Part IX

The Boundary Is Clearly in the Late Cenozoic

Chapter 34 of this part summarizes all the evidences presented in this book with the overall conclusion that the Flood/post-Flood boundary is clearly in the late Cenozoic. There are a number of difficult or borderline cases that I discuss in chapter 35, some of which I have recently been able to place.

Chapter 34

Summary of Thirty-Two Evidences

Thirty-two evidences for the location of the Flood/post-Flood boundary being in the late Cenozoic have been presented. More could have been mentioned. These criteria are from a broad range of fields: from sedimentology, paleontology, tectonics, geomorphology, climatology, radioactive decay, and the special geology of the Mountains of Ararat. These evidences are presented in Table 34.1. I recognize that some of the evidences could be considered weak or may be able to be explained by post-Flood catastrophism. I have, therefore, categorized the evidence on whether I think that those who believe in post-Flood catastrophism can explain them.. For example, the tectonic evidences of metamorphic core complexes or meteorite impacts during the Cenozoic could be claimed to be the very catastrophes needed for post-Flood catastrophism. So, I consider the evidence from metamorphic core complexes as weak. Half the arguments seam strong and almost another half are considered moderate strength.

The chart shows the preponderance of evidence supports the Flood/post-Flood boundary being in the Late Cenozoic, defined as the Miocene, Pliocene, and Quaternary, most of the Quaternary being the Pleistocene. I have concluded from the evidence the boundary is often in the early to mid Pleistocene, the very late Cenozoic, but I can see a case in some locations for it being in the Miocene or Pliocene (see Chapter 35). Every location must be analyzed on its own merits and these evidences in Table 34.1 can be used to assist a decision. The geologic column is at best a guide; there is no easy way out.

The Pleistocene or Quaternary is normally considered the time of the uniformitarian ice ages, but there are numerous sites around the world where the early- to mid-Pleistocene has nothing to do with any Ice Age feature or any other obvious post-Flood process. So, even the early- to mid-Pleistocene can be from the Flood. I do not think the uniformitarian dates are accurate enough to be of any use in dating the events of the late Flood and post-Flood period. This is why I place the boundary in the broad range of the “late Cenozoic.”

In writing this e-book I have focused my attention on the K/T Boundary Model, which several creation geologists hold to. They are convinced the Cenozoic, or at least most of the Cenozoic, is a result of post-Flood catastrophism. I believe I have given a convincing argument that very little of the Cenozoic can be from post-Flood catastrophism. And if this is true for the K/T Boundary Model, the evidence is orders of magnitude more challenging for those who advocate placing the boundary in either the late Paleozoic or somewhere in the Precambrian (see Chapter 40).

With the Flood/post-Flood boundary in the late Cenozoic, we do not need gigantic post-Flood catastrophes; the Cenozoic catastrophes took place during the Flood. The only post-Flood “catastrophe” was the Ice Age, and the warm winters of the Ice Age would help animals spread across the Earth, even to South America. Animals and people that left the Ark would not have to dodge huge meteorite impacts, volcanic eruption, tens of thousands of feet of vertical tectonics, massive sedimentation, massive erosion, and other monstrous catastrophes as implied by the Cenozoic. They can spread and multiply on the earth just as God commanded:

> Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and be

fruitful and multiply on the earth. … And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth." (Genesis 8:17; 9:1, ESV).

Evidences	Strength
1. Huge volume of Cenozoic sedimentary rocks	strong
2. Deposition of widespread or thick Cenozoic precipitates	strong
3. Tremendous Cenozoic continental margin rocks	strong
4. Thick, pure Cenozoic coal seams	strong
5. Cenozoic amber	strong
6. Lack of mammals buried in the Flood but millions afterwards	strong
7. Huge Cenozoic vertical tectonics	strong
8. Huge Cenozoic erosion of the continents	strong
9. Widespread Cenozoic planation surfaces	strong
10. Long-distance, transported of hard rocks during the Cenozoic	strong
11. Cenozoic deep valleys	strong
12. Cenozoic water and wind gaps	strong
13. Cenozoic mid and high latitude warm-climate fossils	strong
14. Cenozoic volcanic winter	strong
15. Cenozoic accelerated radiometric decay	strong
16. Cenozoic Middle East geology	strong
17. Oil and natural gas formed during the Cenozoic	strong
18. Thin, widespread Cenozoic sedimentary layers	moderate
19. Consolidated Cenozoic sedimentary rocks	moderate
20. Formation of Cenozoic carbonates	moderate
21. Cenozoic mineralized fossils	moderate
22. Large, pure microorganism layers during the Cenozoic	moderate
23. Cenozoic fossil order and massive, numerous extinctions	moderate
24. Tremendous horizontal plate movement Cenozoic	moderate
25. Cenozoic ophiolites	moderate
26. Cenozoic ultrahigh-pressure minerals	moderate
27. Erosional escarpments formed during the Cenozoic	moderate
28. Cenozoic pediments	moderate
29. Cenozoic submarine canyons	moderate
30. Cenozoic phosphorites and high phosphate sedimentary rocks	weak
31. Cenozoic metamorphic core complexes	weak
32. Cenozoic meteorite or comet impacts	weak

Table 34.1. Summary of evidences for a late Cenozoic Flood/post-Flood boundary and rated as either strong, moderate, or weak, based on whether I think that those who believe in post-Flood catastrophism can explain them.