The image features a large, multi-story wooden ark floating on a dark, stormy sea under a cloudy sky. The ark is shown from a low angle, emphasizing its scale. In the background, another smaller ark is visible on the horizon. Overlaid on the left side of the image is a technical drawing of a letter 'N' with various geometric annotations, including circles and lines, set against a grid background. The title text is centered over the ark.

# NOAH'S ARK

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

*by* TIM LOVETT



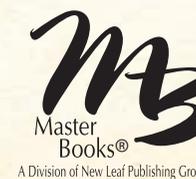
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## NOAH'S ARK: THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

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# INTRODUCTION

Think about it. What's the childhood image that pops into your mind when someone says, "Noah's ark"?

If you are like most people, the picture you have is an ark that has the dimensions and shape of a claw-footed bathtub, with a house stuck on top. Noah and his family may or may not be standing at the rail, but you can be sure you will see a giraffe looking over the roof of the house.

As sweet as that memory may be, Ken Ham of Answers in Genesis has come to see the childhood image of the ark as problematic for Christians.

*"What happens today is, we have whole generations who are growing up in the church and they sort of look on what they are taught from the Bible as a group of stories. Because when they go on to public schools, and a majority do go to public schools, even from the church, they are taught about dinosaurs, and they are taught about fossils, and they are taught about the Grand Canyon — and they sort of get the idea [that], 'Oh, what you're taught at school, that is real, but at church we learn about these Bible stories. And one of these Bible stories is about Noah's ark, and it's a cute little ark, a little bathtub ark, and so on.' We need to teach children that Noah's ark was a real boat, just as the Bible describes it."* – Ken Ham

John Whitcomb goes on to say, "The key problem that people have believing a global flood is the ark." If people don't accept the ark and Flood as true, then it must be okay to take artistic license with other parts of God's Word. This leads to doubts about the Bible being the Word of God.

THE ETERNAL WORD - In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
- *John 1:1*

SECTION  
ONE

THE BIBLICAL  
DIRECTIVE

THE WORD BECOMES FLESH ~ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. — *John 1:13-15*



## THE WORD

The Bible itself claims to be Word of God. It makes this claim over 3,000 times. Such a statement seems arrogant to some people, but it is either true or not true.

The Bible stands far above all other books, being the world's most popular book but also the most outlawed. It was written like no other book — more than 40 authors spanning more than a thousand years — yet it all fits together to point to the most influential person to ever live: Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Hundreds of prophecies were accurately fulfilled in His life, death, and resurrection.

Most people agree with the teachings of Jesus, but fewer accept His identity. Why is this? People are fond of some portions and discard others. “I believe he was a good teacher, but I don't believe he was actually God.” This is not Christianity.

Just think — we can only see at all because God first said, “Let there be light,” yet the same God who used words to construct the universe also used words to construct Scripture. The words of Genesis say that God directed Noah to build a vessel in order to survive a worldwide flood. Both Jesus and Peter confirm this account in the New Testament.



THE FLOOD DESTROYS ~ And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die.

— *Genesis 6:16–18*

# ACCEPTANCE

Just as some people cannot accept Jesus as the Creator and Savior of the world, others cannot accept that the Bible is actually inspired by God — completely.

God's Word, the Bible, has been attacked for thousands of years. The Romans tried to eradicate it, and religious leaders during the Dark Ages tried to hide it from the public. There are many today who are still trying to eliminate it or make it out to be full of errors (which is another way of eliminating it).

A specific area of attack is the account of Noah and the flood. It is undeniably a global flood, according to the Bible, and it best explains the fossils imprisoned in rock layers the world over. Yet skeptics clamor, "There could never have been a worldwide flood, and Noah could never fit all the animals on board."

The account of a universal Flood is not a weak point in the Bible. It is exactly the opposite. It is a focal point in our understanding of biology, geology, and the history of civilizations. In fact, if it were not for the Flood, we would know very little about dinosaurs. Man would have killed them off without a trace, leaving legends but not fossils.

It is only in the past 200 years that Christians have begun to be swayed by secular ideas and have retreated to the idea of a local flood, as if embarrassed that the Bible tells the story. Instead, the Bible gives the real history of the earth, and we should proclaim it more strongly than ever. Good science depends on it.

Next time you walk down the road, just think, you are probably walking on layers of sediment laid down by the Flood. Not only did it happen like the Bible says, but it is also extremely relevant to our lives today. God really did judge the earth, and there is another judgment coming.