

BASIC ARGUMENTS FOR A UNIVERSAL FLOOD

I. The Depth of the Flood

A. This is a Biblical argument found in Genesis 7:19-20: "And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the Earth and all the high hills that were under the whole heaven were covered."

1. The implication is that even if only one-tenth of the high mountains were covered the flood would have to be world wide.
2. The double "all" in the verse also adds emphasis to the idea of universality that the writer was trying to convey.
3. The phrase "fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail" does not mean that the flood was only fifteen cubits deep, but that the mountains were covered by at least fifteen cubits. This was to allow for the ark whose draught was probably one-half of its thirty cubit height.

II. The Duration of the Flood

A. The Bible reveals that the Flood lasted 371 days. Because the flood lasted more than a year it is hard to conceive of it as being a local flood.

1. The waters prevailed on the earth 21 weeks.
 - a. The flood reaches its maximum height at the end of 40 days. Genesis 7:4,12, and 17.
 - b. The rainfall in the other 110 days contributed only to the maintaining of the flood level.
2. Thirty-one weeks of subsiding.
 - a. The argument for a universal flood is enhanced by the fact the waters subsided many feet a day and not just a few inches.

III. Geology of the Flood

- A. Many objections to universality have been based on this.
1. The main geological factor that supports the universal flood is the fountains of the deep breaking up.
 2. Deep comes from *תַּלְתַּיִם אַבְסֻלָּה* "great deep". This refers to oceanic depths and underground reservoirs.
 - a. Apparently the ocean basins were fractured and uplifted to pour water over continents, this plus water from the heavens provided all the water for flood.
- B. The big point is that this fracturing of the deep was not confined to a single day, but lasted 150 days or 5 months.
1. "Such vast and prolonged geologic upheavals in the oceanic depths cannot be reconciled with the theory that the flood was merely a local inundation."

IV. Size of the Ark

A. The point is why was such a large ark needed to escape a local flood.

1. There are many different cubits sizes but 17.5 inches is the one used in deriving the following figures.
 - a. The ark was 437.5 feet long
 - b. It was 72.92 feet wide
 - c. It was 43.75 feet high
 - d. Its volume was 1,396,000 cubic feet
2. It had three decks with an area of 95,700 sq. ft.
3. The gross tonnage was 13,960
4. It was not built by Noah and his three sons alone but with hired help.

V. Need for an Ark

A. Why build a gigantic ark to escape a local flood. It makes God seem stupid for Him to have Noah build an Ark to take in animals when they could have easily walked out of the range of the local flood.

1. All the animals and mankind were not confined to the mesopotamian valley.
2. Some people feel that Noah only took domestic animals on the ark.
 - a. The same terms to describe the animals Noah took are used to describe the animals at creation. Are we to assume that God created only domestic animals? No.

VI. Testimony of the Apostle Peter.

A. One of the most important Biblical scriptures proving the flood is II Peter 3: 3-7.

1. One event Peter sets forth as having brought about a transformation of earth and heavens in the flood.
 2. "It was the flood to which Peter appealed as his final and incontrovertible answer to those who chose to remain in willful ignorance of the fact that God had brought about a catastrophe to punish this world. II Peter 3: 10.
 3. This verse speaks of present day uniformitarianism
- B. If the flood were local Peter's appeal to the flood would not have any value as a contradiction to uniformitarianist

VII. Total Destruction of a Widely Distributed Human Race.

A. This involves two sub-arguments.

1. The teaching of the Bible that all mankind perished in the flood
 - a. Backed up by four Biblical reasons for destroying all mankind.
 1. The bible states in I Pet. and II Pet. and Genesis that only Noah and his family were saved.
 2. The purpose of the flood was to punish a sinful humanity; this purpose could not have been fulfilled if only part of humanity was destroyed.
 3. Christ stated that all men were destroyed by the flood. (LUKE 17: 26-30; MATTHEW 24: 38)

4/ The covenant God made with Noah concerning the rainbow sign and meats is meaningless if only part of mankind was destroyed.

2. That humanity had spread beyond the Far East, possibly around the entire earth.

a. There are two reasons supporting this.

1. There were app. one billion people on earth at the time of the flood because of the longevity of life. This is the same population as was present in 1850. The point is that all these people could not have lived in the Mesopotamian valley.

2. Many ancient human fossils have been found, hundreds, even thousands of miles from Mesopotamia.

BASIC ARGUMENTS AGAINST
an
ANTHROPOLOGICALLY UNIVERSAL FLOOD

I. These are the Arguments presented by Darnard Ramm, a noted American educator.

A. The first area of his argument against the flood is in the area of anthropology.

1. One of his arguments was that the American Indian was in America around 10,000 to 8,000 B.C. and no evangelical scholar ~~lll~~ ~~whixhx~~ wishes to put the flood as early as 8,000 to 10,000 B.C.

a. This is not true because Ramm is assuming scientific dating methods are accurate. In a test in England a wall was dated to be app. 2620-2630 B.C. but iron clad archaeological evidences called for a date of app. 1,000 years later.

b. Because of certain important parallels between the Gilgamesh Epic and the Bible it is impossible for the Flood to have occurred earlier than 10,000 B.C.

1. There are parallels in eleven areas of the Epic.

2. There are many differences that make it impossible to assume the more rational Biblical account depended on the Gilgamesh. Actually it is the Epic that depends on the Bible.

3. The point and proof is that the Gilgamesh because of its gross polytheism and confusion of details indicates a long period of oral transmission; therefore it seems impossible that an Epic which has been orally passed on for over 7,000 years would have any resemblance to the Biblical account of the flood which is God's inspired record.

2. The other argument Ramm has to disprove the flood is that all the races didn't descend from Noah and his sons.

a. Noah could not have had a black son, a white son, and a brown son.

1. First of all Ramm apparently feels that advocates of a universal flood are committed to the idea that Noah's three sons were racially distinct.

a. Actually one of the prevalent ideas is that these six people (sons and wives) had all the genes that branched out into the races.

b. That the table of Nations in Genesis 10 speaks only of caucasian peoples.

1. This is an argument from silence.

c. That it is not necessary to derive all nations from Noah's family from the standpoint of the Bible.

1. This is a ~~mixed~~ obvious contradiction of the stated purpose of the flood.

d. Present distribution of humanity could not have taken place since flood.

1. Almost all culture have a tradition of a universal flood
2. All migration of races seems to have a common starting point--ASIA.

BASIC NON-GEOLOGICAL ARGUMENTS
AGAINST A UNIVERSAL FLOOD

I. Universal terms used in a limited sense. This is one argument that is frequently used. It stated that such terms as "all" or "every" need not be understood in a literal sense.

- A. Most universal terms are to be interpreted literally.
 - 1. There are many places in the Bible where these words "all" and "every" must be literal. For example Matt 28: 18-20.
- B. The context determines the meaning.
 - 1. The universality does not lie in the words merely but in the tenor of the whole narrative.
- C. Universal terms are literal in Genesis 6-9 because of the physical phenomena.
 - 1. The physical phenomena in Genesis would be unbelievable if the flood were only local. The local flood theory does not satisfy the narrative of Genesis.

II. Noah and the Animals.

- A. Gathering the animals to ark. Many scholars have pointed out how hard and impossible it would be for animals from all over the world and from different climates to come to the ark in a hot zone.
 - 1. God could have protected them and guided them
 - 2. The Earth's climate may have been uniform before the flood. Also the terrain may have been more mild.
 - 3. Also possible that representatives of each created kind still was living in the Mid-East.
- B. Capacity of Ark. Local flood people base argument on multiplying species in order to make it impossible for ark no matter how big to carry them all.
 - 1. The answer is in the Genesis kinds. Noah took on the ark the created kinds, not the various species of each kind.
 - 2. The ark had the carrying capacity of 532 standard stock cars--1,396,000 cubic feet.
 - 3. The majority of animals are very small and Noah was not required to take adult animals.
- C. Caring for animals in Ark. Gainsayers bring up food and manure questions.
 - 1. God may have used hibernation or estivation. Possibly this was the first time such powers were given to the animals.
 - 2. As for the manure what would you do---shovel it over board of course.
- D. Local flood people deny supernatural power of God.
 - 1. They fail to take in account the fact that the word of God allows for the miraculous elements in the flood.
 - a. Implication of Gen. 8:1 "God remembered Noah" and all the animals. The word remembered is "zakar" this means "granting requests, protecting delivering."
 - B. On the other hand natural occurrences are also recorded. The flood was a natural--supernatural occurrence. God began it supernaturally but the natural played a big part.

III. Postdiluvian Animal Distribution.

- A. One answer is migration.
1. This migration could have been possible because of the existence of land bridges.
 2. Rapid dispersion of animals is not necessary.
 3. The hand of God did the guiding.

UNIFORMITARIANISM AND THE FLOOD:
A STUDY OF ATTEMPTED HARMONIZATION

I. In spite of the fact that actual observation of geologic processes is strictly limited to those now in operation, uniformitarians have assumed that these and only these acted in the past and therefore must be applied to the study of origins.* Thus they presume to speak with finality upon matters which can be understood properly only in the light of God's revelation in scripture."

- A. This attitude is prophesied of in II Peter 3:3-6.
- B. "Up to a hundred years ago such a prejudice did not exist."

II. The Great Harmonization Attempts.

- A. Cuvier's catastrophism and the diluvium theories.
 - 1. Multiple catastrophism: This was the idea that the major fossiliferous strata of the Earth had been laid down by a series of great floods. These were before creation of man and involved large periods of time. The last of these floods was the Noahic deluge. Dr. Thomas Chalmers found room for these between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2
 - 2. Buckland's diluvium theory. It was Buckland's idea that the formation of the strata we see was impossible to accomplish by the one year of Noah's flood. His idea was that the Genesis flood evidences consist of the "great deposits of 'drift' and in the bones of tropical animals such as elephants, etc. which he had found jumbled together in a Yorkshire cave."

B. Lyell's Uniformitarianism and the Tranquil Theory.

- 1. Lyell is "the high priest of Uniformitarianism." In short his theory was that "The present is the key to the past." He backed this up by his acceptance of the theory that rock layers always occur in same sequence depending on fossils contained. Any stratum can be traced over a large area by its index fossils."
 - a. Lyell completely rejected any form of catastrophism
 - b. Uniformitarianism has been accepted as the main philosophy of geology.
 - c. Darwin was a disciple of Lyell and built his ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES on Lyell's foundation.
- 2. The tranquil theory: the belief that the flood was too "tranquil" a happening to leave any deposits.
 - a. Lyell stated this theory was in harmony with his Uniformitarianism.
 - bb. The idea that the flood was tranquil is easily disproved by a literal translation of Gen. 8:3 "and the water were going and returning from off the earth." This gives the idea of tidal action. This would certainly stir up immense amounts of soil.
 - c. One argument against a violent flood is that the Ark could not have withstood it.
 - 1. Ark was not a ship but a barge--hard to capsize. The ark was perfectly built for this flood according to God's instructions.
 - 2. The ark had God's divine protection, Genesis 8:1.

C. Local Flood Theory. One idea behind this is that a local flood could come and go and leave no trace after a few thousand years. Most Christians have accepted this to be in step with geology.

1Main proof they use is an eight foot stratum of clay found under the ancient city Ur in 1929 by Sir Leonard Woolley. A similar discovery was made at Kish several hundred miles to the north.

a. The importance of these discoveries were upset when it was found that the two deposits were not of the same age. Flood deposits of Ur didn't cover the entire city.

b. This brings up the question. If a minor flood left an eight foot stratum that lasted 5,000 years how could a world wide flood of one year in duration leave no trace of its happening.

MODERN GEOLOGY AND THE DELUGE

I. The purpose of the following information is to develop a new scheme of historical geology which would be true to the Bible and would serve to correlate available scientific data.

- A. Geological implications of the Biblical record.
1. Tremendous erosion from rainfall. According to the account it rained for forty days and forty nights. And the windows of the heaven were opened. It can obviously be seen how much erosion would result from this.
 2. Clouds not source of the deluge--rain. Water for forty days and forty nights of rain could not have come from our present atmosphere. "There seems to have been an atmospheric source of water of an entirely different type and order of magnitude than now exists."
 3. Enlarged ocean basins. Waters that came to earth could not have all gone back to the atmosphere or it would be there now. The answer is that there was more dry land to water before the flood, the ocean basins were enlarged. Backed up by Ps. 104: 5-9 which implies great land movements. Higher mountains deeper oceans.
 4. Volcanic and seismic upheavals. This is implied by the statement that "all the fountains of the deep were broken up". Water must have seeped into hot center of earth result; earthquakes, eruptions.
 5. Unprecedented sedimentary activity. The entire story of Genesis plainly implies by the very nature of forces involved that there was erosion and therefore redepositing of material.
 6. Ideal conditions for formation of Fossils. Purpose of flood to destroy all land creatures. Conditions most ideal during flood Many creatures buried by sedimentation.
 7. Uniformitarianism undermined by flood. By the very description of the flood and its forces it is obvious that it was a catastrophe not a natural (uniform) happening. Uniformitarianism is valid since the flood!

II. Basic harmony of the field data and the Biblical inferences. These inferences are supported by the records of the rocks.

- A. More water in the present oceans.
1. Seamounts--drowned islands. These are flat topped and non-volcanic.
 2. Submarine canyons. These are "great canyons similar in every respect to the great river canyons of the land surface but extent far out onto the continental shelves." Hudson river canyon is a good example it extends for 300 miles.
- B. Volcanism.
1. A large part of the earth's surface is covered with matter that originally was thrown out of volcanic cones or vents.
 - a. Great plateaus in Washington, Oregon, California and Idaho covering 200,000 sq. miles are built of lava.
- C. Earth Movements.
1. Most sedimentary rock on earth has been tilted, folded and faulted obvious signs of tectonic activity..

2. Most mountain building has taken place quite recently, even geologists admit this.

D. Fossilization

1. Fossils under present processes of nature are very seldom formed, but the conditions are perfect during the flood for large scale formation.

- a. Quick burial is necessary to stop process of decay which automatically sets in.
- b. Rock formations on earth are filled with fossils.

III. The Uniformitarian Interpretation of Geology.

A. "The present is the key to the past." This is the first great principle of historical geology.

1. "The geomorphic processes which can be observed in action at present, such as erosion; sedimentation; glaciation; volcanism, diastrophism, etc.--all operating in essentially the same fashion as at present can be invoked to explain the origin and formation of all the earth's geologic deposits."

2. The doctrine of uniformity is supposed to remove any need for catastrophism.

B. Organic Evolution.

1. This is the second great principle of Geology. Upon this is based the dating system of stratum.

a. Evolution states that "at any given time in the earth's past there was only one 'assemblage' of organisms on earth. So we find these organisms in rock., as fossils the stratum is said to belong to that age.

b. The age of strata is determined by the "index fossil" found there in.

C. Geologic Time-Table

1. The rock systems and their geologic eras have been formed into a time-table. This presentation indicates a gradual progression of life from simple to complex. This therefore is supposed to prove evolution.

a. Geologists use this to prove age of strata, but biologists use the table as a cornerstone of their belief of organic evolution. This is circular reasoning.

D. Methods of Resolving Contradictions.

1. Geologists use the following reasons for explaining away any contradictions they find in their compiled, man-made table. There is no place on earth where the table exist in the strata-complete.

- a. Folding
- b. Faulting
- c. Thrust plane
- d. Erosion

2. "Provisions made ahead of time for any contrary evidence that might be discovered in the field."

IV. The Inadequacy of Uniformity to Explain the Strata.

A. Volcanism and Igneous Rocks.

1. Nothing present or ever seen by man was able or would be able to produce the large amounts of igneous rock now found on earth.

B. Earth Movements

1. Evidence of tremendous crustal movements is found all over this earth. Faults, buckling, folding, etc.

- C. Continental Ice Sheets.
 - 1. Again we are faced with that fact that nothing occurring now can account for large continent-sized glaciers.
- D. Phenomena of Sedimentation.
 - 1. Present day methods occurring on the scale now happening can not possibly even in a person's wildest ~~phantasy~~ dreams account for the thickness and amount of this rock now covering the earth.
- E. Fossil Graveyards.
 - 1. Fossils are not now being formed on the scale needed to produce the massive "graveyards".
 - A. Six ways to form fossils.
 - 1. Freezing (for entire fossil).
 - 2. Carbonization .
 - 3. Preservation of hard parts.
 - 4. Preservation of form, in casts or molds.
 - 5. Petrification.
 - 6. Preservation of Tracks.

V. Contradictions In The Uniformitarian System.

- A. Misplaced Fossils. That is the finding of younger aged fossils in older strata.
- B. Living Fossils--Found.
 - 1. Tuatara: found in New Zealand.
 - 2. Coelecanth:--Found off the coast of East Africa.
 - 3. Segmented living mullusk: found of the ~~East~~ west coast of Central America.
- C. Formations out of sequence.
 - 1. Geologist try to explain strats being out of sequence (older over younger) by overthrust or erosion.
 - a. But this is hard to believe considering area and size of these "overthrusts". If something like this did ever happen it would be a catastrophe in itself.

A SCRIPTURAL FRAMEWORK FOR HISTORICAL GEOLOGY

I. Scriptural Divisions of Geologic History.

- A. The Initial Creation
- B. The work of the six days of creation.
 - 1. On the third day land appeared above the water this denotes great progeny.
- C. The antediluvian period.
- D. The deluge
- E. The modern post deluge period
 - 1. This is the time when uniformitarianism would be working

II. The Beginning of Creation.

- A. Origin of the Solar System
 - 1. No satisfactory theory found.
- B. The origin of the Universe
 - 1. Two have been put forth, but they are no good.
- C. The Primeval Earth
 - 1. Some scientists believe that the heat from the core of the Earth have affected the crust.

III. The Scientific Basis of Creation

- A. The First and Second Laws of Thermodynamics
 - 1. All modern science is based on these two laws.
 - 2. The very fact that matter is running down means that sometime some had to wind this big machine up that we call the Universe.
- B. The unique processes of creation
 - 1. It is allright to apply uniformitarianism to explain geology since creation, but creation was a unique time and would have to fall under this explanation.
- C. The entropy principle and evolution
 - 1. Deterioration is the principle that governs the universe and it is in direct opposition to evolution.

IV. The Geologic Work of Creation Week

- A. The First Day
 - 1. The molding of primitive materials
- B. The Second Day
 - 1. The waters covering the earth divided
 - a. The waters below in continuous motion
- C. The Third Day
 - 1. Uplifting of land occurred on this day

V. Creation of "Appearance of Age"

- A. The earth when it was created was created old. It had full grown plants and animals.
 - 1. Modern man doesn't want to accept the fact of creation so he comes up with ideas of his own
 - a. "Steady-State" Cosmology
 - 1. Somewhere out in space evolution of matter is still happening
 - b. "Eternal Oscillation" Cosmology

VI. The World That Then Was

- A. There was probably a great water vapor canopy around the earth.
- B. It is possible that there was no rainfall before the Deluge, Gen.2:5,6.
- C. There was probably very little earth quake, volcanic, or any other type of earth shaping activity before the flood.

VII. Geologic Evidences of Antediluvian Climate

- A. The basic climate before the flood seems to have been warm and tropical. This is backed up by geologic strata.
- B. Some scientist believe that there were several eras of ice ages.

VIII. Overflowed With Water, some believe the flood was tranquile

- A. Modern river floods have tremendous power, this makes it difficult to concieve of a worldwide flood not leaving a great geological mark.
- B. Also ocean wave have great destructive power.
- C. The great amount of water during the flood could certainly have caused the fossilization and sedimentation now found of earth.

IX. Emergence of The Lands

- A. Gen.8:1 speaks of a tremendous wind to drive waters off the face of the earth. Winds are caused by temperature changes therefore the climate must not have been uniform over allk the earth after the flood.
 - 1.. Mountain building was taking place or did take place to cause temperature change.
 - a. The forces of isotasy took place

X. The Order of the Strata

- A. The continental blocks are of a tectonic origin
- B. Sequence of Stratified Beds
 - 1. This is the back bone of organic evolution
 - a. The question of overthrust or young lying on old strata is still to be answered satisfactorily.
- C. Early Burial of Marine Creatures
 - 1. Marine creatures would be buried first because the first sediment would naturally run into the sea. Also because of the "breaking up of the fountains of the deep.
- D. Simple marine animals would be buried first because of the greater specific gravity involved.
- E. Vertebrates would be found higher in the geologic column than invertebrates is because of their greater mobility.
- F. Land plants would naturally be found higher than sea plants
- G. Coal needs large amounts of organic materila to form
The deluge would provide this.

XI. Post-Deluge Geologic Activity

- A. Freezing of Arctic Soils

XXI. The Glacial Period

- A. With the formation of mountains cold climatic conditions
Could now happen

PROBLEMS IN BIBLICAL GEOLOGY

I. The most important and serious problem is time. Several methods are used to determine geologic time.

- A. Lead age methods
 - 1. Uranium to lead method
 - 2. Lead Isotope methods
 - a. These can be affected by the original lead content of the sample and leaching.
 - 3. Thorium-lead 280 methods
 - a. The date of this test is always lower than the uranium methods.
- B. The rubidium method
- C. The potassium method
- D. Carbon-14 method
 - 1. There are several things that could affect the Carbon-14 reading.
 - a. Atmosphere
 - b. Amount of nitrogen
- E. Astronomic methods.

II. Contradictions in Geochronology

- A. Meteoritic Dust
- B. Meteorite Radioactivity
- C. Tektites
- D. Disintegration of Comets
- E. Atmospheric Helium
- F. Salt in the Sea
- G.... Juvenile Water
- G. Crustal Accretion

III. It is possible to measure time since the close of the Deluge.

- A. Tree rings
- B. Origin of Postdiluvian civilizations
- C. Population statistics

IV. There are many forms on earth that appear to need more time for formation than the Bible allows

- A. The thick water-laid rock beds
- B. Coral reefs
- C. Deep-sea Sediments
- E.. Evaporites
 - 1. Salt
 - 2. gypsum
 - 3. Anhydrite
- F. Cave deposits
 - 1. Stalagmite
- G. Buried Forests
 - 1. This is actually a proof for a flood

V. Varved Deposits

- A. This is a method of telling time by deposits layed down near a river or lake.
 - 1. This has been largely displaced by the Carbon-14 method.

VI. Modern significance of the Genesis Flood

- A. There are two basic philosophies or religions among mankind
1. One is oriented primarily to God. Man was created by Him and he must obey Him.
 2. The other system is oriented to man. It is more or less man worship. "Man is inherently capable of acquiring his own efforts all he needs in this present life and in any possible life to come."
- B. Theistic evolution is nothing more than a compromise, a person who believes in this is afraid to take a stand.
- C. Evolution and Communism are great enemies of God or religion. It is a dangerous mixture when the two are together.
- D. Organic evolution is being taught in all phases of our educational system.
- E. The shocking thing about evolution and its wide spread acceptance is that there is so little real scientific fact to back it up.
- F. Historical Geology in truth does not really prove evolution, on the contrary it proves creation and a flood. It is just that the facts have been twisted by men who want to believe that life did evolve. Thus man would be freed from obeying God .

PALEONTOLOGY AND THE EDENIC CURSE

I. "The doctrine of the Flood can be fully understood only in the light of the Fall and the Edenic curse.

A. Scientists say that animals lived on this earth millions of years before man. It is necessary to prove that man was here at the same time as all creatures none lived before.

1. It is also necessary to show that all men descended from Adam and Eve.

a. "It is well known that some of the most ancient human skulls have practically the same capacity as that of modern man.

B. Many remains have been buried in such a fashion as to show a belief in after life.

II. The Animal Kingdom and the Fall

A. Have both man and animals been affected by the Fall

1. Romans 8:19-20 man was created subject to vanity; it was at the time of the Edenic curse that this happened. Gen. 3:17-19.

2. These passages plainly show that some tremendous transformations took place in the area of nature also.

3. Other scriptures prove Edenic curse on nature: Gen 1:2 Gen 2:20, Heb. 2: 8-9, Gen. 9: 2, 5, and Exodus 21:28.

B. Man had a vegetarian diet before the Fall

1. Gen 1: 30 "I have given every green herb for food: and was so"

2. The ideal conditions in the animal kingdom: Isa. 11:6- No animals eating one another.

C. The Edenic curse and Structural Changes

1. The serpent was changed: Gen 3. The curse of God was brought upon the instrument of the deceiver and well as the deceiver.

2. The amount of pain in child birth was changed; Gen 3

III. The Plant Kingdom and the Fall

A. Gen 3:17-19; "Cursed is the ground...."

IV The Balance of Nature

A. One argument against any change is that the whole balance of nature would have been disrupted.

1. "Wouldn't this limit God. Therefore God could have made these changes.

I. One argument that some scholars have today is that there are no historical or archaeological evidences for a flood during the third millennium B.C.

A. This date comes from adding the years of ~~the~~ patriarchal maturity given in the Massoretic text of Genesis 11.

1. Moses failed to give the total number of years from the flood to Abraham.

2. The name and Years of Cainan do not appear in the Hebrew text

3. Genesis 5 and 11 are perfectly symmetrical in form

4. Information is given concerning each patriarch which is irrelevant to a strict chronology.

5. The postdiluvian patriarchs could not have been contemporaries of Abram

6. The Bible implies a great antiquity for the Tower of Babel

7. The Messianic links were seldom firstborn sons

8. The term "begat" sometimes refers to an ancestral relationship

II. Genesis 11 cannot be stretched beyond certain limits

A. It is impossible to allow 100,000 years between Noah and Abraham and still count the rest of the Bible and its seven thousand year plan valid.

B. The Babylonian flood tradition does not allow for a period of ~~100,000~~ 100,000 years.