



UNDERSTANDING THE OLD TESTAMENT

Seeing the Big Picture

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Part 3: The Post-Flood Period

Quick Look at the Period (Gen. 6:1—11:25)

- This period is from the flood to the Tower of Babel
- Key people include Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth
- Key events include Noah and the Flood, the Noahic Covenant, Noah's Post-flood Prophecy, and the Tower of Babel

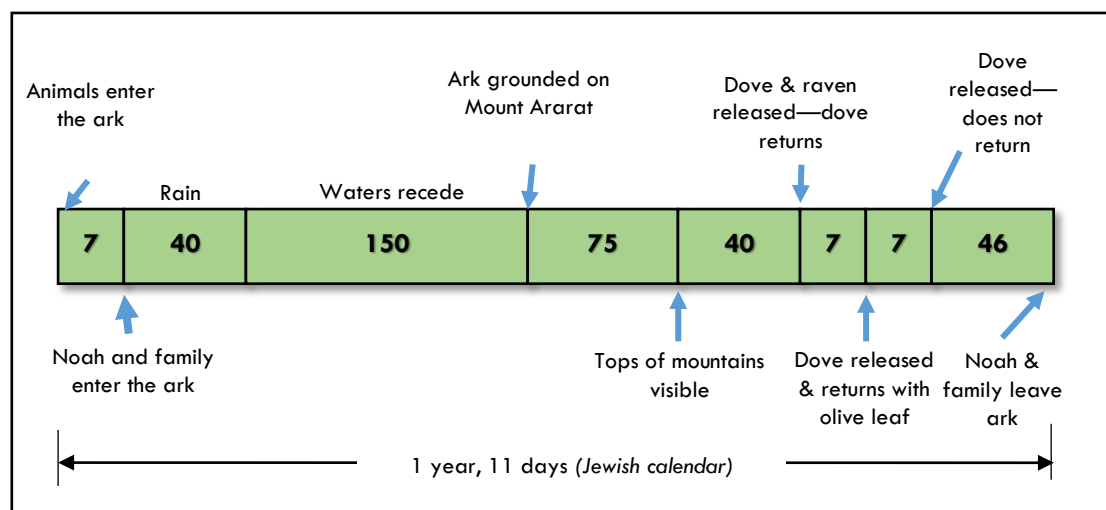


Figure 1 Timeline of the Flood

Noah (Gen. 6:8—9:29)

- Noah was the tenth of the pre-flood (antediluvian) Patriarchs
- His father, Lamech, was 56 years old when Adam died
- Chronology of Noah's life
- Age 480: At God's direction Noah began building the ark
- Age 500: He begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth (Genesis 5:32)
- Age 600: Noah and his family entered the ark. There was a total of eight people in the ark (2 Pet. 2:5)
- Age 950: Noah died (Gen. 9:28-29)

The Flood (Gen. 6:5-13)

- Most likely a universal flood, not a local flood.¹
- Every living thing (except for Noah and his family) perished
- Was God too cruel to wipe out all living things with a flood? (See Gen. 6:5, 11-13)

The Ark (Gen. 6:14—7:3)

- 450 ft. long x 75 feet wide x 45 ft. high
- No rudder or viewing windows

The Noahic Covenant (Gen. 8:20—9:17)

- God would never again destroy man with a flood (8:21; 9:11, 15)
- There would always be seasons (8:22)
- God told Noah to be fruitful and fill the earth (Gen. 9:1, 7)
- Meat was added to man's diet (9:3)
- Murderers would forfeit their lives (9:6)
- Man is to repopulate the earth (9:7)
- Sign: rainbow (9:12-17; cf. Rev. 4:3)
- This covenant is an everlasting covenant (9:16)

Noah's Post-flood Prophecy (Gen. 9:18-27)

- Ham's descendants (Canaanites) will be enslaved by Shem's descendants, the Israelites (Gen. 9:25-26)
- Shem's descendants will bring a blessing to God (Gen. 9:26)
- The territories and numbers of Japheth's descendants would be enlarged (Gen. 9:27)

The City with a Tower of Babel (Gen. 11:1-9)

- There was one language before this incident (Gen. 11:1)
- Location: Plain of Shinar, today's Iraq and Iran (Gen. 11:2)
- The city and the tower were to be built for their own glory and to refrain from being scattered throughout the earth (Gen. 11:4)
- This violated God's command to "be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth" (Gen. 9:1)
- God "confused the language" (Gen. 11:9)

Points to Ponder

- God always _____ sinful man of a pending judgment
- God always gives _____ to repent
- God always keeps his _____ (promises)

¹ See <https://www.gotquestions.org/global-flood.html>