

## Genesis Chapter 7 - Commentary By Mike Wells

### Chapter 7 Overview:

The 7<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Genesis goes through the description and account of the great flood.

**Genesis 7 : 1** – *And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.*

- Noah in simple faith had taken God at His word and did what God had said to do
- He had faith.
- There was most likely over 1 billion people on earth by this time by most scholar's calculations.
- What is sad is that only Noah found righteousness before God

**Genesis 7 : 2-3** - *2 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.*

- Noah is given more instructions
- He was told to take seven clean beasts and fowls onto the ark
- The purpose was potentially to ensure an adequate supply of creatures for sacrifice.
- It may have been also for food after the flood.

**Genesis 7 : 4** - *For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.*

- God told Noah that in 7 days the flood was going to begin
- Of course it would rain for 40 days and 40 nights.
- Before the overall flood was over, it would destroy every living substance on the face of the earth.

**Genesis 7 : 5-6** - *5 And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him. 6 And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.*

- Noah was 600 years old when the flood began
- Noah apparently began work on the ark when he was 480 years old.
- His sons were born when he was 500 (Genesis 5 : 32)

**Genesis 7 : 7-9** - *And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood. 8 Of clean beasts, and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of every thing that creepeth upon the earth, 9 There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.*

- Noah did as he was commanded.
- He not only loaded his three sons and their wives along with his wife into the ark, but also the animals God sent to him
- God had drawn the animals to Noah and he merely had to heard them into the ark.
- They entered two by two, male and female of each type of animal.
- Remember that seven clean animals also entered.

**Genesis 7 : 10** - *And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth*

- After 7 days is began to rain just like God said it would and the flood began.

**Genesis 7 :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.*

- Talk about being specific, the flood started when Noah was 600 years old on the 2<sup>nd</sup> month 17<sup>th</sup> day.
- There are 2 sources of water mentioned.
- First – “All the fountains of the great deep were broken up”
- There were apparently large reservoirs of water beneath the surface of the earth prior to the deluge
- Others believe that it may have been as the heavens opened up and rained harder than we can imagine, the weight of the water upon the surface of the earth caused it to buckle and sink forcing the waters beneath to surge upward.
- Second – “The windows of heaven” simply means it rained hard!!
- The “waters which were above the firmament” (Genesis 1:7) crashed onto the earth
- The huge canopy of water gushed came crashing down to earth in an unimaginable amount of water – A true deluge – A catastrophic deluge
- The entire ecosystem of the earth was changed – The oceans, rivers, river basins, mountains and climate all were changed.
- It was the first time it had ever rained on the earth

**Genesis 7 : 12** –*And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.*

- It should be noted that the flood itself didn’t last for forty days
- In fact, it continued for over a year
- The catastrophic deluge of water from above continued for forty days and nights
- However the resulting flood lasted over a year

**Genesis 7 : 13** - *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;*

- Again it is noted that Noah did as God commanded
- This is most likely repeated for emphasis of the blessing of following God’s commands

**Genesis 7 : 14-15** – 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.*

- Implied is that Noah and his family were all ready in the ark when the animals entered the ark
- God sent two of each type of animal into the ark
- God organized the representatives of the animal kingdom into ranks of two by two
- That is a miracle in itself that no man could do.
- Wild animals were organized and walked into the ark in an orderly fashion

**Genesis 7 : 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.*

- One male and one female of each animal walked into the ark in an orderly fashion
- God selected the animals and guided them in (he directed traffic)
- Notice – Key point on who shut the door – the Lord shut them in
- The Lord shut the door to the Ark
- Noah and sons were most likely inside putting the animals in their respective cages

**Genesis 7 : 17-19** – 17 *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.*

- It is mentioned again that the catastrophic rain itself fell for forty days
- The fountains of the deep were broken up and the windows of heaven were opened
- The waters “bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth...and the ark went upon the face of the waters”
- The word translated for hills and mountains (**harim**) are the same word
- Many folks believe that the mountains before the flood were probably lower
- Many believe that the weight of the water from the deluge pushed up land masses, continents, made new mountains, and made current ones higher.

**Genesis 7 : 20** - *Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.*

- However high everything was the flood was 15 cubits over the highest mountains
- That would have enabled the ark to pass over them
- The total height of the ark was 30 cubits (Genesis 6:15), so the draft of the ark most likely was less than ½ the height.
- Also, it is clear that the entire earth was covered by water
- Many believe that the current ocean beds were depressed and the new continents and mountains were thrust upward

- The power of the draining waters from the higher elevations that were thrust upward would have created the most dynamic powerful hydraulic force in history short of the creation itself.
- The hydraulic forces of the continents draining into the oceans largely shaped the topography and geography of the planet as we know it today

**Genesis 7 : 21-23** – *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, and they that were with him in the ark.*

- The destruction was catastrophic and universal
- It was not a local flood, it was a worldwide flood!!
- Even the birds of heaven were destroyed
- The entire surface of the earth was destroyed and everything living thing on the planet was destroyed
- The only exception was Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark.
- God used the Ark to save and spare Noah and all that was on the ark

**Genesis 7 : 24** - *And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days.*

- The word translated as prevailed (**gawbar**) has the sense of having strength.
- The reference to the waters prevailing on earth for 150 days implies that they were at full force or full strength for that long
- There was mostly likely mighty earthquakes as the ocean basin sank under the weight of the waters causing continents, islands, and mountain ranges to pop up.
- There was most likely huge tidal waves crashing across the planet
- The vegetation of the planet was deposited into layers and as other sediment was washed over the vegetative remains the pressure from the weight caused the vegetation to be turned into either coal or oil.
- In doing so, God provided for the energy sources for ages to come
- As parts of the earth rose and the water rapidly drained away towards the ocean basins the great river basins and valleys of the planet were most likely formed
- The earth was very soft from the water upon it and the water flowing rapidly from the rising land to the ocean would have cut valleys and river basins into the earth.
- As the canopy was collapsed the entire climate system of the planet was altered.
- Where it used to be subtropical, now the polar regions became frigid and the equator regions became perennially hot
- May believe that with the collapse of the canopy, the cold of outer space descended onto the polar regions suddenly freezing it
- Explorers have found perfectly preserved tropical type of creatures in the Arctic ice suggesting they were instantly frozen.
- As Genesis 8:22 will clearly tell us, the seasons of the year were initiated by the flood.