

# Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

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## Scoffers and Mockers – Nothing New

By Dave & Mary Jo Nutting

**H**ave you ever tried to share the Truth about God's Word and the Gospel with someone, only to find them scoffing or mocking at you or the Bible? We often encounter scoffers and mockers when doing university ministry – sometimes in churches. But this is really nothing new. In fact, Peter writes to encourage believers to remember the words of the prophets and apostles and to stand firm: "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, 'Where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation'" (2 Peter 3:3-4). These scoffers are saying, "Where is this Jesus? You teach He is coming back, yet everything just continues on as it always does." I guess they think that gives them license to follow their own lusts and not concern themselves with accountability for their actions.

Peter answers this challenge: "For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished" (vs. 5-6). Notice, these scoffers are willingly ignorant of the truth of Creation and the Flood. Peter continues: "But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in

store, reserved unto fires against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men" (vs. 7). Peter is saying that coming judgment is just as sure as God's Creation and His judgment through the Flood in the past.

Now Peter answers their taunting question about why Jesus hasn't fulfilled His promise to come back yet: "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (vs. 8-9). He hasn't come back yet because of His patience and love – His longing for all to repent and be saved by placing their faith in Jesus Christ, the "Ark" of safety through the coming judgment.


Peter continues: "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (vs. 10). Coming judgment is certain. There came a day when God closed the door of the ark in Noah's time (Genesis 7:16).

Just as certainly, there will come a day when judgment comes in the future.

Peter then challenges believers: "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat" (vs.

11-12). We are to live holy, godly lives, looking for the coming of the Lord and "hasting" it by sharing the truth with others, praying for their repentance.

"Nevertheless, we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (vs. 13). Don't you long for that day – when righteousness will rule and we will be done with sin and wickedness in our own lives and in the world? What a day that will be!

And SO, with Peter, we would exhort you: "...seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless, And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation...beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen" (vs. 14-15, 17-18). Amen! 



## One Day is as a Thousand Years? by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting

**M**any people believe that the earth and universe are billions of years old. Usually they derive this belief from what they believe “science” has “proven.” Of course, this belief flies in the face of Genesis 1, which describes the chronology and events of the 6 days of creation. Then Gen. 2:1-3 tells us God rested [ceased] on the 7th day – His creative work completed.

Over the years, well-meaning believers have tried to reconcile what they thought was “science” with the straightforward Biblical account. Some insert a gap of indefinite time between the first two verses of Genesis to accommodate the supposed millions or

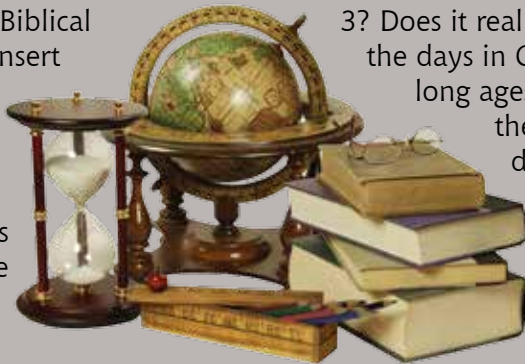
billions of years. Others believe that the “days” in the Genesis account could represent long periods of time allowing for evolution (or God’s intervening hand) over these vast ages. These people often cite 2 Peter 3:8 to support their view: *“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”*

Search our website for articles about scientific and theological issues relating to the age of the earth and universe. However, what about this verse in 2 Peter 3? Does it really give room for the days in Genesis to be long ages? We believe the answer is a distinct, NO!

The whole context of 2 Peter 3 is whether the Word

of God can be trusted – here specifically, the Word of Christ while he was still on earth. Peter gives believers an answer to the questions of the scoffers of their day. He refers them back to the reality of Creation and the Flood as evidence that God does intervene in history, and, just as certainly as God brought judgment through the Flood,

He will again judge the earth in the future. The only reason He hasn’t done it yet is because of His great patience and love, as we see in verse 9: *“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance”* (vs. 8-9). In context, 2 Peter 3:8 really affirms Creation and the Flood and does not support the idea of long ages or an allegorical reading of Genesis. **AOI**



## A Flood of Evidence: 40 Reasons Noah and the Ark Still Matter reviewed by Mary Jo Nutting

**W**e often get questions from skeptics scoffing at the idea of the Flood and the Ark described in Genesis. They ask questions like: “You don’t really believe in a global Flood and Noah’s floating zoo, do you? How could Noah get all those animals on that little tiny boat? If there really was a Flood, where did all the water come from? Where did it go? What’s the evidence of such a Flood?”

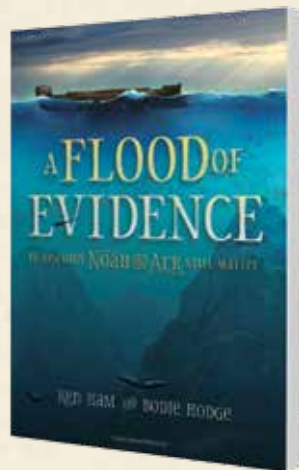
Believers have many of the same questions, as well as those of a more theological nature like: “Why was it necessary to kill all those innocent people in the Flood? And

why does it really matter whether the Flood and the Ark were real or just allegorical? They need solid answers to educate themselves, train their children, and provide answers to unbelieving friends but they may not know where to go for the resources.

Many books on the Flood or the Ark are either too basic or too technical – or you have to search a

library of books to have your questions answered. This new book by Ken Ham and Bodie Hodge draws together information from many sources to answer both scientific and biblical questions in

an easy-to-access format, style, and level which makes it a great read for both students and adults – one they will want to keep for reference. Get this book to educate yourself, your family, and friends. It would also make a great gift for the “skeptics” in your life. Paperback, 300 pages. Available from AOI for (Retail \$16.00 + S/H) **AOI**





# Tsunamis and the Flood

by Dave Nutting

Years ago our son, Tim, was part of a Youth with a Mission Discipleship Training School in Maui. Tim had barely arrived there when Mary Jo's brother called with news that there was a tsunami headed for Maui. We thought he was kidding until we got a call immediately afterwards from Tim saying they were being evacuated to high ground. Fortunately, that one didn't amount to much. However, since that time, others have led to great destruction.

Mary Jo and I recently watched a movie about a family who survived the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami which took the lives of a quarter million people. The photo taken in Thailand shows a huge wave crashing toward the people.

A 9.1-magnitude earthquake offshore in the Indian Ocean was caused by a major move of the earth's crust. This caused ocean bottoms to quickly rise in some areas and fall in others. The displacement of water caused by this geologic activity generated tsunami waves that barreled onto shores all around the ocean at speeds of about 500 miles per hour.

News media reported tsunami wave heights close to, and even exceeding 130 feet. When these waves crashed onto the coastline, huge surges of water headed inland and blasted apart thousands of homes and even large, multi-story buildings. Hundreds of thousands of people were drowned, crushed, or buried.

In 1960, the Great Chilean earthquake sent a tsunami across the Pacific Ocean devastating sections of Hilo, Hawaii, and killing 138 people in Japan 11,000 miles away! This was caused by a similar geologic mega-fault. Ironically, In almost "pay-back" fashion, a 2011 Japanese tsunami took only 20-22 hours to reach Chile with a 7-foot wave. Even though it caused a lot of damage, that was minor compared with the 100+ feet high waves that wreaked havoc in Japan.

These big tsunamis were not only devastating to lives and

property, but also showed the power of a lot of water. They moved islands and lowered and raised ocean levels permanently. The Japanese tsunami even resulted in a slight, but permanent shift in the earth's axis. If you think

there is less time in each day, you are actually right! The shift in the axis also changed the length of a day! (Well, by a few micro-seconds!)

Noting all the destruction and the immense power of these waves over

10,000 miles, can you imagine what the Flood in Noah's day would have been like? Genesis 7:20 says that the floodwaters covered all of the land surface and the highest mountains by at least 22 feet. Undoubtedly, huge earth movements took place during the Flood which would generate enormous tsunamis and other water currents with nothing to stop them since the whole world was under water. These monstrous waves and underwater currents would have crashed across subsurface structures planing them off and re-depositing the silt, sand, gravel, and boulder debris all over the world.

The only safe place on the planet would have been in a huge boat in the middle of a deep ocean where tsunamis don't have devastating effects. Since the Ark was 1.5 to 2 football fields in length, it would be the spot of safety! Sadly, only 8 people chose to go onboard. The rest perished in the Flood. Today, placing your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His redemptive work on the cross is the "Ark" of safety. Are you "onboard?" If not, we urge you to get onboard today, before it's too late. **AOI**



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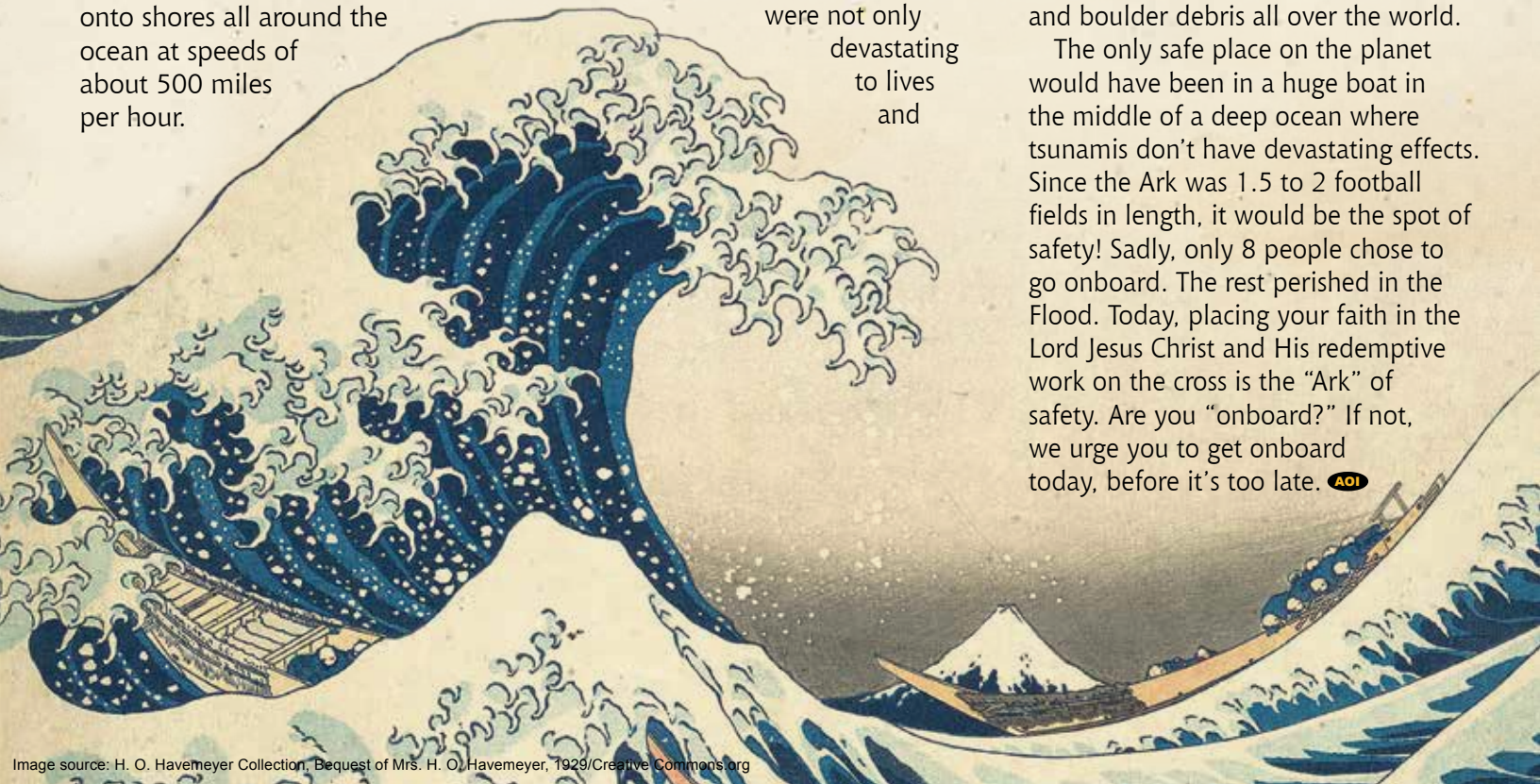


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# Director's Column by Dave Nutting



**T**hese are unsettling times we live in.


Increasing lawlessness, division, and confusion abound. Biblical standards are under attack and we are

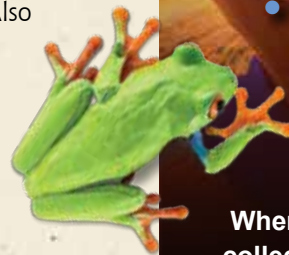
seeing the results of years of atheistic, ungodly indoctrination. It is troubling to see the lack of even basic Biblical literacy and the increasing disdain for God's Word, but it is not surprising, considering the sustained attack on the Bible and the prolonged barrage of anti-Biblical ideas.

We do not know how close to the end we really are, but as we see increasing ungodliness in our society, we at AOI are feeling a sense of urgency to reach as many people as possible with the Truth of the Word of God, beginning in Genesis. While we still believe strongly in the value of face-to-face interaction and on-going relationships, and plan to continue doing live seminars, camps, and tours,

we also want to make good use of the other tools available to us. Therefore, we are making a concerted effort to expand our outreach through better use of the internet, social media, and YouTube.

Here is one way you can help! Please go to our website and sign up for our regular blog posts. Then forward these to friends, family, and others you think would benefit by reading them. If you use FaceBook, Twitter, or YouTube, be sure to like/follow us and **share** our posts.

Please join us in prayer that God will lead people to our posts for edification, encouragement, and salvation. Also pray on behalf of our staff for good productivity as we assume these additional (and sometimes new) commitments. If you want to help further with this effort, please contact us and remember, if you can help financially, it's easy to donate online. Thank you! God Bless! 




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