



THE ARK FILE

As we move into the new millennium, 'Ark' fever is becoming more and more intense. Already numerous are the expeditions into the mountains of Ararat, the recorded resting-place of Noah's Ark.

Time and time again we hear reports that at last the Ark has been found. Sometimes even samples of wood are brought down from the area and claimed as so-called artefacts of this ancient vessel, only to be dismissed as being either too modern or the wrong type etc.

However, even events like this still do not discourage the serious investigator who is always determined to find out the truth, even if it takes a life-time.

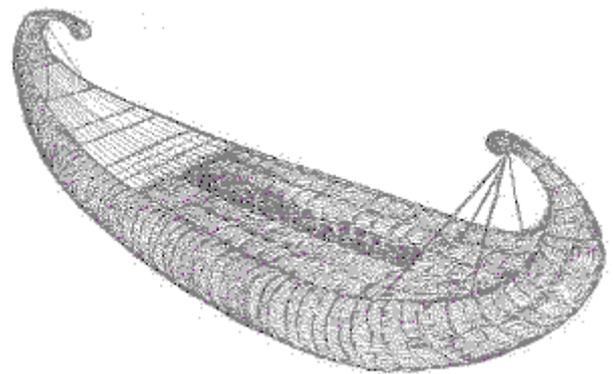
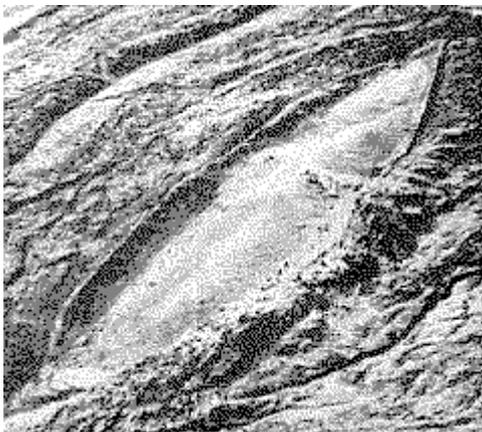
To investigate anything with the slightest hope of achieving any sort of success, one must think and act in the same way as a detective. In this case, a theocratic detective. Because it is from an ultimate Theocratic source that the account of the Ark originates.

This of course is the book of Genesis chapters 6 to 8 in the Holy Scriptures. During the course of this particular investigation, further evidence inevitably arose from a number of other various sources.

The key to any investigation is accurate information together with an in-depth understanding of the subject itself. In this case the result has uncovered evidence which has led to new reasoning, due to following this rule.

In the past and to-date, *arkeologists* have set-off to find this ancient artifact not realising that they have shot themselves in the foot - so to speak - before they start.

The reason for this is found in the following examples:

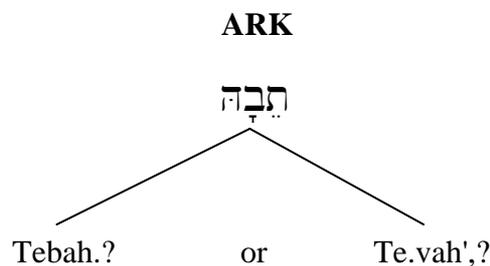


These few examples and more, show that they have all been searching for some kind of ship or boat with a bow, stern, rudder and in some cases, even a sail!

There is no evidence in the Genesis account that the vessel built by Noah was in any way of this description, or that it needed any of these attributes. After all, with the entire planet under water, where would they sail or steer to? Also, with waves a thousand feet or more high and solid walls of water as swell met swell, a vessel of normal shape would either be crushed or sink as it was pushed under the rolling tide of raging sea.

In view of this, accurate information is indeed required if we are to ascertain the validity of this account and therefore what we are actually looking for.

To begin with, Noah's Ark was the provision by which fore-fathers of all mankind survived the global deluge in 2345 B.C.E. Detailed instructions were given to Noah by Almighty God as to its size, shape, design for light ventilation, and materials to be used for its construction.



Until recently, the Hebrew word for Noah's Ark has always been transliterated as **te·bah'**. However, a new transliteration now renders this same Hebrew word as **te·vah'**. This is because the arabic language has no correct substitute for the Hebrew letter ת (bh) which is usually pronounced as a 'v' but pre-stressed with a soft, almost non-existent 'b'.

Examination of the Genesis account reveals that the Ark was a rectangular chest-like vessel with possibly square corners and a flat bottom. It needed no round bottom or sharp bow to cut rapidly through the water; it required no steering; its only functions were to be watertight and stay afloat.

A vessel so shaped is very stable, cannot be easily capsized, and contains about one third more storage space than ships of conventional design.

In size the Ark was 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide and 30 cubits high. Based on the common Hebrew cubit of 18 inches, this works out to 450 X 75 X 45 feet. In proportion, length to width, this gives us a ration of 6 to 1 which is the standard used for ships today.

Length of Ark based on various cubit sizes

Type & Length Of Cubit	Dimensions Of Ark	Cubic Feet Capacity	Box Car Capacity	Comparable to Ocean Liner
Common Hebrew Cubit ranged from 17.5 to 18 inches. Based on 18 inches per cubit	450 X 75 X 45 ft.	1, 518, 750 Gross tonnage 18, 187	421	Renaissance, (French) 12, 000 tons 492 feet
Babylonian/Assyrian Chaldean cubit 20 inches per cubit	600 X 100 X 60 ft	3, 600, 000 Gross tonnage 36, 000	1, 000	Gripsholm, (Swed) 631 feet 23, 215 tons
Antediluvian estimate 36 inches per cubit	900 X 150 X 90 ft.	12, 150, 000 Gross tonnage 121, 500	3, 375	Queen Elizabeth II 963 feet 65, 863 tons

Difference in tonnage between Ark and ships of comparable length is accounted for by the rectangular shape of the Ark allowing for maximum and available space.

This huge Ark was to be built using wood of a resinous tree, in particular; "of the *go'pher* tree". (Genesis 6:14) This was possibly the cypress tree of which doors and posts made of it are reported to have lasted 1, 100 years.

This makes even more sense in respect of the Ark which was to remain in the water for one whole year, because a resinous substance remains insoluble in water.

In addition to this, Noah was told not merely to caulk the seams but to cover the Ark inside and outside with tar. The use of tar (*ko'pher*) or bitumen (*hhe-mar*) in its solid state is so effective that even modern science to date, has not found a natural substance more waterproof and vermin-proof.

So now we have a large rectangular vessel which is completely watertight and water-resistant holding its own against the raging waters of the great deluge.

A quote from the diary of Aloma, Noah's youngest daughter-in-law states:

"Then the Tevah made a tremendous lurch, plunged completely under the water, trembled in every joint, righted again and crashing through a thousand wrecks, came up unharmed."

It is perhaps of interest to note in this four thousand year old diary that before the deluge, instead of counting in days, months and years; they counted in moons and cycles.

e.g.

West Bank of the Euphrates,
First Moon - Evening

After Adam
Four Cycles

This diary is to be published following the publication of The Lost History which covers the earlier events of man's history up to the birth of Noah.

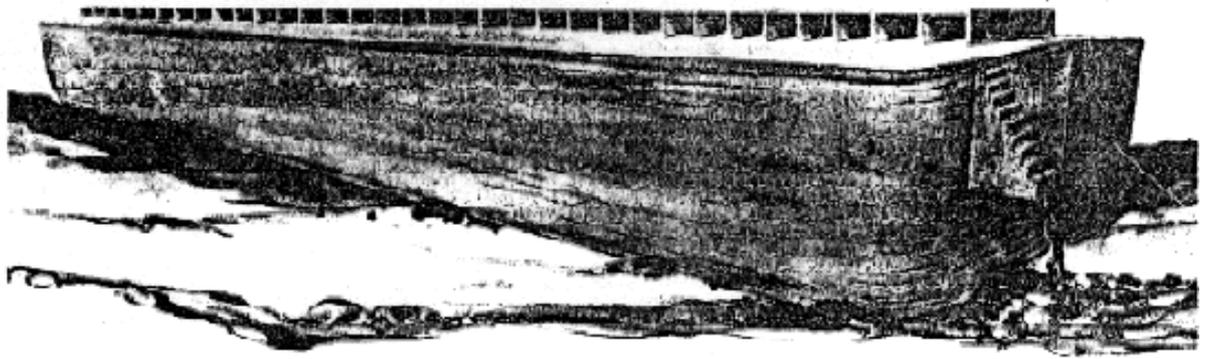
A year later, after that first violent and cataclysmic event which resulted in the annihilation of all creatures outside of the Ark except for marine life, the waters steadily subsided and the vessel came to rest in the region of Ararat.

Since then, there have been claims of sightings which have promoted expedition after expedition into that region but with no concrete results. Or are we missing something?

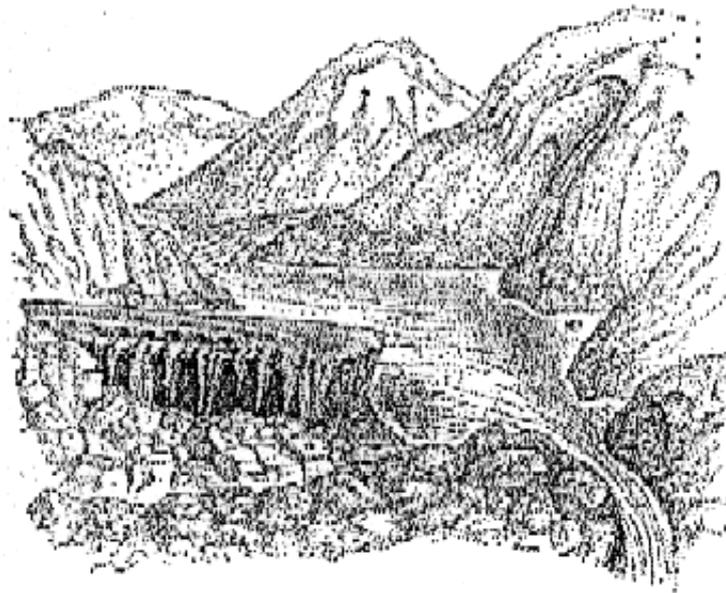
Having confirmed the size and shape of Noah's Ark, we also have a number of eye-witness accounts from several different sources.

1. In 1916 a pilot in the Imperial Russian Airforce sighted a strange craft partly locked in ice on the side of Mount Ararat. It was as long as a city block and built as though the designer had expected the waves to roll over the top. Also, running the length of the top was a flat cat-walk about five feet wide. Later after reporting this, the Czar sent two hundred troops who took photos and examined the interior where they found hundreds of small rooms in addition to some larger rooms which contained tiers of cages. Some very large rooms with high ceilings, had a fence of great timbers across them as if designed to hold beasts ten times the size of elephants. The wood used throughout was oleander, which belongs to the cypress family and never rots.
2. In the summer of 1917, a detachment of five-hundred soldiers passed under an enormous barge on the slopes of the mountain. The barge receded back into a glacier.
3. During the Second World War, a plane on a reconnaissance flight over Mount Ararat reported sighting a large vessel half-sunken in an icy lake. Investigators were sent to the spot and found that the ship or barge was made of wood, now fossilized, and was over 400 feet long. (The Ark was 450 feet long.)
4. A further sighting during this period by an American pilot, reveals that he saw what looked like an enormous boxcar or rectangular barge protruding from the snow and ice and blackish in colour.
5. A model based on the description given by one George Hagopian who claims to have visited the Ark with his grandfather when he was a young boy, confirms what has already been described; even to the cat-walk along the top.

There are many other instances of sightings not mentioned here, yet all with the same dove-tailing descriptions. With so many reports confirming the same thing, surely there must be some truth to all this. It seems that the area in which the sightings have been reported, is covered ten months of the year in ice.



Based on a series of interviews with George Hagopian, illustrator Elfred Lee drew this conception of Noah's Ark. This is what Hagopian claims He saw on Mount Ararat when he Climbed it as a young shepherd boy.



Position of the alleged Noah's Ark in a glacial lake as reported by Russian aviators in 1916. Subsequently it was seen before, during and after World War II by explorers, helicopter pilots and American airmen. According to general tradition and belief, the Ark only becomes visible during periods of extensive thaw and at such times has been visited by local mountaineers.

Basic Reasoning Confirms Global Deluge

Not only would an ark of such gigantic proportions have been unnecessary for a local flood, but there would have been no need for an ark at all! The whole procedure of constructing such a vessel, involving over a century of planning and toiling, simply to escape a local flood, can hardly be described as anything but utterly foolish.

How much more sensible it would have been for God merely to have warned Noah of the coming destruction, so that he could move to an area that would not have been affected by the Flood, even as Lot was taken out of Sodom before the fire fell from heaven.

Not only so, but also the great numbers of animals of all kinds, and certainly the birds, could easily have moved out also, without having to be stored and tended for a year in the Ark! The entire story borders on the ridiculous if the Flood was confined to some section of the Near East.

Since the stated purpose of the Flood was the punishment of a sinful race, such a purpose could not have been accomplished if only a part of humanity had been affected. The fact that the Flood destroyed the rest of mankind is greatly strengthened by repeated statements in Genesis, 1 Peter and 2 Peter, to the effect that *only* Noah and his family were spared.

Christ Jesus clearly stated that *all* men were destroyed by the Flood (Luke 17:26 – 30). Also, the covenant which God made with Noah after the Flood becomes meaningless if only a part of the human race had been involved.

In actual fact, this was a Flood so gigantic as to overwhelm the high mountains of the earth within a period of *six weeks* and then continue prevailing over those mountains for an additional *sixteen weeks*, during which time the sole survivors of the human race drifted upon the face of the shoreless ocean!

It is not the fact that the Deluge happened, but the significance of it. This Great Flood which lasted for 371 days during which 900,000,000 people perished, completely altered the face of the Earth and changed the environment. The effects of which, are still with us today.

This brings us to the next intriguing point, the actual location of the Ark. According to our information, the Ark is visible for only two months of the year. Even then, only if one is looking in the right place.

Next to the Holy Scriptures, the most reliable source is Josephus' Antiquities of the Jews. Here we have an esteemed historian in his own right who has provided us with information straight from the fossil beds of thought.

On a re-examination of Genesis 8:4 it states: "And in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ar'a-rat." **N.W.T.**

So Ararat in the first instance, is not one mountain but a whole range. In Hebrew, the name Ararat means *creation, Holy Land*. The whole district is situated between the river Araxes and the lakes Van and Urumia. It seems that the reason it is called Ararat is because this area was originally Eden where the *Garden* in which the first creation of man and woman was placed. (Genesis 2:8, 15, 22.)

An interesting parallel. Originally from this area the first of the human race issued forth. Now again from this same spot the first of those who were to re-populate the earth came forth.

Here then, we have the Ark resting on the near summit of one of the mountains of Ararat. But which one? According to Josephus, the waters at their maximum covered the *whole* of the earth to a height of fifteen cubits (22.5 feet) above the highest point.

As the waters receded twelve months later, the Ark came to rest on the top of one of the mountains. Although it seems reasonable that this would be the highest one, this might not necessarily be so. However, the Armenians call this place **Apobathzion** - *The place of descent*.

This *apobaterion*, or *place of descent*, is the proper rendering of the Armenian name of this very city. It is called in Ptolemy *Naxuana*, and by Moses *Chorenensis*, the Armenian historian refers to it as *Iasheuan*, but at the place itself *Nachidsheuan*, which signifies *the first place of descent*, and is a lasting monument of the preservation of Noah in the Ark, upon the top of that mountain, at whose foot it was built, as the first city or town after the flood.

Among the many non-Hebrew writers, Berosus the Chaldean tells us that at the mountain of the Cordyaeans, some people carry off pieces of the bitumen to use as amulets. Nicolaus of Damascus states: "There is a great mountain in Armenia, over Minyas, called *Baris*, upon which, it is reported, ...that one, who was carried in the ark, came on shore upon the top of it; ..."

In conclusion then, the vast barge-shaped vessel (ark - meaning: *place of refuge*) in its water-tight state, survived the global flood and its aftermath. At the end of twelve months it finally came to rest on a mountain peak in the region of Ararat. It is from this point that the occupants of the Ark descended to the base of this mountain where they eventually built a city, giving it a name which marked that event. So

then, the mountain which rises from the city of *Apobaterion* (Armenian) or *Baris* (Syrian) is where the Ark lies today.

Research into the possible whereabouts of the ark has never really been coupled to the theological reasons for the Flood; instead it has centered on historical and legendary accounts. Up until the very moment that the modern search for the ark had its birth in southern California when H. M. S. Richards, Sr., Eryl Cummings and Benjamin Allen were involved in forming the Sacred History Research Expedition in 1946, it was generally accepted that the Biblical account of the Flood was one of the oldest sacred narratives of the tragedy in existence. However, in two consecutive letters written by Dr. Phillip W. Gooch, another interested “ark-eologist”, to Dr. A. J. Smith, a bombshell was dropped.

Quoting from what he claimed were the ancient records reported to be in the possession of a monastic order to which he belonged, Dr. Gooch relayed the following information to an unsuspecting Aaron Smith:

“There was a living witness on the ground who covered all the fine details of what went on during the Flood and after the Flood until her death in the 547th year,” he wrote to Smith. “She was God’s living witness, Noah’s daughter-in-law, the wife of his son Japheth, a student of Methuselah under whom she was apprenticed and who taught her all that had *preceded* the Flood. She was educated in all of the history of the human race up to that time. Her book – she called it her diary – is filled with things that occurred from Adam to her death and seems to me the most complete record of early human history ever recorded.

“Many of the problems confronting geologists today can easily be understood after one reads Amoela’s Diary.

“At her death, dying in the arms of her youngest son, Javan, her diary was placed in her mummified hands in a crystal quartz case, with tempered gold hinges and clasps, and was discovered by a high-ranking Mason in the latter part of the last century. The original and the translation are now in possession of the order.

“Our commission investigated the manuscript, and all the history of the human race from Adam to her death was carefully catalogued. Everything that has been checked thus far has been proven to be true as far as we can determine.” Although the correspondence between Drs. Gooch and Smith continued for years following that original astonishing letter, nothing could coerce Gooch to reveal more information regarding Amoela’s Diary or its whereabouts, even though in many of his letters he indicated a serious effort on his part to obtain an accurate translation for Dr. Smith. Nothing ever came of it. As promising as it seemed at the outset, the search that followed, checking museums and libraries, failed to produce any leads remotely supporting Dr. Gooch’s claim.

Consequently, the oldest sacred account of the flood in existence was still the Biblical story found in the book of Genesis. In chapters 6:9 through 8:22 we find the basis for all ark research; the standard against which all traditions and legends appertaining to this first recorded worldwide catastrophe should be measured.

Allowing an antediluvian mother excessive reproductive capabilities, a family of eighteen to twenty children does not seem unreasonable. By accepting the genealogy mentioned in the book of Genesis, and agreeing that between Adam and Noah there were ten generations, we arrive at the following possible population estimate for the antediluvian world:•

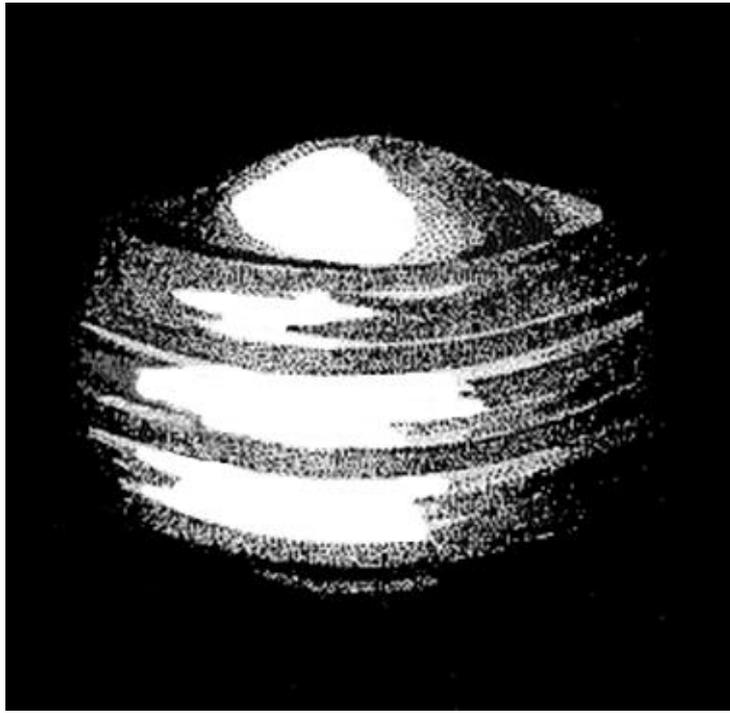
First Generation	2
Second Generation.....	18
Third Generation	162
Fourth Generation	1,458
Fifth Generation	13,133
Sixth Generation	118,098
Seventh Generation	1,062,882
Eighth Generation	9,565,938
Ninth Generation	86,093,442
Tenth Generation	774,840,979

Almost seven-hundred-and-seventy-five million people! Add to these the surviving members of previous generations, and the number may have been close to 900,000,000,, a figure similar to the world's population of about 150 years ago. If it were to assume that families of the antediluvian world had an average of twenty children, then the figure of 775,000,000 increases to 2,000,000,000 not counting the surviving members of previous generations!



Dr. Clifford L. Burdick, Arizona Geologist, with a set of petrified tracks left in the Paluxy River bed in Texas by a dinosaur and a human being of formidable dimensions. The human footprints are 15 inches in length, but even though their length is extraordinary, much more significant is the fact that they were found *next* to the dinosaur tracks. It indicates that man and the dinosaur were contemporaneous, not millions of years apart, cutting the evolutionary timetable to shreds.

• From Alfred Rehwinkel, *The Flood*

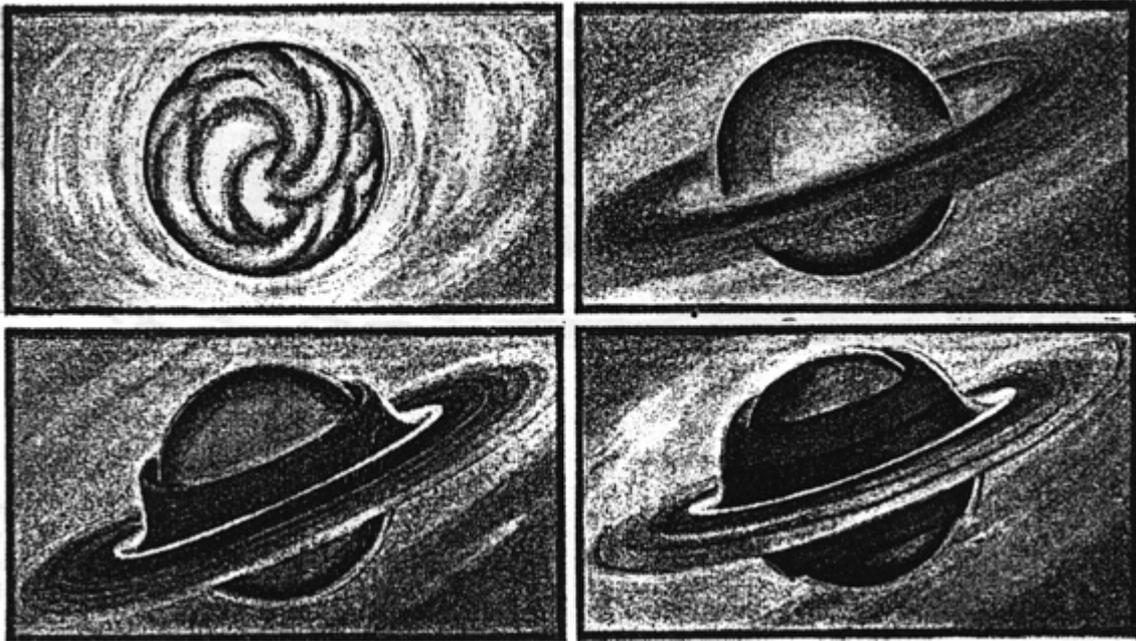


The waters above the earth

This illustration shows the earth as it existed before the flood, spinning on a perpendicular axis and surrounded by a vapour canopy. This of course was the 'Antediluvian Veil' through which all light shone, causing perpetual summer over the whole planet. There was no rain, no sun, no moon, no rainbow, no storms or winds, no seasons and man lived far longer than now.

When later, this canopy fell as the 'Deluge', the physical condition of the earth changed and man's environment was greatly modified.

This veil, or canopy, was none other than the waters 'above the expanse' recorded in Genesis 1:7 and the 'crystalline firmament' mentioned in the first paragraph of chapter one, book one of Josephus' historical work, 'Antiquities of the Jews'.



Four stages in the creation of the Earth, showing the Saturn-like development of its Annular Ring System and Canopy

With the continual discoveries being made by archaeologists, much of what was considered legendary or even myth in the Genesis account is now found to be true. The Genesis story of the Tower of Babel, the centre of post-diluvian world unity, represented the focal point of what was then the new world government.

The site chosen for the city and Tower of Babel was evidently strategically significant, as this would also be the point of access where the surface energies of the globe were steadily drawn from this great ley-line system and efficiently stored for utilization.

The post-diluvian ley-line system was no doubt a similar yet modified reconstruction of the system used before the Deluge. By controlling the central energy of the world, the government of Babel controlled the world.

We seem to be under the impression today that our modern technology and even our attempt at 'space flight' is something new. However, the advanced technology of the builders and technicians of Babel must have been equal to or even beyond our own today.

If not, then how do we explain the words spoken by the Creator when seeing what they had already accomplished said: "...Why, now there is nothing that they may have in mind to do that will be unattainable for them..." (Genesis 11:6 N.W.T.)

Even wise king Solomon reminds us that "...there is nothing new under the sun." (Ecclesiastes 1:9 N.W.T.) It has all been done before.

During the antediluvian period and the early post-diluvian years, the whole of the planet Earth was considered to be a living creature. The make-up of which is a pattern and parallel of the human creature in particular.

Parallel Example

Planet Earth

Crystalline Veil
Trees
Grass
Rock
Soil
Oil
Minerals
Ley Lines
Bacteria
Crystal Core

Human Body

Hair
Skin (Top Layer)
Skin (Under Layer)
Bone
Flesh
Blood
Minerals
Nervous System
Immune System
Brain

Map Evidence of Global Flood

It is quite evident that soon after the Flood and before and after the language disorder which followed the confusion at the Tower of Babel, as mentioned in Genesis 11:7, the early descendants of Noah undertook a geographic survey and exploration of the entire world's surface; leaving their traces in the form of maps, symbols and place names.

The evidence for this post-Flood survey of the earth has been preserved in a number of medieval and Renaissance maps which are extremely accurate – so accurate that the longitude and latitude measurements, as well as the knowledge of the earth's surface that is revealed, extend far beyond the capabilities of the early historical cartographers. These cartographers admit – and there is intrinsic proof of this in the maps – that their maps are copies of still older maps whose origins are lost in antiquity.

With the loss of the vapour and ice-crystal canopy which circled the earth during the antediluvian period, the steady changes in temperature brought about by this event would of course require a period of time for the snow and ice to build up at the poles. This is strongly reflected in a number of these ancient maps.

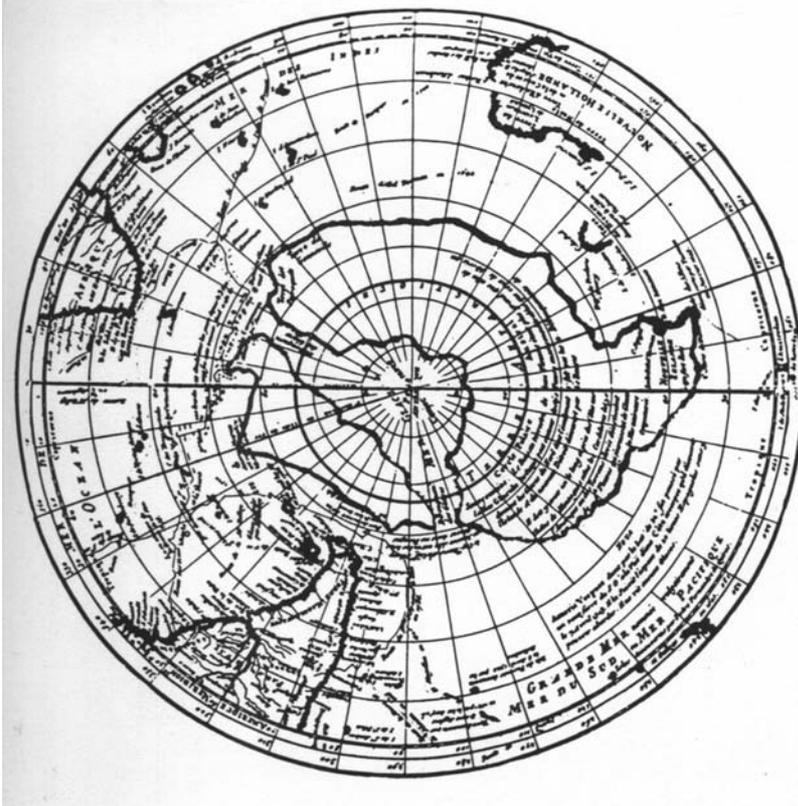
Possibly the earliest of these post-diluvian maps copied by Philippe Bauche in 1737 shows Antarctica as two separate land masses completely free of snow and ice.

The Orontius Fineus map of 1531 copied from a later map, indicates that the continent was beginning to fill with ice when its source maps were drawn.

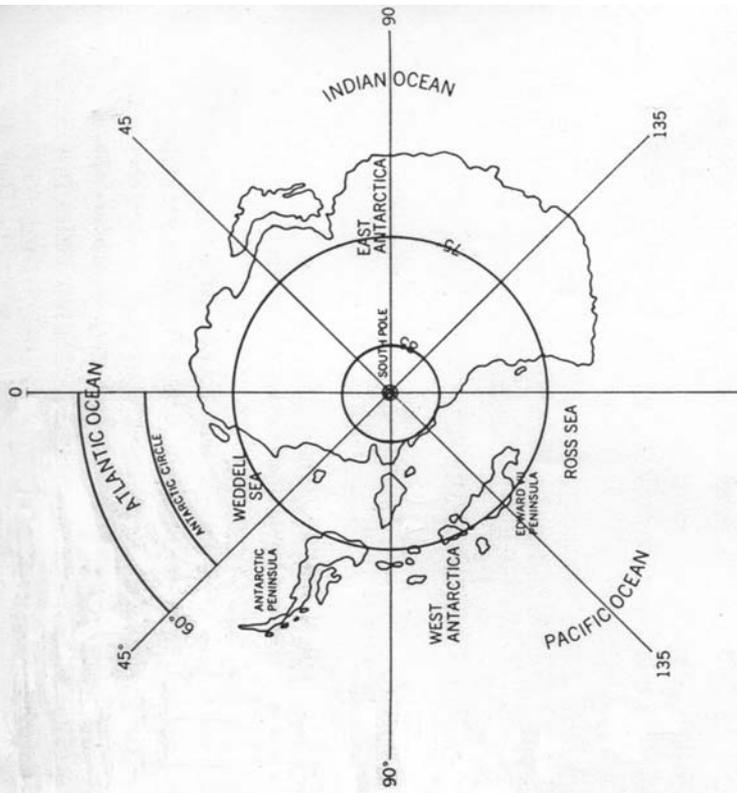
The Piri Re'is map of 1513 and the Mercator chart of 1569 show only the coast of the Antarctic free of glaciers.

It is therefore apparent that Antarctica was surveyed not once but several times, before and during the period in which the southern polar ice-cap spread over the continent.

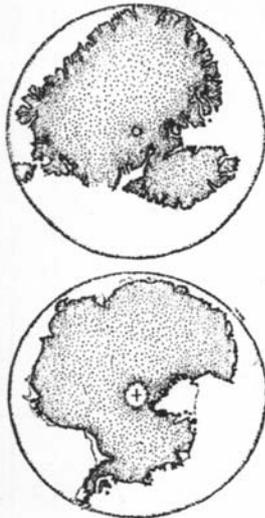
In the North it is the same story. The Zeno brother's map of 1339 shows Greenland free of glaciers, while Ptolemy's map of the North depicts a glacial sheet advancing across south central Greenland.



The Philippe Buache map of Antarctica, made in Paris in 1737, a century before Antarctica was discovered. Evidently copied from maps surviving from ancient times, it shows Antarctica as two separate land masses, a fact not established until the Geophysical Year of 1958 through ice soundings, but evidently known to navigators of prehistory, who may have visited Antarctica before it was covered by ice.



Sketch map of Antarctica as it would appear without the icecap, now more than two miles thick. The Antarctic continent, without the ice, would not be one land mass but two, separated by water.



The Antarctic continent as it is (left) and as represented in the Oranteus Finaeus map of 1532 (right). The position of the North Pole on the Finaeus map is represented as northeast of where it presently is. The location of the pole has changed in the thousands of years since the ancient maps which Finaeus copied were originally drawn. As in the case of other ancient and medieval maps of Antarctica, the Europeans who copied them knew of a southern continent only as a myth and simply reproduced what they found on ancient Greek or Phoenician maps. An especially interesting feature of the map is the indicated presence of rivers and fjords, which were evidently visited by extremely ancient mariners before the continent was covered by ice 7,000 to 9,000 years ago.



A simplified rendition of the 1513 Piri Re's map. This chart is reported to have been copied and recopied from maps used more than 2,000 years ago by the ancient Greeks, Phoenicians and Minoans, who apparently had inherited them from unknown predecessors thousands of years before their time. The desert area of Africa, upper right, is shown as a land of rivers and lakes, which it once was, and the coast of Antarctica, lower centre and apparently connected to South America, is shown as it was before the ice covered it.



Copy of the Hadji Ahmed globe of 1559, taken from ancient Greek sources, showing an elongated Antarctic continent at the unknown bottom of the world and a surprisingly exact map of the west coast of North America. It is considered that the original of this map, like the Piri Re's section of a world map, was drawn at a time when the Antarctic was free of ice. Perhaps one of the most striking features of the Hadji Ahmed map is the apparent linking of the Russian coastline to North America.