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## Unpacking the Genesis Flood

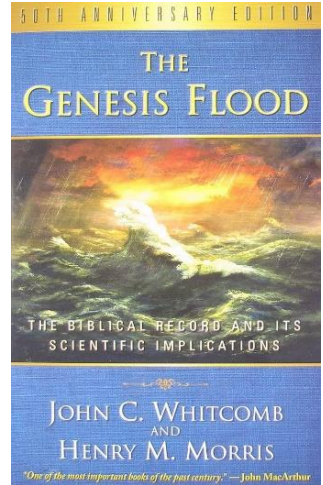
**Question: Is the Genesis flood recorded in the Bible just a local Mesopotamian flood or a real global flood that affected the whole earth?**

That is a good question, and we will answer this from the standpoint of both the scriptures and notable facts and reasonable observations. There are some who undermine or doubt the historicity of a Universal Flood, insofar as to surmise that the biblical account just describes a local flood - one that affected only the Mesopotamian region and not global. **If that is true, then the biblical account is false because the Lord said He will never send a flood of that proportion again that was sealed with the rainbow, and that there are many local floods today.** Those who advocate this use their own puny imagination in thinking that the flood only appeared to be universal but was actually localized.

The following offers convincing evidence and arguments to confirm that the Genesis flood of the Bible was definitely universal and not local (summarised from Henry Morris and John Whitcomb, *The Genesis Flood*, 1-35).

### i. The Depth of the Flood (Gen 7:19-20)

If the flood were only restricted in area, it is difficult to comprehend the fact that it covered the highest mountains, even in a small area, without overflowing to other areas. The phrase '*under the heaven*' is significant in verse 19 and it describe the physical and geographical proportions of the flooding and that it rose above 15 cubits over the highest mountain. **The fact that water seeks its own level seems to be decisively against a local flood.**

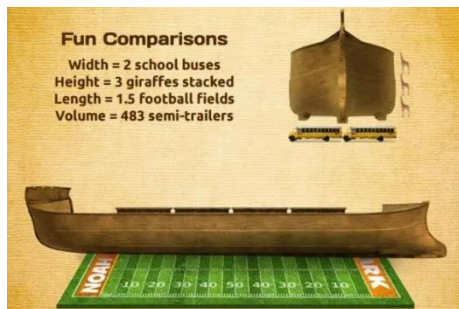


## ii. The Duration of the Flood

The flood lasted in total for slightly over one year (i.e. 371 days as calculated by John Whitcomb, see his book *The Genesis Flood*) from the time Noah entered the ark until he left it. It rained 40 days and 40 nights non-stop. Most of that time, the water was upon the earth. No local flood in history ever lasted that long. **Any flood which endured for such a long period would, therefore, have to be universal and not local.**

## iii. The Size of the Ark

In Gen 6:14-16 we have the God-given dimensions of the ark and naval architects had commended it as a brilliant and viable plan for a seagoing vessel of colossal proportions. **Why would Noah build a vessel large enough to accommodate all the land species on earth when all he needed was one smaller vessel enough to save the species indigenous to another part of the Mesopotamia if it is local, of which there would have been much fewer?**

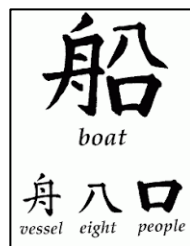


## iv. The Need for an Ark at All

There is evidence of the discovery of some of the remains of the ark in eastern Turkey today near Mt Ararat. More fatal to the local Flood theory is the utter lack of any need for an ark in such an event, for Noah could easily have walked from the scene of the impending disaster, taking with him any animal which were in any danger of drowning. Why did Noah spend 120 years building a huge boat commanded by God for which there was no real need? Something interesting to think about.

## v. The Testimony of Peter

In 2 Peter 3:3-7, Peter argues that at the end of this age God will destroy the world with fiery judgment. He bases his arguments for the extensiveness of this judgment on the analogy of the destruction by water in Noah's time. If Peter is trying to teach a universal devastation by fire by God in the end times, which he assuredly is, why would he compare it to merely a local Flood in Noah's time? **Note the ancient Chinese character for boat is a sea going vessel**



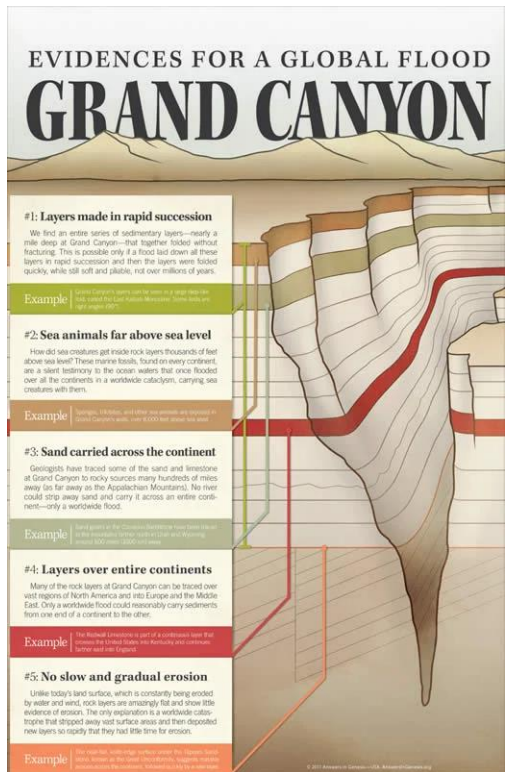
**with 8 mouths and the word disaster 災 is depicted in a**

**pictographic form using both water and fire. This is significant and there is no coincidence.** There are also other Chinese characters with meaning found in the book of Genesis and other books as well. (ie.

the Chinese character for prosperity 福 and righteousness 義, see Ethel Nelson and C H Kang, *The Discovery of Genesis*, 1979)

## vi. The Testimony of Rock Strata

The great thicknesses of sedimentary rock strata found throughout the world, and the existence of fossils and huge canyons (eg. the formation of the Grand Canyon and the Jewel Caves in Western Australia) can be best explained as the result of a Universal Flood with the rapid burial of animals and vegetation. The discovery of marine fossils on many mountains is also a strong case in support of the universal flood that covered every high mountain on the earth. (Gen 7:19)



In conclusion and in the face of the scriptures and overwhelming convincing evidence, we accept by faith (and supported with sound authenticating facts) what the Bible says concerning the Genesis flood as an unpredicted global catastrophe. **We do not doubt nor undermine this biblical historic event of the global Flood that is recorded for us in the inspired, authoritative and infallible scriptures.** Hope this helps.

Jack Sin

*(Works consulted include Genesis Flood, Henry Morris and John Whitcomb, 2003 and the KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, 1994)*

## *Call to Salvation & to Service*

What a blessing when someone recognizes that he carries God's calling in his life, that he is called unto salvation and call to serve. As apostle Paul, he is confident that he is in the ministry by the divine will of God through Jesus, our Lord and King. This alone gives you hope and encouragement to serve dutifully, knowing that you are serving God, the giver of the calling.



My name is **Kenneth Igado Malenge**, and I was born into an 8-member Christian family, Kenyan, husband to Leah Kenneth and a father to Gamaliel Gilalai Kenneth and Dove Milalai Kenneth. Here is my call to salvation and to service; however, for a better understanding, I wish to begin with a brief history of my past. As stated above, I was born in a Christian family and my father was the priest of the local church I attended, so I grew up in a cult-like charismatic church and all I knew about Christianity could only be defined by what such church practice as Christianity. Despite this, I was blessed to be raised in fear and obedience to God. I could easily recite Bible memory verses even before I accepted Christ, a knowledge I acquired from my late father's religious classes. I was taught to love God at a young age and developed a desire to serve in the church at the same time.

I was also privileged to be introduced to the life of a pastor, as I witnessed the multiple difficulties my late father faced as a pastor. This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me, because I learned that being a pastor was not all about butter and bread as many may think. I saw how my father struggled to feed us, pay our school fees, and pay other bills, despite sometimes paying church bills. When it came to pastoral practices, I would sometimes imitate my father when playing with my peers, and they began calling me a pastor even before I accepted Jesus as Lord and Saviour. This boosted my morale and zeal to become a pastor in the future, despite the fact that I had no idea how God calls someone into the office of preaching and teaching. My late father noticed this and was determined to disciple me in ministry; he could not bear leaving me behind whenever he went on church missions.

Although the church did not preach the true Gospel but rather a blending of African traditions and the Bible, God sustained me through and saved me when I was only 12 years old, through the preaching of late Rev. David Ilagosa during the night vigil worship service on December 31, 2002. This formally initiated me into zealous service to God; the primary school I was attending immediately recognized my devotion to God, and I was appointed the leader of the Christian union for four years. I

successfully organized many Christian Union meetings and rallies prior to sitting for my KCPE exams, which increased my confidence and experience in serving God.

Back at my local church, I had progressed through church leadership positions such as Sunday School leader, Sunday School teacher, Teen Leader, and now Teen Teacher. My zeal was so strong that the church would sometimes give me major roles that were strictly reserved for senior church members, such as reading announcements during worship service and presiding over the worship service on Sunday.

Traveling from the countryside to the city to continue my studies, I enrolled at Ruaraka High School in 2006. I was naive and shy with the new city life, and I remember the day I was admitted in form one, I could hardly speak English, despite the fact that English was the school's formal language. On Wednesday, around 9 a.m., I was admitted, handed my staffs, and walked slowly toward the form one 'WEST' classroom. I stood at the door, knocked, and was let in. That was the day I was appointed as class representative, despite the fact that I was the least qualified person in the entire student body of form one class. The same week, while attending my first Christian Union officials meeting, I was elected as Assistant Organizing Secretary of the Union, a position I held for only one semester before I was elected Secretary General and Christian Union Leader, thereafter, positions I held until I sat on the KCSE. On school legislation, I advanced from Class Representative to Dining Hall Representative, then to Assistant School Captain, and finally to School Captain, the highest executive position in student body leadership.

Back at my new church; as a result of moving to Nairobi, I had to change church. I joined the Evangelical Methodist Church and was appointed youth leader and choir director within three months. I attended that church until I finished high school, then I changed the church again. I was introduced to a liberal church by a friend, and I was easily swayed by modern music in church and decided to join. This church was a continuation of my spiritual defilement; I was introduced to false doctrines, and I learned to practice extreme exorcism, speaking in tongues, incorrect Bible interpretation, and modernism. I went so far as to claim the ability to perform miracles and to fore tell. In this church,

I served as a youth leader, choir director, assistant youth pastor, and finally youth pastor. When an issue arose, the bishop would sometimes send me to other churches to assist the pastors there. Upon joining Bible College of East Africa, I came to learn the truth, which caused me to have a hard time at this church, eventually quitting to begin a home fellowship with the few members who welcomed the truth I had learn at the college. I am now a pastor in a small congregation body in my house, a position I have held for two and a half years. We pray and hope that God will cause people to join so that we may move from the house to a church building.



This has demonstrated God's hand and salvation in my life, revealing His divine and sovereign will and desire for me to serve Him in leadership roles in the church and at school. I will not lie to claim that I am the most qualified person for any of the leadership roles I have held in the past; in fact, many times I was the least qualified, but God, in His sovereign will, has never ceased to express a leadership gift in me: and this is evidenced when I serve God with zeal whenever He places me in a position of leadership. This also proves that God has saved me in order to serve Him. I've never found joy in anything other than the desire and fulfilment that comes from representing God in service to others.

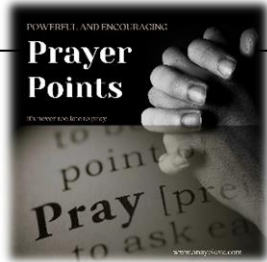
My entire life I have dedicated to serving God, and this always gives me greatest joy. Challenges have arose sometimes; I recall being evicted from the house I was staying, together with my wife and our two-month-old baby for failing to pay the house rent. This was one of my lowest points in the ministry, and I decided to stop serving God in the church and look for a job that would allow me to pay my bills. I was then serving as the assistant youth pastor, and the church had no way to assist me financially.

So, I wrote to the senior pastor, requesting to step down and look for how I could help my family financially; a request he refused to grant until I persisted. God eventually blessed me with a job at Babadogo EPZ, a job that never gave me peace, it was more of a curse than a blessing. I was so faithful and good at my job for the company that my manager promoted me to a supervising role, a position that didn't allow me to go to church even on Sundays, let alone spending time with my young family. I started praying against the job, asking God to take it. God was gracious, and soon the company was placed in receivership, all workers paid and told to go home. I began selling second hand clothing, a job that was manageable and allowed me to serve God while doing it. I continued with that job until I met Miss Judith Collins, who quickly recognised my calling and my desire to study the word of God, helped me to join the Bible College of East Africa under her sponsorship and support.

This testimony confirms to me that I am called by God to the salvation in Jesus Christ the Lord and Saviour and called to pastoral role in the church. This is in addition to confirmation from others and an inborn desire to serve God, as well as the fact that God has always provided leadership opportunities in my life to serve him. I am grateful to God for these two gifts in my life: call to salvation and call to serve, and I pray that He will continue to give me wisdom and an honest heart, to live for Him and to serve Him faithfully and accountably. AMEN

*Kenneth Igado Malenge*

**(NB. Bro Kenneth attends our Wednesday church prayer meeting and is a student at Bible College of East Africa, Kenya.)**



- Weekly Sunday worship services on the quarterly series on “Discovering & Applying the Johannine Epistles – Studies in the Book of 1, 2 and 3 John” and Sunday School classes.
- Batam Mission Trip (30 Sep-1 Oct): Pastor, John Wong, Paul Kong
- Yangon Mission Trip (2-7 Oct): Pastor & Angie
- Bangalore/Hyderabad Mission Trip (31 Oct – 10 Nov): Pastor, Angie, Eld Jeffrey, Dn Paul Tan, Peng Ha.
- Logos Training by Pastor on Christian Apologetics on every 3rd Thurs of the month.
- Salvation of family members and friends.
- John Almon’s job search.
- Joseph’s Hokkien ministry at Ling Kwang Home and Ghost Festival outreach, Rachel’s teaching at Stamford International School , Jireh’s heart murmur condition and return to the Lord.
- Health & Recovery for
  - Dn Yue Kay’s wife (Bee Geok) from dual knee replacements.
  - Chan Ping’s dental surgery.
  - Anthony’s continuing treatment for lung cancer.
  - Geok Pin’s continuing chemotherapy treatments.
  - Dr Kwong Leen’s father, Dr Tan, management of colon cancer condition and glaucoma treatment.
  - Church members with chronic health conditions.
- Missions:
  - Pastor Babu (New Covenant BPCI, Bangalore)
  - Pastor Lazarus (Calvary Reformed Church, Bangalore)
  - Elder Habakkuk (Gilead Balm Home, Yangon)
  - Pr Benjamin (Biblical Reformed Seminary, Yangon) & family
  - Pr Myitta (Children’s outreach, Yangon) & family
  - Sister Lapuii (Mercy Church Widows Ministry, Nay Pyi Taw) and delivery of baby in Oct.

## Memory Verse

2 John 10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

## Announcements

1. Welcome to our Lord's Day Sunday Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
  2. Pastor brings us God's Word this morning on "***The Doctrine of Christ & Biblical Separation (2John 7-13)***", continuing the quarterly series on "Discovering and Applying the Johannine Epistles – Studies in the Book of 1, 2 and 3 John".
  3. Rev Tan Eng Boo will preach next Sunday on "***A Case Study of 3 Characters (3John 1-12)***".
  4. Sunday School classes after the worship service are as follows:
    - Westminster Confession of Faith – Pastor
    - Studies in 2 Chronicles – Dr Kwong Leen
  5. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on Basic Theology, and the Parables of Jesus. Join us for a time of profitable learning. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode:625551]
  6. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode:218178]
  7. We need willing hands and hearts to assist in the weekly cleaning of the premises. Do let Dn Yue Kay if you are available to serve in this area.
  8. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
    - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
    - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB Account 392-308-825-1**
    - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**
- Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.

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