MADE IN SIX
Exodus 20:11

TEENS

"For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them …"
Exodus 20:11 (NKJV)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026 · VOL. 1 · NO. 2

AGES 12–18 · KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE — AND WHY

FEATURE · VALOR & VIRTUE · APOLOGETICS PRESS'S RESOURCE FOR TEENS

WAS THE ARK BIG ENOUGH FOR ITS PASSENGERS? PART 1 OF 2

BY JEFF MILLER

Genesis chapters 6-9 tell us about a time in history 4,000-5,000 years ago when the people of the world had become so disobedient to God that He decided to destroy them with a Flood. Only righteous Noah and his family were saved, since they obeyed God and built a massive wooden boat so they could survive the rising waters. Some people today refuse to believe that such an event ever happened, because they believe there are parts of the story that cannot be true. For example, it is believed that there are some 11 million living species on the planet. Some argue that if Noah was told to bring two of each species on the Ark, as well as even more of the clean animals (Genesis 7:2-3), how could the Ark be big enough to hold so many creatures—millions upon millions?

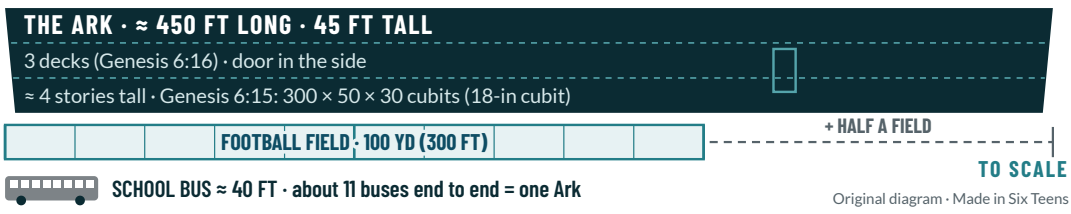
First, it is important to understand that not every "species" of animal was on the Ark. Today's idea of a "species" did not exist when Moses wrote the book of Genesis. Instead, he used the word "kinds" when telling Noah what to bring on the Ark (Genesis 6:20)—the same word that was used to describe what God made during the Creation week (1:11,21,24). The word "kind" would be closer to our word "family" or "genus" when classifying animal groups. So Noah would have probably had representatives of the single dog**kind**, for example—not representatives of each dog **species** (the coyotes, wolves, domestic dogs, jackals, etc.).

Also, we must keep in mind that not even **all** of the kinds of life we find on Earth were on the Ark. For example, only those plants that were needed to feed the passengers on the Ark were brought—not representatives of all of the plant kinds. The swimming creatures were not onboard, of course, nor many insects, invertebrates, fungi, bacteria, or protozoa—all of which are included in the 11 million species that are said to be alive on the Earth.

When it's all said and done, there were probably only a few thousand animals on the Ark, not millions nor even hundreds of thousands. The Ark was a football field and a half long, **at least**, and at least 75 feet wide and 45 feet tall—an enormous ship. John Woodmorappe did a study to determine whether the Ark would have been large enough to house 16,000 animals—representatives of each "kind" of creatures that would have probably been on the Ark. He took into account the space needed for food, water, waste disposal, heating, air, and lighting. He found that the size of the Ark was more than what was needed to house that many animals on such a large vessel. And what's more, if the "cubit" (which was the unit of length that Moses used to describe the size of the Ark) was longer than 18 inches (what is often assumed to be the length of a cubit), the Ark quickly becomes even larger and more spacious.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK →

Edward Hicks, *Noah's Ark* (1846): an artist's idea, not to scale · Philadelphia Museum of Art, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons



Original diagram · Made in Six Teens

"Was the Ark Big Enough for Its Passengers?" (Part 1 of 2) by Jeff Miller, *Valor & Virtue* – Issue 8. Reprinted unaltered from **Apologetics Press, apologeticspress.org** — https://apologeticspress.org/was-the-ark-big-enough-for-its-passengers-5310/

INSIDE P2 · BIBLE LANDS: THE DISCOVERY (QUMRAN, 1947) AND THE CAVES · P3 · ESCAPE ROOM: THE CAVE AT QUMRAN · P4 · THIS WEEK

EVIDENCE FILE · HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE

THE DA VINCI CODE AND THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS

EXCERPT

In 1947, a number of ancient documents were found (by accident) in a cave on the northwest side of the Dead Sea. This collection of documents, which has become known as the Dead Sea Scrolls, was comprised of old leather and papyrus scrolls and fragments that had been rolled up in earthen jars for centuries. From 1949 to 1956, hundreds of Hebrew and Aramaic manuscripts and a few Greek fragments were found in surrounding caves, and are believed by scholars to have been written between 200 B.C. and the first half of the first century A.D. Some of the manuscripts were of Jewish apocryphal and pseudepigraphal writings (e.g., 1 Enoch, Tobit, and Jubilees); others are often grouped together as "ascetic" writings (miscellaneous books of rules, poetry, commentary, etc.). The most notable group of documents found in the caves of Qumran near the Dead Sea is the collection of Old Testament books. Every book from the Hebrew Bible was accounted for among the scrolls except the book of Esther, as well as the Nehemiah section of Ezra-Nehemiah (which is a single book in the Hebrew Old Testament).

CAVE 4, QUMRAN (1950S)

SCROLL JAR

- **200 B.C. – 1st c. A.D.** the scrolls are written
- **1947** first cave found (by accident)
- **1949–1956** hundreds more manuscripts in surrounding caves

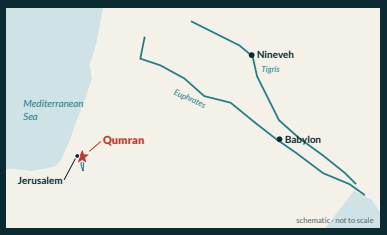
Dates from the excerpt above

Photos: Cave 4 — Matson Collection, Library of Congress, public domain; jar and lid (2nd c. B.C.) — The Metropolitan Museum of Art, CC0. Below: a section of the Great Isaiah Scroll (1QIsa[a]) — photo: Ardon Bar Hama, public domain. All via Wikimedia Commons.

"The Da Vinci Code and the Dead Sea Scrolls" by Eric Lyons, *Reason & Revelation*, Volume 26 #8 (August 2006). Excerpt (complete paragraphs, words unaltered). Reprinted unaltered from **Apologetics Press, apologeticspress.org** — https://apologeticspress.org/the-da-vinci-code-and-the-dead-sea-scrolls-798/ (AP's photos not reproduced).

ARTIFACT OF THE WEEK

THE DISCOVERY (QUMRAN, 1947) AND THE CAVES



Where: "the northwestern rim of the Dead Sea, around the site of Qumran"

Found by: "a shepherd of the Ta'amireh tribe"

In the jars: "old scrolls, some wrapped in linen"

First find: "a total of seven scrolls"

Among them: "a complete manuscript of the book of Isaiah"

Quoted from the Leon Levy Dead Sea Scrolls Digital Library, "Discovery and Publication" (deadseascrolls.org.il), checked Oct 25, 2026.

Discovery and publication — Leon Levy DSS Digital Library

Fly there in Google Earth
Qumran · 31.7408° N, 35.4586° E

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS · ISAIAH 40:8 (NKJV)

"The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever."

TOUGH TEXT · IS THE BIBLE DESCRIBING A DINOSAUR?

Job 40: What was behemoth?

Scan to learn more

1. **THE CHALLENGE** "Some Bibles say behemoth was just an elephant or a hippo. Dinosaurs died out millions of years before people, so the Bible can't be talking about one."
2. **LOOK CLOSER** Job 40:15–24; Genesis 1:24–31. God tells Job to "look now at" behemoth, an animal Job could see. It "eats grass like an ox," yet "moves his tail like a cedar."
3. **THE ANSWER** A cedar is a tall, thick tree, not a hippo's or elephant's little tail. A long-tailed, plant-eating giant like a sauropod fits well. God made land animals and man on the same sixth day (Genesis 1:24–31), so people seeing dinosaurs is what we should expect.

Learn more: "Is It Reasonable to Suggest God Was Describing a Dinosaur in Job 40?" by Eric Lyons & Jeff Miller · Apologetics Press, apologeticspress.org

TALK IT OVER · WITH YOUR FAMILY OR YOUTH CLASS

1. Noah's ark was huge. How does doing the math on the ark answer someone who calls the Flood "just a fairy tale"?
2. How do the Dead Sea Scrolls show that God's Word was not lost or changed (Isaiah 40:8)?
3. Jesus said, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed" (John 8:31). What does abiding look like this week?

BREAK THE CODE

THE CAVE AT QUMRAN

A rockslide has sealed you inside a cave above the Dead Sea, right where the scrolls were found. Five locks stand between you and daylight — and every code is hidden in your Bible or in the articles in this bulletin. Work alone or as a team. You'll need an NKJV Bible, pages 1–2 of this bulletin, and a pencil.

Photo: Eric Matson, public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

ESCAPE ROOM
20–30 MIN
5 LOCKS

LOCK 1 · BIBLE LOOKUP
The Clay Jars

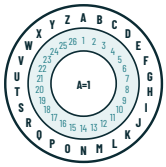
Look up each verse in the NKJV and count to the word number (every word counts; a hyphenated word is one word). Write that word's FIRST letter in the box.

John 8:21	word #5	_____	☐
John 9:2	word #7	_____	☐
John 10:6	word #9	_____	☐
John 11:55	word #2	_____	☐
John 12:26	word #6	_____	☐

LOCK 1 WORD: ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

LOCK 3 · CAESAR WHEEL
The Scroll Cipher

A scribe scrambled three scroll labels with a Caesar wheel: every letter was moved FORWARD in the alphabet by the key number. Move each letter BACK by the key (A comes after Z).



The key: in "Was the Ark Big Enough for Its Passengers?" (page 1), how many of each species do some people say Noah was told to bring? Key = ☐

K U C K C J → ☐☐☐☐☐☐

O C V V J G Y → ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

T W V J → ☐☐☐☐

LOCK 2 · ARTICLE CODE (A=1 … Z=26)
The Feature-Article Code

Fill each blank from "Was the Ark Big Enough for Its Passengers?" Part 1 (page 1). Take the letter shown, then turn it into a number (A=1, B=2 … Z=26). Write the letter in the first box and its number in the second.

"…he used the word "_____" when telling Noah…"	letter #2	☐☐
"…the coyotes, wolves, domestic dogs, _____, etc.…"	letter #1	☐☐
"…The word "_____" would be closer to our word "family"…"	letter #1	☐☐
"…only those _____ that were needed to feed the passengers…"	letter #2	☐☐
"…The _____ creatures were not onboard…"	letter #4	☐☐

LOCK 4 · BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
The Canon Lock

Number the books of the Bible in order (Genesis = 1 … Revelation = 66). Write the number of each book you decoded at Lock 3. The three numbers are a BOOK · CHAPTER · VERSE. Turn there.

BOOK ☐☐ CHAPTER ☐☐ VERSE ☐☐

LOCK 5 · FINAL PASSPHRASE
The Exit Door

Put your five Lock 2 numbers in order, smallest to largest. In the verse you found at Lock 4, those are word numbers. Write those words. The passphrase is your Lock 1 word, then these five words.

_____ — _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER "Locked in the Archive" (Oct 25): **FACTS — WRITTEN THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE** Lock 1 spelled FACTS. Key 9 decoded JOHN · PROVERBS · OBADIAH = 43 · 20 · 31 = John 20:31, and Lock 2's numbers (4, 5, 6, 7, 8) picked "written that you may believe."

LOOK FOR THE ANSWER IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN.

WEEKLY BIBLE READING

JOHN 8 – 14

One chapter a day. Check it off.

- ☐ SUN 11/1 — John 8
- ☐ MON 11/2 — John 9
- ☐ TUE 11/3 — John 10
- ☐ WED 11/4 — John 11
- ☐ THU 11/5 — John 12
- ☐ FRI 11/6 — John 13
- ☐ SAT 11/7 — John 14

KEY VERSE · JOHN 8:31–32 (NKJV)

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

FREE BOOK OF THE WEEK

DEFENDERS SERIES, BOOK 2: DEFENDING THE BIBLE

BY KYLE BUTT & ERIC LYONS

"This second book in AP's Defenders Series is for young people who want to learn about the evidence for the inspiration of the Bible."

Description quoted from Apologetics Press (store.apologeticspress.org/products/defending-the-bible)

Scan to download the free PDF

Free PDF from Apologetics Press · 193 pages · the "Watch This" videos go with this book

https://apologeticspress.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Defenders-2-web.pdf

Book page: https://apologeticspress.org/issue/defenders-series-defending-the-bible/

WATCH THIS

Book 2 of the Defenders series starts this week: two short videos on why we can trust the Bible.

DEFENDERS · BOOK 2 · VIDEO 1

7 Superhuman Qualities of the Bible

"In order to prove the divine nature of the Bible, one would need to show that the Bible contains things that people on their own simply could not have come up with. In this video lesson, Kyle Butt looks at seven superhuman qualities of the Bible."

https://video.wvbs.org/video/7-superhuman-qualities-of-the-bible/

DEFENDERS · BOOK 2 · VIDEO 2

Are Christians Brainwashing Their Kids?

"Is it arrogant to teach children that God exists? Is it cultish to say that Jesus "is the way"? Should children be allowed to think for themselves? How do Christians logically respond to the "brainwashing" charge?"

https://video.wvbs.org/video/are-christians-brainwashing-their-kids/

Videos: World Video Bible School, video.wvbs.org — the companion videos to Apologetics Press's *Defenders Series* (video.wvbs.org/defenders). Descriptions quoted from each video's page.

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Read John 8–14 this week. Each day, write down one thing Jesus said about Himself. Start a Bible notebook and keep your answers in it.

GOT A BIBLE QUESTION? TEXT IT.

Ask any Bible question. Scan to start a text, or text **918-550-2246**.

No question is too hard or too simple.