

Review: *A Pocket Guide to Noah's Ark: A Biblical and Scientific Look at the Genesis Account, Answers in Genesis, Petersburg, KY, 2003 (May, 2016 edn.)*

Pages: 93

Wonderful Look Into the Ark

This short guide to the greatest sea vessel in history contains fascinating and practical details about the likely design of Noah's ark.

Naval dimensions and engineering, hull construction, animal husbandry, and waste management are all addressed.

While not able to be proven in a scientifically testable way (the same as evolution), a more than reasonable case is presented of the plausibility of such a ship, much to the chagrin of Flood-denialists.

Introduction (7)

Was There Really a Noah's Ark (pp. 9-28)

Genesis 6.15 states the ark was 300 cubits (137m), width 50 (23m), and height 30 (14m).

Noah and sons built the ark but relatives like Methuselah and Lamech could have also helped.

Many inventions are re-inventions, such as concrete which was developed by the Romans.

Animals may have been attracted to the ark via a "homing instinct".

There were probably only 50 different kinds of dinosaur kinds and at most 35,000 animals were needed to preserve the created kinds.

Only air-breathing, land-dwelling animals, creeping things, and winged animals were required to be on the ark.

A short cubit is 18in (46cm).

A plumbing system was possible for gravity-fed drinking water, ventilation could have been driven by wind or wave motion, and grain hoppers could have dispensed food.

The flood was a 40-day rainstorm and 150-day subterranean flooding event.

Tebah is used for “ark” and means basket, only used in one other place for Moses’ basket.

In 1992, nine KRISO researchers confirmed the ark could handle waves 30m high.

The Babylonian Epic of Gilgamesh ark is a hopeless cube shape.

Some shorter hulls did outperform the ark but the Korean study assumed waves from all directions yet real ocean waves have a dominant direction.

There is enough water on earth to cover it 2.7km deep if it were a smooth sphere.

Being launched high off the ground, the ark would have avoided coastal tsunamis from the low-lying areas.

Drifting vessels naturally turn side-on (called “broaching”) which is overcome by catching wind at the bow and water at the stern.

Three-quarters of the earth’s surface is covered with water.

The sedimentary layer of the earth’s crust is sometimes kilometres deep.

Mt Ararat attracts the most attention for ark-hunting since it has permanent ice.

There are over 200 dog species.

Mount Everest is 8km high.

Flood Legends: A World of Stories Based on Truth (pp. 29-34)

There are 270 flood stories worldwide.

Noah's descendants stayed together for 100 years, until God confused their languages.

Thinking Outside the Box (pp. 35-46)

The ark carefully balanced the conflicting demands of stability, comfort, and strength.

Vessels avoid broaching by catching the wind at one end and being "rooted" at the other, turning like a weather vane into the wind.

Blunt ends would also produce a rougher ride.

The window could have been vessel-wide and raised one cubit off the top deck.

Mortice and tenon planking with wooden dowels could have been used.

Ancient shipbuilders usually began with a shell of planks (stakes) then built internal framing (ribs).

Ramps at the ends would have helped move heavy loads between decks.

Mything the Boat (pp. 47-50)

Caring for the Animals on the Ark (pp. 53-59)

Animals may have eaten compressed hay, dried plant material, seeds and grains.

Carnivorous dinosaurs could have been fed dried meat or slaughtered animals.

Drinking water could have been piped into troughs using bamboo pipes like the Chinese.

Animal enclosures could have had sloped, self-cleaning underfloors, emptying into a pit.

Air conditioning may have been natural by convective air movement, driven by temperature between warm-blooded animals.

Eleven tons of animal waste may have been produced daily on the ark.

Ark movement would have reduced the risk of explosion due to CH₄ buildup.

Staircases and ladders could have been installed for moment.

A central skylights could provide lighting and ventilation.

Has Noah's Ark Been Found? (pp. 61-67)

The Greek historian Herodotus writing in the 5thC BC mentioned religious pilgrims journeyed to Mt. Ararat. Europeans first climbed the 5,182m summit in 1829.

Noah the Evangelist (pp. 69-73)

Kerux (Gk) means “herald”.

How Did Animals Spread All Over the World (pp. 75-84)

Rapid modern recolonisation cases include Surtsey Island (Iceland, 1963) and Krakatoa.

Land bridges would have been available post flood if sea-levels were only 55m lower in some places.

Recolonisation theorists stretch the age of the earth a few thousand years to accommodate fossilisation, for the flood wiped out the whole crust leaving no animal fossils. They look to the genealogy gaps in Genesis 5 and 11.

Taking Back the Rainbow (pp. 87-90)

The blue end of the rainbow spectrum is a symbol of watery destruction, and the red by fire.

The Ark and the Gospel (pp. 93-95)