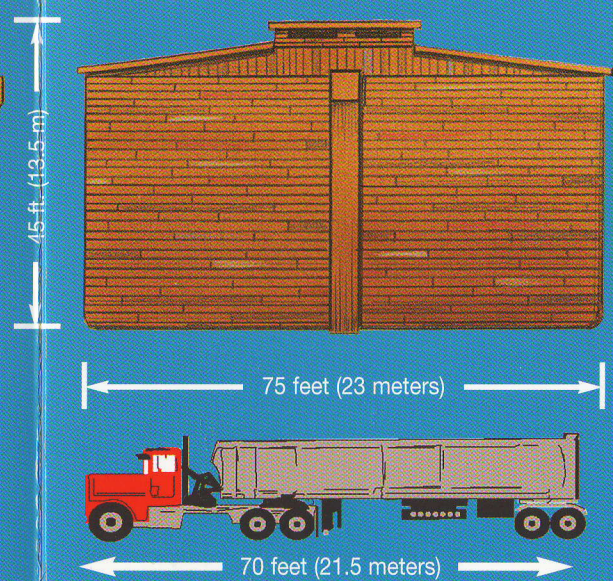
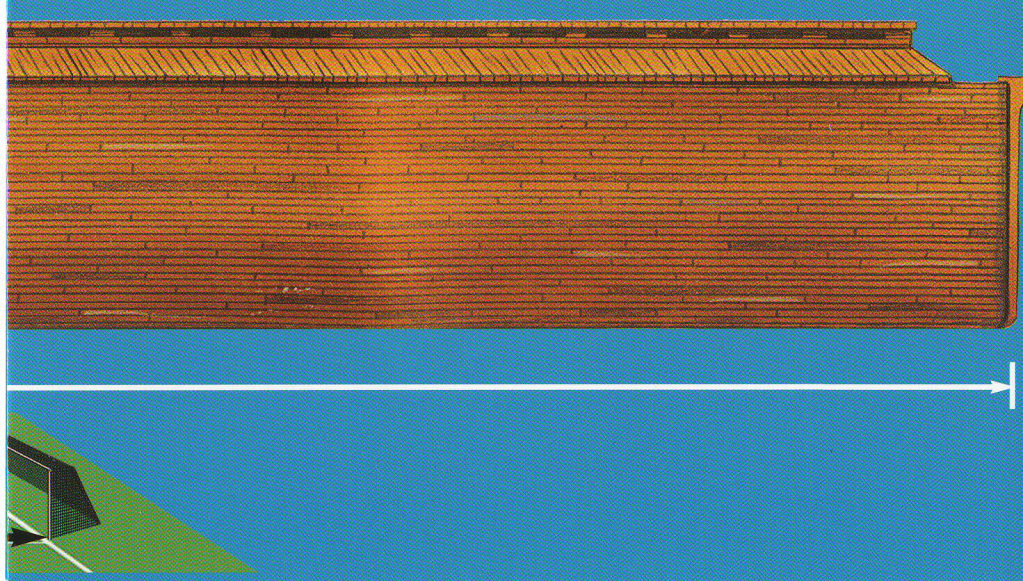
- 3 decks with rooms
- A door in the side of the ark
- A roof and a window 18 inches (45 cm) from the top
- The whole ark was to be coated with pitch inside and out. Genesis 6:14-16

Use of the Ark— God said he would bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, but He would establish His covenant with Noah. Noah obeyed God. Genesis 6:17-22

Noah, his sons, and their wives were to enter the ark and bring two of all living creatures and seven of every clean animal and bird, male and female, to keep them alive.

They were to take food to eat and store away for themselves and the animals. The animals came to Noah and entered the ark. Genesis 7:1-10





- The ark was as long as one and a half football fields put end to end.
- It was probably the biggest ship ever until the 1800s.
- It was as high as a four-story building.
- The dimensions were 6 to 1, considered stable ship dimensions today.
- Many widely-different ark reconstructions have been made over the centuries.

The Flood

Building the Ark— The ark took at least 100 years to build. Noah was 500 years old when his sons were born and was 600 years old when the LORD shut their families in the ark. Genesis 5:32; 7:6

The Flood— It rained 40 days and nights. All the springs of the great deep burst forth.

The waters flooded the earth for 150 days. Afterwards, God sent a wind and the waters receded. Genesis 7:24

Time in the Ark— Noah was in the ark over a year. He was age 600 when the flood started. He was still on the ark at age 601 when he saw that the land was dry. Genesis 8:13

Time Line

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Gen. 7:6 | Noah-Age 600: Flood started |
| Gen. 7:11 | 2nd month, 17th day: Springs burst, Rain |
| Gen. 8:4 | 7th month, 17th day: Came to rest on Ararat |
| Gen. 8:5 | 10th month, 1st day: Mountain tops seen |
| Gen. 8:6-12 | 40 days later: Birds sent out every 7 days |
| Gen. 8:13 | 1st month, 1st day: Noah-Age 601 |
| Gen. 8:14 | 2nd month, 27th day: Earth is dry! |
| Gen. 8:20 | They came out; Noah built an altar |

Noah's Ark in the Bible

Jesus Speaks of Noah

Jesus told his disciples that heaven and earth would pass away, but only the Father knows when. In the days of Noah, people ate, drank, and married until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. This is how it shall be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. Many people will not be ready when Jesus comes to judge the world. Matthew 24:35-39; Luke 17:26-30

The Flood and Final Judgment

- God's patience with sin; warning
- Wicked world; few obey God
- A way of salvation (ark, Jesus)
- Sudden, unexpected judgment

Noah, A Man of Faith

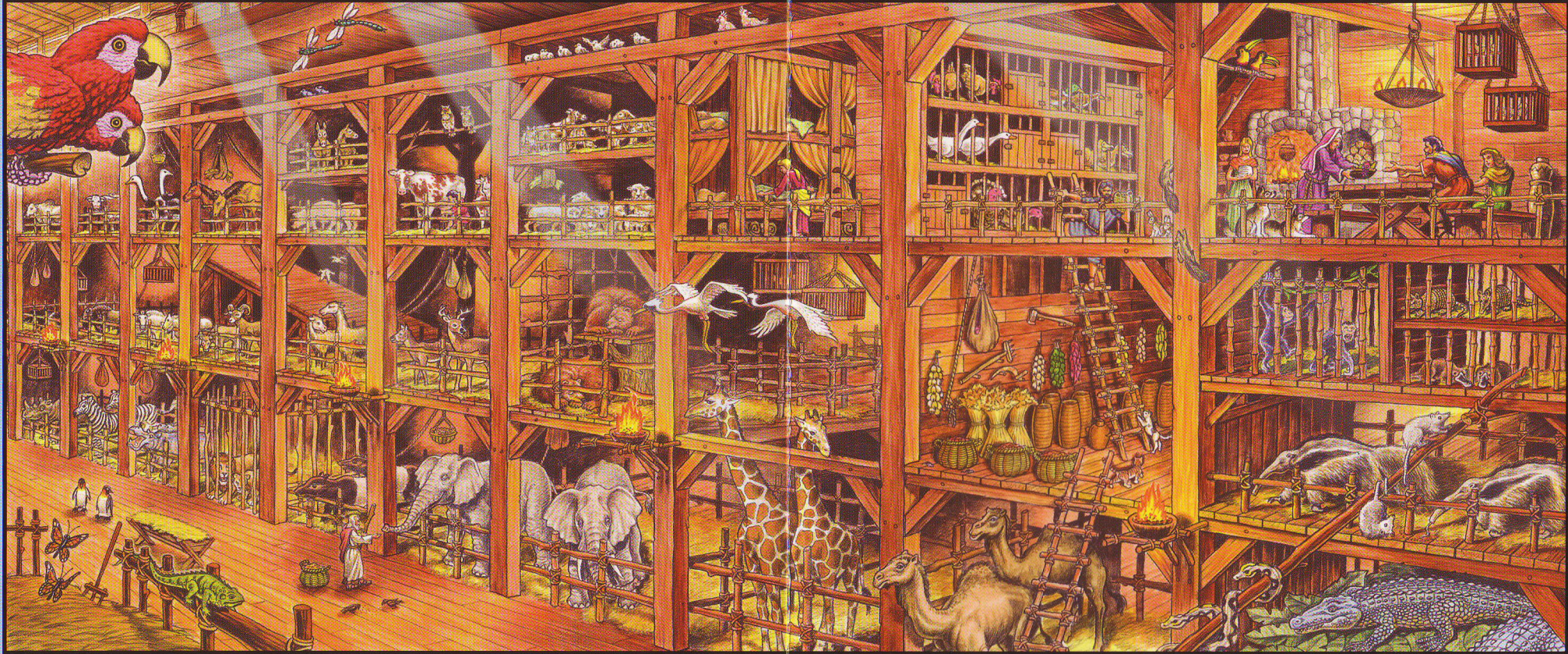
By faith, Noah, being warned by God about things he had never seen (rain or flood), moved with fear and prepared an ark to save his family. By his faith, he obeyed God. The world was destroyed and Noah was considered righteous because of his faith. Hebrews 11:7

Peter Writes About Noah

God does not tolerate sin forever. God waited patiently, while Noah was building the Ark and preaching godliness.

Peter warns of a coming day of judgment against ungodly people. God wants all people to repent and avoid perishing.

1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 2:1-5; 3:1-13

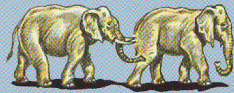


How did Noah round up all those animals? God brought the animals to Noah and they entered the ark. *Genesis 6:19; 7:8, 9*

Did he just take two of each kind of animal? No, Noah took two of most kinds of animals, but he took seven of the kinds of clean animals. Clean animals (which could be eaten or sacrificed) included oxen, sheep, goats, pigeons and doves. In *Leviticus*, unclean animals included pigs, camels, eagles, vultures, ravens, owls, and other animals. *Leviticus 11*

How could all the animals fit in the ark? Noah took only pairs of each *kind*. We don't know how

many kinds there were in Noah's day. Based on the ark's size and capacity of over 520 railroad stock cars, it was probably big enough to hold more than 50,000 animals and birds, as well as food.



How many rooms were there? There could have been over 500 large rooms of 10'x10'x14' (3 m x 3 m x 4 m) plus aisles. If many of the 14-foot-high rooms were divided into two levels, there could have been nearly 1000 rooms or stalls. Some rooms were for animals and some rooms were for food.

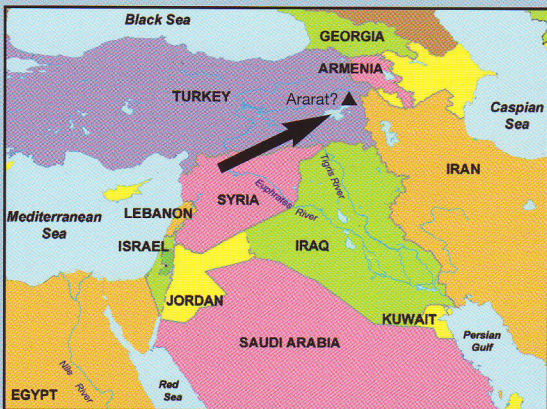
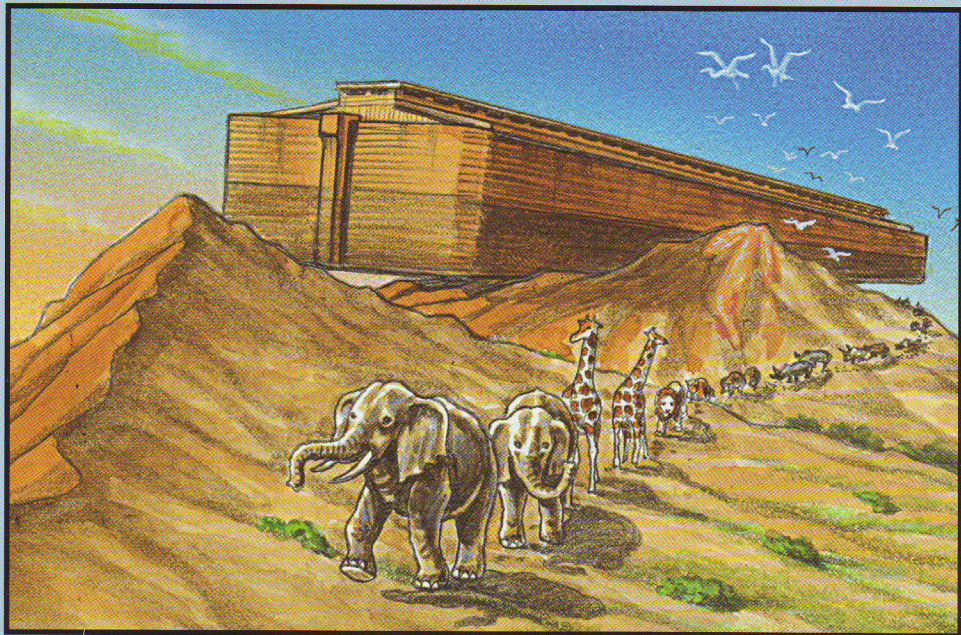
Facts About Noah and the Ark

- The word "ark" means "box" in Hebrew.
- In Hebrew, the size of the ark is expressed in units of measurement called cubits. A cubit was generally the distance from the tip of a man's fingers to his elbow, about 18 inches (45 cm).
- Noah lived another 350 years after the flood began. He died at age 950. *Genesis 9:28, 29*
- Abraham, David, and Jesus came from the line of Noah's son Shem. *Gen. 11:10-26; Matt. 1; Luke 3:23-36*

Interesting Thoughts About the Animals

- Some people believe many animals might have hibernated while in the ark, requiring less space, food, and care.
- Some believe that many of the animals were young animals, requiring less space and food.
- After the animals left the ark, some people believe they migrated over land bridges connecting the continents in the world.
- After the flood, God said animals would fear humans and could be meat to eat. *Genesis 9:2, 3*





The mountains of Ararat are located in what is now eastern Turkey, near Iran and Armenia.

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Where is the Ark Today?

No one knows for sure. Maybe the ark has survived in the mountains of Ararat (ancient Urartu), but the Bible does not give a specific resting place. The political situation in the area, plus the icy terrain and weather of the mountains, have prevented many expeditions. A shepherd boy in 1905 and pilots in World War II claimed to have seen the ark. Dozens of groups have searched for it. So far, not one of the alleged sightings has gained much acceptance.

The ark was the salvation from complete destruction for Noah and his family. In the same way, Jesus is the salvation of the believer's soul. (Genesis 7:16; Matt. 24:35-39; 1 Peter 3:20, 21)

The Rainbow Today

It is still a reminder of God's promise and faithfulness to Noah, a man who had faith in God and obeyed him. (Rom. 15:4)