

Lesson 14 “Catastrophe” – The Flood & The Fossils, Part 2

What We See in God’s World Agrees with What We Read in God’s Word

Rock Layers Laid Down by Water

Nature of water as an agent for rapid erosion and deposition.

- River floods
- Tsunamis
- Turbidity currents
- Mud Flows

Nature of the rock layers themselves.

- *Widespread rock layers*—Dakota Sandstone, one of the most distinctive in the Rockies, covers parts of 10 states. No process today forming similar deposit. Morrison formation, famous for its dinosaurs, covers 11 states. Thick sandstones reach from the Grand Canyon eastward to the Appalachian Mtns.
- *Redbeds*—Colored by decomposed iron (rust). Extensive volcanism during a worldwide flood would release tons of mineral-rich water to mix with sediments as they are deposited.
- *Ripple marks, “raindrop impressions,” animal tracks, cross beds, mud cracks*—All must be covered up quickly in order to be preserved at all!!
- Evidence of Rapid Deposition—*Grand Canyon*, Exhibit A used to prove millions of years to form rock strata. Sediments a mile thick; horizontal. They are widespread water-laid deposits, layered with particles sorted by size and preserving crossbeds, ripple marks and animal tracks—all evidence of rapid deposition. Closer examination shows that they could have been laid down quickly with little time delay between formations. A lot of water; not a lot of time.

Billions of Dead Things Buried in Rock Layers Laid Down by Water

How is a fossil formed? A fossil forms through: (1) rapid burial and (2) burial under deep sediment. Most scientists agree that flooding provides the best way to start forming fossils.

Evidence of Rapid Burial

- Creatures in the process of eating or giving birth.
- *Soft-bodied creatures* such as worms, jellyfish. A three-foot thick layer composed primarily of millions of closed clams near Glen Rose. Must have been washed into the layer and buried alive. Also fossilized worms in clam layer. Requires rapid burial
- *Fossil Graveyards*—Thousands of creatures buried together—marine and terrestrial—in a jumbled heap all over the earth. Dinosaur National Monument; the dinosaurs are in life position indicating muscles and ligaments were in tact at time of burial. Nebraska Agate Quarry, thousands of rhinoceros, zebra, pig and camel bones in one layer. Whole herds buried at one time. Fossil Butte National Monument, multitudes of perfectly preserved fish, crocodiles, insects, turtles and palm fronds. No signs of decay so were buried rapidly.
- Rapid cementation

The Sequence in the Fossil Record

- 95% of all fossils are marine invertebrates, particularly shellfish; 4.98% are plants and other invertebrates; 0.0125% are vertebrates, mostly fish.
- 95% of land vertebrates consist of < 1 bone. Most mammal fossils are considered to have been deposited during Ice Age.
- Simple marine vertebrates would be buried first, since they live in the deep ocean. Next, free-swimming vertebrates. Then, birds, mammals, and man.
- Water sorts objects out to be with others of similar size and shape. Streamlined objects fall out first. Objects with appendages float longest.
- Out-of-Place Fossils—Over 2000 documented examples of fossils found that don't fit into the evolutionary sequence. Many examples of entire rock layers being out of place with "older" fossils overlying "younger" ones. All of which are explained away without reason.

The fossil record is best understood as the result of a marine cataclysm that utterly annihilated the continents and land dwellers.

7 Global Flood Clues

#1: Size of the Ark

#2: Need for an Ark

#3: Purpose of the Flood

#4: Depth of the Flood

#5: Duration of Flood

#6: Use of universal terms, >30 times

#7: The Rest of Scripture: Psalm 29:10; 104:6-9; Isaiah 34:9; Matthew 24:39; Luke 17:26-27; 1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 2:5; 3:5-6; Hebrews 11:7