

Are modern scientific discoveries consistent with the Biblical flood? Many "experts" view the Biblical flood account as a myth. The Bible records the global flood of about 4,400-5,500 years ago in Genesis chapters 6-8, when:

"For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth. The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than fifteen cubits. Every living thing that moved on land perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; people and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark. The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days."—Genesis 7:17-24 NIV

This global cataclysm caused major changes to the earth itself and its atmosphere and climate, and resulted in catastrophic loss of plant, animal, and human life on earth. While modern science doesn't acknowledge, or factor in, the Biblical flood, scientists have discovered extreme climatic and anthropologic changes that took place on earth long ago. Although the estimated time period is different from the Bible's, scientific discoveries are consistent with what the Bible describes of the global deluge and its results. Notice the following excerpts from Science, 31 August, 2023:

From 800,000 to 900,000 years ago, however, the picture would have been quite different. Hu et al. used a newly developed coalescent model to predict past human population sizes from more than 3000 present-day human genomes (see the Perspective by Ashton and Stringer). The model detected a reduction in the population size of our ancestors from about 100,000 to about 1000 individuals, which persisted for about 100,000 years. The decline appears to have coincided with both major climate change and subsequent speciation events. —Sacha Vignieri

Population size history is essential for studying human evolution. However, ancient population size history during the Pleistocene is notoriously difficult to unravel. In this study, we developed a fast infinitesimal time coalescent process (FitCoal) to circumvent this difficulty and calculated the composite likelihood for present-day human genomic sequences of 3154 individuals. Results showed that human ancestors went through a severe population bottleneck with about 1280 breeding individuals between around 930,000 and 813,000 years ago. The bottleneck lasted for about 117,000 years and brought human ancestors close to extinction. This bottleneck is congruent with a substantial chronological gap in the available African and Eurasian fossil record. Our results provide new insights into our ancestry and suggest a coincident speciation event.

Science has discovered these main facts consist with the Biblical flood:

- 1. Evidence of major flood event all over the earth
- 2. Major climate change and speciation events
- 3. Drastic reduction in human, animal and plant life

While the analysis above does not correspond in all details with the Biblical record, it is consistent with what the Bible record about the great flood of Noah't time. Jesus believed that Noah, the ark, and the global flood were all real, as we can see:

"As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man."—Matthew 24:37-39 NIV

The Bible is confirmed as true, by its own internal evidence, as well as external evidence, such as textual, scientific, geographical, historical, archaeological documented facts. The scientific evidence consistent with the global flood, noted above, is just one of thousands of facts supporting this.

Scientific geological evidence is consistent with, and supports, a global flood, as described in the Bible. Even with all of this physical evidence for the Biblical flood, the primary evidence for the global flood is found in the Bible, not in science.

The Son of God, Jesus Christ, referred to **"the flood," "in Noah's day" (Matthew** 24:37-39 NLT) as a historical fact. Why? Because he knew that it really happened! He saw the flood **"from heaven"** where he lived prior to coming to earth (John 6:38). The apostle Peter wrote under inspiration that:

"God . . . did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others"—2 Peter 2:4,5 NIV

## "God . . . brought the earth out from the water and surrounded it with water. Then he used the water to destroy the ancient world with a mighty flood"—2 Peter 3:5,6 NLT

God's Word, the Bible, consistently presents **"the flood," "in Noah's day" (Matthew 24:37 NLT),** as being global, as well as being a historical fact. Modern scientific discoveries are consistent with the biblical flood.