

## Chapter 33

### The “Mountains of Ararat” Put the Boundary in the Late Cenozoic

The Bible is clear that the Ark landed on the “mountains of Ararat” on the 150<sup>th</sup> day of the Flood. The resting place of the Ark has been traditionally considered to be Mount Ararat in northeast Turkey, which is composed of two peaks, Greater and Lesser Ararat. So with two peaks the idea of more than one mountain makes sense. However, there are some creation scientists who believe the location where the Ark landed is some other mountain range in the Middle East.<sup>1,2</sup> Regardless, the inhabitants of the Ark remained on these mountains until the end of the Flood, which means that the mountains should still exist. So, if we can geologically date the formation of the Mountains of Ararat, then the 150<sup>th</sup> day of the Flood is geologically dated and the Flood/post-Flood boundary has to be younger than the Mountains of Ararat.<sup>3</sup> Regardless of the exact location of the Mountains of Ararat, ancient tradition associates Ararat with Armenia or the ancient kingdom of Urartu, which is in eastern Turkey and the area eastward (Figure 33.1). Mount Ararat is included in this region as well as other mountain ranges close by.

The late Roy Holt has summarized the geology of eastern Turkey and vicinity, assuming the geological column. Although the geology is complex, in general it is dominated by marine sedimentary rocks of various ages and volcanic rocks, both of which are also dated as Cenozoic. Nearly all of the mountain ranges in the region formed during the Cenozoic. More specifically, the Zagros Mountains of western Iran and the Caucasus Mountains north of Mount Ararat, experienced volcanism and uplifted during the middle and late Cenozoic. Holt summarizes:

Even so, the Caucasus Mountains, like other mountains in the area, appear to have reached their highest elevation in the Pliocene [late Cenozoic]. ... The geological age of the mountains in and around Urartu indicate that the 150<sup>th</sup> day of the Flood should be placed somewhere between the Palaeocene and Early Pleistocene, depending on the identification of the true Mountains of Ararat. Since the year of the Flood lasted another seven months with significant geological activity (at least massive erosion due to receding Flood waters), the Flood/post-Flood boundary must be well after the Palaeocene [very early Cenozoic].<sup>4</sup>

It seems evident that the Flood/post-Flood boundary is in the very late Cenozoic in and around the Mountains of Ararat where the Ark landed.

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<sup>1</sup> Crouse, B., 2001. The Landing place. *Journal of Creation* 15(3):10–18

<sup>2</sup> Humphreys, D.R., 2011. Where is Noah’s Ark?—a close look at the biblical clues. *Journal of Creation* 25(3):6–

<sup>3</sup> Holt, R.D., 1996. Evidence for a Late Cainozoic Flood/post-Flood boundary. *Journal of Creation* 10(1):145–149.

<sup>4</sup> Holt, Ref., p. 148.

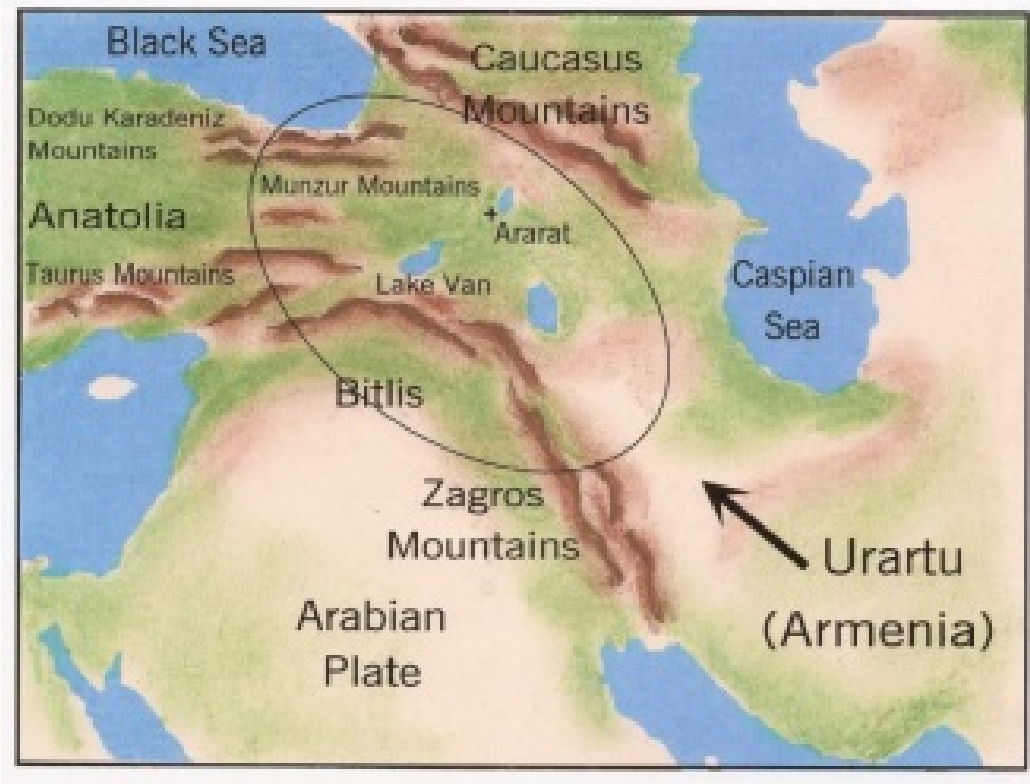


Figure 33.1. The land of Urartu of ancient Armenia (from Holt, 1996, *Journal of Creation*, p. 145).