Part XIX

Summary and Implications

We have come to the end of the book. A short summary is in order. I also want to come to the main point of this treatise and to show the we can trust all Bible. It has implications for our lives.

Chapter 86

Summary

We have come a long way. I applaud the reader who has read all of the manuscript, which is long because there is so much evidence for the Retreating Stage of the Flood that I wanted to share with the reader. There still are a lot of details to fill in, and I suppose the length of this ebook could be multiplied by five. But to stay away from details, this summary will just go over the big pictures.

Landforms Explained by the Genesis Flood

We first introduced the many mysteries of geomorphology within the uniformitarian paradigm. Some of these include mountains, plains, plateaus, water gaps, pediments, vertical-walled valleys, continental shelves and slopes, inselbergs, and submarine canyons. Uniformitarianism has dominated geomorphology; it is an axiom or dogma of geology. Yet it has been unable to explain these landforms, despite almost 200 years of study by numerous well-funded researchers. This does not mean uniformitarian scientists have no hypotheses, but their hypotheses on the origin of landforms cannot survive criticism within their own paradigm! It is past time to jettison uniformitarianism in favor of the one setting that can explain all of these features—the Genesis Flood.

The Flood Truly Happened

The first step towards this reality is to dispel the numerous misconceptions about the Genesis Flood. It seems like critics of the Flood are loaded with misconceptions, which range from thinking the Flood was local to denying the historical reality of Genesis altogether. Such problems also occur among some theologians and professors at Christian Colleges, seminaries, and Bible colleges. Critics carp that the Ark would sink during the Flood, rather than investigate its actual stability. If they did check it out, they would quickly see that it would have been very stable in rough seas, having a length to width ratio similar to modern ships and barges.

Another objection is "You couldn't fit all the animals on the ark". Once again, the skeptic simply needs to do his homework. John Woodmorappe has shown that there was more than enough room for the roughly 16,000 animals (at the most) aboard.[1] The global nature of the Flood is taught throughout Scripture (e.g., 2 Peter 3), which is supported by abundant geological and archeological evidence. There are hundreds of Flood legends from all over the earth that point to a global Flood.

Some assume geologists disproved the Genesis flood long ago, such as the time of the Enlightenment in the 1700s and 1800s. However, the real story is that the Flood was rejected *before* the evidence was examined, not after, because scholars desired to think in terms of slow processes over millions of years (uniformitarianism). They also wanted to figure out everything by man's "pure" reasoning—without God and His Bible. This was partly based on social factors, but mainly was a result of rebellion against the Bible. Just like geomorphology, a careful study of geology reveals many phenomena are better explained by the Flood than by uniformitarianism. This includes the widespread extent of formations, evidence of rapid deposition with no erosion

[1] Woodmorappe, J., 1996. *Noah's Ark: A Feasibility Study*, Institute for Creation Research, Dallas, TX.

between and within sedimentary layers, and the preservation of billions of fossils when fossilization is a difficult and rare event today.

Many believe that radiometric dating and other processes that demand deep time contradict the short timescale of Scripture, derived from the genealogies of Genesis 5, 10, and 11. In reality, the Flood solves many of those time challenges. In regard to radiometric dating, the RATE project has shown that radiometric dating cannot independently validate any proposed date. The reason scientists posit millions and billions of years is their assumption that the earth is sufficiently old for evolution to have occurred. "Old" radiometric dates can also be explained by evidence for accelerated radiometric decay at creation and possibly during the Flood. The evidence for accelerated radiometric decay is overwhelming, and the reader needs to avail themselves of published literature on the topic.[2,3,4.5]

In order to explain the mysteries of geomorphology by the Flood, we need to begin with a model of the Flood. There are several in development that emphasize Flood mechanisms. In this book I have advocated that of Tas Walker from CMI Australia,[6] which is similar to the model proposed by John Whitcomb and Henry Morris[7] as well as Carl Froede.[8] Walker's model divides the Flood into two stages and five phases. The first stage is the Flooding Stage during which the waters rise and prevail for 150 days. The second stage is the Retreating Stage in which the waters drain off the future continents from Day 150 to Day 371 (see Figure 3.2).

It is the Retreating Stage that is relevant to geomorphology, since this is the last major event of the Flood. Erosion for the approximately 4,500 years since the Flood has been insufficient to have erased the landforms produced by the Retreating Stage, so we should see evidence of this last stage in the earth's landforms. There are two phases of the Retreating Stage that would have each generated specific landforms. The Sheet Flow Phase was first. The subsequent Channelized Flow Phase resulted when the large-scale, sheetflow diminished into discrete channels as more and more mountains and plateaus become exposed.

Late Flood Differential Vertical Tectonics and Its Geomorphological Effects

Psalm 104:6-9 indicates that some parts of the earth's crust rose while other parts sank, providing a mechanism to drain the Floodwater off the continents. On the largest scale, this movement created the present-day ocean basins and continents. On a smaller scale, differential vertical tectonics uplifted mountains and created valleys filled with sediment. Measurements in Wyoming indicate differential vertical tectonics resulted in a total vertical shift of 45,000 feet

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[2] Woodmorappe, J., 1999. *The Mythology of Modern Dating Methods*, Institute for Creation Research, Dallas, TX.
[3] Vardiman, L., A.A. Snelling, and E.F. Chaffin (editors), 2000. *Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth: A Young-Earth Creationist Research Initiative*, Institute for Creation Research and Creation Research Society, Dallas, TX, and Chino Valley, AZ.
[4] Vardiman, L., A.A. Snelling, and E.F. Chaffin (editors), 2005. *Radioisotopes and the Age of the Earth: Results of A Young-Earth Creationist Research Initiative*, Institute for Creation Research and Creation Research Society, Dallas, TX, and Chino Valley, AZ.
[5] DeYoung, D., 2005. *Thousands…Not Billions: Challenging an Icon of Evolution Questioning the Age of the Earth*, Master Books, Green Forest, AR.
[6] Walker, T., 1994. A Biblical geological model. In, Walsh, R.E. (editor), *Proceedings of the Third International Conference on Creationism*, technical symposium sessions, Creation Science Fellowship, Pittsburgh, PA, pp. 581–592.
[7] Whitcomb, Jr., J.C. and Morris, H.M., 1961. *The Genesis Flood*, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI.
[8] Froede, Jr., C.R., 1995. A proposal for a creationist geological timescale. *Creation Research Society Quarterly* 32:90–94.

(13,415 m)! And critics commonly challenge us to explain how the Floodwater can cover Mount Everest?

Continental uplift and ocean basin subsidence left significant evidence. One indicator is the great depth of sedimentary rocks along the continental margins. Another is the presence of guyots far from land. The best explanation of the masses of sediment along the continental margins, the top of which dip only slightly seaward, is that the basement rock of the continental margins must have rapidly subsided great distances prior to and during significant continental-scale erosion. Although some guyots can form well underwater, the flat tops of tall guyots were originally planed close to sea level. Guyots are found at an average of 5,000 feet (1,525 m) below the sea surface. Even if the tops were sheared slightly below sea level by powerful Flood currents, subsidence of more than 4,000 feet (1,220 m) must have occurred. As of yet, the cause of the differential vertical tectonics is unknown, although creationists have ideas. We need to know much more about the lower crust and mantle. The differential vertical tectonics late in the Flood is the backdrop for explaining geomorphology by Flood runoff. It is just filling in the pieces of a puzzle to explain geomorphology—one of the great mysteries of earth science.

Runoff produced catastrophic erosion of the continents. Based on geological clues from erosional remnants, thousands of feet of strata likely have been eroded from most continental areas. The most significant erosional features are the Great Escarpments near the coasts of southern Africa, eastern Australia, western Peninsular India, and eastern Brazil. Devils Tower, Monument Valley, and Ship Rock are impressive erosional remnants in the western United States. Natural bridges and arches are small-scale, delicate erosional remnants that are better explained by rapid Flood erosion than by slow processes over millions of years.

Another evidence of large-scale currents is the presence of resistant rocks such as quartzite boulders in the northwest states and adjacent Canada that were spread long distances—much further than possible by the rivers and streams of today. These quartzite boulders have been transported over 800 miles (1,280 km) from their source. They are well rounded, and show percussion marks and iron staining—all indicators of water transport and deposition. Paleohydrological equations indicate minimum current velocities of 68 mph (110 kph) and a minimum water depth of 180 feet (55 m)—much faster and deeper than the largest modern flash floods. Evidence suggests that these currents were hundreds of miles wide—just as predicted by the Retreating Stage of the Flood.

Similar studies have shown the same process took place in southwestern United States around the Mogollon Rim. Large, depositing well-rounded quartzite boulders and other lithologies as the Rim Gravels, which provide much information about large-scale erosion and transport as well as a dramatic, abrupt drainage reversal.

The Ogallala Gravels on the High Plains east of the southern and central Rocky Mountains and the gravels emanating in many directions from the Appalachian Mountains tell us that these processes were operating on a continental scale. When we examine other parts of the world, we see that similar gravel deposits are ubiquitous, and we must jump from a continental scale to a global one! Only one event could have operated at this scale—the Genesis Flood.

Vast amounts of rock eroded from the continents were deposited along the edges of the continents, where the water current would suddenly diminish as the depth changed. The continental margins, including the shelf, slope, and rise, were rapidly formed. Continental margins around the world testify to great subsidence and deposition of large sedimentary prisms late in the Flood.

Seismic reflection profiles show that the sedimentary rocks of the continental margin have a sheet geometry with a slight offshore tilt. More detailed structures indicate deposition from offshore currents. Large normal faults and deep basins are also evident—all consistent with rapid deposition coincident with the uplift of the continents and sinking of the ocean basins—just as expected during the Retreating Stage of the Flood.

Planation Surfaces and Inselbergs Caused by Flood Runoff

Planation surfaces are common across the world. They were formed by water, eroding the continents, that left behind a veneer of mostly rounded rocks. These surfaces occasionally cover large areas, but were once even larger, having been subsequently modified. Planation surfaces are easy to recognize, especially those that truncate tilted hard and soft sedimentary rocks the same. They commonly occur at multiple levels, including mountaintops, plains, plateaus, hillslopes, valley bottoms, and as pediments.

The existence of planation surfaces is a major mystery of geomorphology, because these surfaces do *not* form today, except possibly (and at much smaller scales) along the edges of flooding rivers. Instead, modern processes *dissect and destroy* planation surfaces. Moreover, uniformitarian scientists are now dating some planation surfaces to over 100 Ma. However, observed erosion rates are so high that planation surfaces should not be preserved for anywhere near that long; another evidence against uniformitarian radiometric and fossil dating schemes.

A case study of the characteristics of planation surfaces was presented in Chapter 36 and 37. Four planation surfaces were carved by water on the High Plains of Montana, southern Alberta, and southern Saskatchewan. I emphasized the top two surfaces: the Cypress Hills and Flaxville plateaus. Both once covered a much greater area, but have been dissected, leaving erosional remnants. Both are carpeted by a relatively thick veneer of quartzite cobbles and boulders transported many hundreds of miles from the west and southwest.

One would think that uniformitarian scientists would have a ready explanation for planation surfaces, since they are so common. Although they have many hypotheses, all of these hypotheses have serious problems. Davis' "cycle of erosion" was a popular explanation decades ago, but today is not—little evidence can be gathered in its support. Other hypothesis have likewise been proposed and then debunked. It seems that the weathering hypothesis is the only one left, mainly by default, but it too has numerous problems. There really is no viable uniformitarian hypothesis that can explain planation surfaces.

Tall erosional remnants, inselbergs and tower karst, were left behind on many planation surfaces. Some inselbergs are over 2,000 feet (600 m) tall. How can such monuments remain while all the rock around was eroded? It is especially perplexing that inselbergs are claimed to be tens of millions of years old, resulting in another uniformitarian mystery of geomorphology. Moreover, some inselbergs also possess unique flared slopes and tafoni, whose origin is also unknown, but probably occurred in the post-Flood period. Like planation surfaces, uniformitarian scientists have developed several hypotheses to explain inselbergs, but none are up to the task. At present, two remain: King's parallel-retreat-of-slopes hypothesis and the weathering hypothesis. King's parallel-retreat-of-slopes hypothesis has a number of serious problems, the most fatal is that inselbergs are not found on ridges where expected, but are also located in valleys and side slopes. Likewise, the weathering hypothesis cannot account for the height of inselbergs.

The Flood can readily explain both planation surfaces and inselbergs. As the Floodwater rushed off the uplifting continents, water carrying debris would have planed large areas. Velocity

fluctuations, shifting currents, or episodic uplift would have resulted in multiple planing and erosion events, explaining the four planation surfaces with the quartzite gravel caps east of the Rocky Mountains and adjacent Canada. Wherever currents slowed due to uplifting mountains, planing could not occur, but a rolling erosion surface would form. Erosional remnants were left behind, either because the remnants were a little harder, possessed fewer cracks, or due to local variations in current velocity.

Channelized Flow Features Follow Sheet Erosion

As the Sheet Flow Phase of the Flood gradually changed to the Channelized Flow Phase, erosional and depositional patterns changed. Instead of planing the rising landmass, leaving behind inselbergs, discrete water currents would have rapidly eroded channels. Valleys and canyons of all sizes formed. One prediction of the Flood model is that valleys preceded rivers—contrary to what uniformitarians have believed since the 1800s.

Vertical-walled canyons and the youthful appearance of V-shaped valleys provides evidence for the channelized Flood funoff. Entrenched meanders offer further support for the rapid downcutting of valleys, since slow erosion over millions of years should produce slip-off slopes (gentle slopes produced on the inside curve of a stream or valley). Entrenched meanders can originate underwater as shown by their presence in submarine canyons and fans. Most valleys contain underfit streams; flow through the valleys (once channels themselves) was 20 to 50 (or more) times greater than today's flow in the recent past. The best explanation for the ubiquity of underfit valleys is the channelized flow at the end of the Flood. Poljes (elongated, flat bottomed valleys in karst terrain) are another unexplained geomorphological feature that can be explained by channelized erosion (with deposition in some cases) in carbonate terrains.

The rush of Floodwater currents down valleys toward the oceans caused the rapid formation of pediments. Valley-wide flow, the velocity varying in time and space, can also explain pediments at multiple levels, beheaded pediments, and pediments on only one side of the valley. Most pediments are capped by a veneer of rounded gravel—including exotic rocks that do not outcrop in the area, demonstrating the pediments were formed by water flowing parallel to the valleys. Uniformitarian explanations are inadequate, though Crickmay's "superflood" hypothesis comes close. Pediments are globally distributed, providing strong evidence for a *global* Flood.

Another feature better explained by the Channelized Flow Phase is submarine canyons. These canyons that start on the continental shelf, perpendicular to the shoreline, are sometimes deeper than Grand Canyon. There are hundreds of submarine canyons, most of which line up with valleys on land. The canyons formed after practically all the continental margin sediments were deposited during sheet deposition. Uniformitarian hypotheses have difficulty explaining these canyons. A better explanation is provided by channelized flow at the end of the Flood, which eroded these canyons by: (1) depositing sediment in a focused area at the edge of the continental shelf, and (2) which then flowed downslope at high speed, becoming an erosive "concentrated density flow," which gouged out a deep canyon.

Thousands of water and wind gaps occur across the earth. In North America, they are common in both the Rockies and Appalachians. Good examples include the Snake River through Hells Canyon, the Shoshone River gap through the Rattlesnake Mountains, the Gates of Ladore through the Uinta Mountains, the Yakima River through several basalt lava ridges, Unaweep Canyon through the Uncompahgre Mountains, and the Susquehanna River gaps through multiple ridges near Harrisburg.

The Himalayas boast the deepest water gaps, much deeper than Grand Canyon. There are 11 rivers that rise on the southern Tibetan Plateau and cut south through the Himalayas. The Arun River now flows through a gap that is miles deep! The 300 major water gaps through the Zagros Mountains in Iran are all anomalous and nearly impossible to explain within the uniformitarian paradigm. Moreover, these gaps are "young," formed in the Pliocene of the uniformitarian timescale. Europe, Australia, and Africa have numerous water gaps, while South America has few. Wind gaps are also common geomorphological features.

One would think that the uniformitarian geologists would have long ago explained such common features. These hypotheses include: (1) the antecedent stream hypothesis; (2) the superimposition hypothesis, and (3) the stream piracy hypothesis. All these ideas have many problems. Essentially, there is no viable uniformitarian hypothesis.

Once again, the Retreating Stage of the Flood offers a good explanation. Water and wind gaps could have formed rapidly by channelized currents flowing *perpendicular* to barriers during the Channelized Flow Phase. This process was illustrated by the formation of both a water and wind gap by the Lake Missoula flood that overtopped a ridge north of the Snake River.