

3 **RD C OF HISTORY: CATASTROPHE**

Text: Genesis 6-9:19

SUMMARY—Many people believe that the vast number of sedimentary rock layers containing fossils found around the world formed slowly over more than 500 million years. They believe that dinosaurs died out at least 65 million year before humans appeared on Earth. The Bible, however, makes it clear that the earth has existed for only a few thousand years. The rock layers, therefore, must have formed within this time frame. The world-wide catastrophe discussed in this study provides a basis for reconnecting the Bible to the real world of fossils and rock layers and the judgment of sin they represent.

In our previous Bible study we saw that Adam disobeyed God's command not to eat the forbidden fruit and brought corruption and death into the world (Romans 5:12). Adam's sin passed to his children, his children's children, and so on down through time to you and me today. As time went by, people began to invent new machines, explore new places, and try new ideas. Because their hearts were wicked, though, they did things that displeased their Creator (Genesis 6:5). They didn't listen to their ancestor, Adam, who would have told them what happened in the Garden, and how they should obey and worship only the Lord.

This grieved God so much that He determined to judge their sin by sending a global flood to destroy everything with the breath of life in it: mankind, animals, creatures that moved along the ground, and birds of the air (Genesis 6:7). Only one righteous man, Noah, found favor in God's eyes. God told Noah that He would send a great flood to judge the entire globe by covering it with water. In this study, we will discuss the magnitude of God's judgment on the earth. The results of that judgment are still clearly evident today.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why did God judge the entire earth during Noah's day?
2. What types of animals were with Noah on the Ark?
3. How did the flood change the world?
4. What types of things can we see today that remind us of God's judgment on sin?
5. How does this event affect you and the world you live in?

RESOURCES ON THE WEB

answersingenesis.org/articles/ka/v8/n1/catastrophe
answersingenesis.org/get-answers/features/noahs-ark
answersingenesis.org/articles/nab3/flood-global-or-local
answersingenesis.org/articles/au/noahs-flood-and-judgment

"And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark." Genesis 7:23