

## And God Created.....The Ark

by David Everson

God instructed Noah to build ark in which his family, and all the animals in whose nostrils was the breathe of life would be saved. This was God's plan to protect the future of the world, and so long as Noah did EXACTLY as commanded, it would work. The ark has been the subject of much attention. Was it big enough to hold all the animals. Where did it come to rest? What did it look like? Has it been found? Let's look at some of the things that we can know for sure about the ark.

1. It was big enough to hold all of the animals that God wanted on it!! The size of this barge like vessel was huge. Go to Genesis 6 and read again the dimensions and imagine just how large it was. Remember also that not all animals needed to be on the ark. Only those in whose nostrils was the breathe of life. This leaves out a huge numbers of animals, if we are thinking that "All" animals on earth needed to be on the ark. Also remember that three fourths of all animals alive on earth today would fit in a fair sized house with room to spare-THEY ARE THE INSECTS!! One male and one female ant do not take up much space! Also remember that not every breed of "dog" needed to be present on the ark, just the genotype from which the "dogs" could develop. What about the food supply for so many animals? Well, Noah and his family were able to supply exactly what was needed in some way. Maybe it was miraculous, the bale of straw just never can to and end. Maybe the animals all went into hibernation for a year or so and did not eat at all. When we presume that the story of Noah and the ark is not true on the basis of the idea that the ark could not have contained all the animals and enough food for them to eat, then we limit the power of God and that is something I will not do!!

2. What did the ark look like? Well only God knows for sure. From the instructions given in Genesis 6 it probably was very much a barge type structure. How the window and one door were situated are not known. What Gopher wood is- we will never know this side of heaven. We do know that the dimensions given by God to Noah was exactly the right ones for ocean going vessels. It gives the ark an almost impossible to sink combination. These dimensions were 'discovered' by shipbuilders to be near perfect in terms of stability. But why should that surprise us? The all knowing God designed it!

3. Where did the ark come to rest? The inspired writer tells us in the "mountains of Ararat". This location while seeming precise, is anything but! This is about like saying that the ark came to rest in the "Rocky Mountains". Well examination of a world globe shows that the "Rocky Mountains" are indeed huge, and finding a football field sized object would be very very difficult. From historical writings it does appear that the location of the ark was known to by people in the centuries after the flood, but that location has been lost in time, indeed probably the ark itself. The mountains of Ararat are very rug, high, geologically active mountain range, with lots of earthquakes to change and destroy structures found there. Plus the fact that much of the tops of the mountains are covered in glaciers, which would hide the location.

There have been many "reports" about the discovery of the ark. Yet each has been shown to have been a hoax, or and unsubstantiated report. While the ark would be of a great deal of interest to me as well as many others, I do not believe that God will allow it to ever be found. Man would try to worship it, and not worship the one who designed it-God!

Well, there are many other things that could be discussed about the ark, but the story of the saving of Noah and his family from the destruction of the world, should strengthen our resolve today to be found in that other refuge of safety-THE CHURCH!