

## Noah's Ark: Part 2

Don Ruhl • Savage Street, Grants Pass, Oregon • January 28, In the year of our Lord, 2018  
Scripture Reader and Reading: Dominic Meyer – Genesis 6.17–22  
Song Leader and Song Suggestions: Phil Joseph – No suggestions

### Prelude:

**I. The reactions to my Noah's Ark sermon last Lord's Day evening surprised me.**

**II. Normally, no one makes a comment about the evening sermon,**

A. which is okay, but

B. last Lord's Day many made comments and

1. during the week several made comments,

2. including at the men's breakfast.

a) I loved hearing the men talk about a biblical topic.

**III. There is much more material on the ark itself (in four parts), and**

A. I would like to give you that information, although,

B. believe it or not, it will still be brief.

**IV. Much of the material for this lecture and**

A. the succeeding ones will come from,

B. *Noah's Ark: A Feasibility Study* by John Woodmorappe.

C. Sometime in the near future,

1. I would like to cover the fact that legends appear

2. all over the world of a great Flood.

a) I have read what others say about them, but

b) I want to see read them for myself, if I can get a hold of them.

D. Also, early human history

1. speaks of many people going to the ark and

2. taking pieces of it, because

a) its location was well-known.

b) History speaks of it much in the way that brother Don Patton does.

**V. I have read John Woodmorappe's book before, but**

A. at page 221–298 begin 98 pages of references to the books he researched;

B. it is the bibliography of his book.

1. In the past, I quit at the beginning of those references.

2. This past week, I stumbled upon what comes after the references.

a) He lists 78 study questions.

b) These questions are great because they are questions we have.

(1) I am taking those 78 questions,

(2) dividing them up into 20 question-sections

(a) for four sermons on the feasibility of Noah's Ark.

C. You have those questions in the handout in the bulletin.

**Persuasion:**

**I. Was every type of animal life on the Ark?**

**19 "And of every living thing of all flesh you shall bring two of every sort into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. 20 Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive. 21 And you shall take for yourself of all food that is eaten, and you shall gather it to yourself; and it shall be food for you and for them" (Genesis 6.19–21).**

**2 "You shall take with you seven each of every clean animal, a male and his female; two each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female; 3 also seven each of birds of the air, male and female, to keep the species alive on the face of all the earth" (Genesis 7.2–3).**

**8 Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth, 9 two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah (Genesis 7.8–9).**

**13 On the very same day Noah and Noah's sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark— 14**

**they and every beast after its kind, all cattle after their kind, every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, every bird of every sort. 15 And they went into the ark to Noah, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life. 16 So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in (Genesis 7.13–16).**

- A. No, but only those who needed land.
- B. All current living and extinct mammals
- C. Birds
- D. Creeping things

## **II. Was each species of animal on the Ark?**

- A. No, because species does not equal "kind"
- B. If animals can interbreed, they are within the same kind
- C. Genesis 1 speaks of animals that reproduce after their kind
- D. Some would say "kind" equals "family"
  - 1. That makes for only 2,000 animals on the ark
  - 2. Woodmorappe used "genus" to make the problem more difficult
    - a) Then it is 16,000 animals
    - b) However, the ark still was sufficient

## **III. Does belief in rapid origin of new species mean that creationists are accepting organic evolution?**

- A. No, for they still remain in the same kind
- B. They do not transition from one kind to another

## **IV. Were insects and other invertebrates on the Ark?**

- A. John Woodmorappe says
  - 1. No, the biblical record points to vertebrates (with a backbone) and
  - 2. invertebrates (without a backbone) were not included
- B. However, what did "creeping things," include?

C. He would argue that they survived on debris

**V. How could dinosaurs (including the largest sauropods) have all fit on the Ark?**

A. They took young and

B. not full-grown ones

**VI. Was the median size of animals on the Ark sheep-sized, or much smaller?**

A. Vast majority were small

B. Median size was the size of a small rat (Not average, but half larger and half smaller)

C. 11% were larger than sheep

**VII. Based on actual laboratory-animal housing standards, how much Ark floor space was necessary to house the 16,000 animals?**

A. Animals and their enclosures used less than half of the three decks floor space

B. There would have been tiers for the smaller animals

**VIII. Must the diets of captive wild animals, for the most part, closely resemble their diets in nature?**

A. Just like your cat or dog eats differently than wild versions

B. Animals can survive, especially a short time, on food designed for domestic use

**IX. As the Ark moved, would the water have sloshed out of the drinking containers?**

A. If Noah was intelligent enough to build the Ark,

B. he was intelligent enough to put a cover on the vessels

**X. Is it possible to have designed an arrangement in which the twelve tons of daily animal waste was not handled by the eight-person crew at all?**

A. Sloped self-cleaning floors

B. Accumulation happens now

C. Vermicomposting uses earthworms

**XI. What prevented vermin from being a serious problem on the Ark?**

- A. Not a problem with pits to catch the manure
- B. The slotted flooring can break the life-cycle of vermin (See diagram)
- C. Some animals would eat the insects that made it onboard
- D. Removal of manure breaks life-cycle of vermin
- E. Cats and dogs running loose would catch rodents

**XII. Would the methane emanating from the decomposing manure have caused an explosion, destroying the Ark?**

- A. Bedding mixed with manure would prevent
- B. Not enough time to accumulate the required amount
- C. Proper venting would prevent
- D. The Ark had a window at the top

**XIII. Is the slotted Ark window an adequate design for ventilation?**

- A. Interaction of warm body heat with the cooler walls moves air
- B. President Bush's Crawford, Texas ranch made use of breezes
- C. [See figure 5, page 38]

**XIV. Considering all of the animals, provender, etc., was the Ark overloaded?**

- A. Gen 6.15

**15 And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits (Genesis 6.15).**

- B. Estimates of empty Ark are 4,000 to 6,000 tons
- C. Had a cargo capacity of 15,000 tons
- D. It still had 6,000 tons of surplus space
  - 1. For animals whose fossils we have not yet discovered
  - 2. For animals born during the Flood

**XV. Were the ancient peoples capable of building only boats and small ships?**

- A. I discussed this last week
- B. Consider the Egyptian, et al., pyramids

**XVI. Is it not physically impossible to build a wooden ship of Ark dimensions?**

- A. I also covered this last week

**XVII. If petroleum was used as the pitch to seal the Ark, where did it originate on the antediluvian earth?**

- A. The assumption is that dead animals create petroleum
- B. Some think it comes from the earth's mantle or some other source
- C. Evidence of biologic activity may actually be a later contaminant

**XVIII. What kinds of experience did the ancients have in managing large numbers of wild animals simultaneously?**

- A. Job

**3 Also, his possessions were seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred female donkeys, and a very large household, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the East (Job 1.3).**

- B. 2Ch 9.25 Solomon had 4,000 stalls for horses

**XIX. How could Noah have dealt with fearful or recalcitrant animals, especially the large ones?**

- A. Gen 6.20

**20 "Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind *will come to you* to keep them alive (Genesis 6.20).**

- B. These can become used to human presence
- C. Some fear humans after predation

**XX. How could Noah have distinguished males from females in the case of animals whose genders appear identical?**

- A. Gen 6.20

B. Gen 7.16

**16 So those that entered, *male* and *female* of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in (Genesis 7.16).**

C. Learning animal behaviors shows gender (Chinese hunters used to so distinguish pandas)

D. Put animals together and watch how they pair off for mating

**Exhortation:**

**I. Noah and his ark matter to us for many reasons.**

**II. One major concern is that of salvation,**

**18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, 19 by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, 20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. 21 There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him (1Pe 3.18–22).**