

# CREATION FOR KIDS



By Russell Grigg

**W**HEN GOD created Adam and Eve, He told them to 'be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth' (Genesis 1:28).

So Adam and Eve had many children, who had many children, who had many children. After just a few hundred years there were a great many people living on the earth. Most of these people had no time at all for God. The Bible tells us that they were very wicked, and that all they thought about every day was doing something evil. In fact, there was so much violence and sin that God was sorry that He had made man (Genesis 6:5-6).

However, there was one exception—a man called Noah, and his family. Noah was Adam's great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandson. The Bible says that he was righteous and blameless, and that he 'walked with God'. Noah and his wife had three sons. Their names were Shem, Ham and Japheth.

One day God told Noah that, because there was so much violence and wickedness in the world, He was going to send a great flood on the whole earth to destroy everything—all the people and all the land animals that breathed air through their nostrils. God told Noah to build an Ark to save himself and his family. This Ark had to

be big enough to carry pairs of every kind of land animal and bird, as well as food to keep them all alive.

How big was that? The Bible tells us that the Ark was about 137 metres (450 feet) long—that's longer than a football field. It was 23 m (75 ft) wide—that's as wide as four traffic lanes. It was 13.7 m (45 ft) high—that is higher than a four-story building. And it had three decks

and a roof. That's HUGE. You can get some idea of just how big it was from the picture. It didn't need sails or a rudder, because it didn't have to go anywhere. It just had to float.

# The worldwide Flood





In those days people lived a very long time. It took Noah many, many years to build the ship, with the help of his family and maybe hired workers. During this time Noah warned the people that the Flood was coming. If they wanted to be saved, they would have to

come aboard the Ark when the time came. Unfortunately for them, nobody took any notice.

When the Ark was finished, God sent pairs of every kind of land animal (including birds) to Noah for them to go on board the Ark, so that all the animal kinds would be saved and have families again after the Flood. Noah didn't have to go and find them. God sent them. They included what we

now call wild animals, as well as dinosaurs.

Some people have asked how Noah could have fitted the huge dinosaurs on the Ark. Well, even the huge dinosaurs started life small. They began life as an egg not much bigger than a football, and grew from there. Dinosaurs went through a sort of teenage growth spurt and didn't need to be fully grown to have kids. So Noah only needed to take the smaller young ones.

HAVE YOU WONDERED how the kangaroos crossed the oceans to get to the Ark? They didn't have to! The land and sea were different before the Flood. All the animal kinds could have been living close by where Noah was building the Ark.

How many animals? Just several thousand. This is because Noah would have needed only two of the dog kind, not two of every breed of dog, wolf, coyote, and jackal. All today's different sorts of domestic cattle are descended from just one kind called the aurochs. Just one cattle kind was all that Noah needed. And so on. Also Noah didn't need to take any fish or whales or any of the other animals that live in the water.

There was plenty of room.

And there were not so many animals that Noah and his family could not care for them. Perhaps some of the animals hibernated.

After all the animals were aboard, along with Noah, his wife, and their three sons and their three wives, God sent the rain. And not only rain. The Bible says that all the outlets or fountains of deep water beneath the earth burst open as well. It rained for 40 days and 40 nights. And the Ark floated on the water. Up and up the water went, as the rain continued, until all the highest hills were covered. Wow! That was the worst storm the world has ever seen! Every person and every animal that was outside the Ark perished,

just as God had said would happen.

Does this mean the Flood covered Mt Everest? There are seashells on the slopes of Mt Everest and many other mountains, showing that they were once under the waters of Noah's Flood. But Mt Everest and the other high mountains rose up toward the end of the Flood through huge earth movements. The water drained off the earth into large deep ocean basins that sank down to receive the water.

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