

Evidences of a Global Flood: Part 2 – Rock Layers

Evolutionists claim that long periods of time generally are required for geologic processes. However, the Bible declares that the earth is young, and hints¹ at the cause of most of the geological features we see. Also, many different observable geological formations or processes make the evolutionists' perspective seem rather absurd.

Two Perspectives on Geology

We must realize that there are two distinct and diametrically opposed views of geology. One is the uniformitarian perspective, which states that geologic processes have always been slow and gradual. The other perspective is the catastrophic view, which says that the processes of geology are not constant, but are occasionally accelerated by large scale catastrophes. For the most part, the evolutionary view is based in uniformitarianism, while the Biblical perspective on earth history is based in catastrophism. Where the Biblical creationists propose that the catastrophic worldwide Flood provides an explanation for the majority of the geological formations and features we see, the uniformitarian evolutionists would argue that the face of the earth has been shaped and reshaped gradually and slowly over millions and billions of years.

Water Erosion: Slow or Fast?

Evolutionary geology teaches that geologic erosion takes millions of years to carve through rock. For example, evolutionists claim that it took the Colorado River around 17 million years to etch out the Grand Canyon.² However, even within the past century, several geological phenomena have occurred which demonstrated that it doesn't take a long time to move a lot of earth.

In Washington State, in the early 1900s, a small canyon was carved by a creek in a matter of only a few days.³ The Burlingame Canyon, as it came to be called, ended up being around a ¼ mile long, and over 100 feet deep, and around 100 feet wide.

A more well-known series of geological events were the eruptions of Mt. St. Helens in the early 1980s. Sometime after the initial eruption in May of 1980, a small eruption melted the snowcap on the mountain, causing a hot mud flow to create a network of canyons around 16 miles long and almost 150 feet deep. This canyon near Mt. St. Helens looks like a small version of the Grand Canyon, and it has been named the Little Grand Canyon of the Toutle River.



¹ The Worldwide Flood of Noah's day – see Genesis chapters 6 – 9.

² See "Study Says Grand Canyon Older Than Thought" http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/06/science/06cnd-canyon.html?_r=2&hp&oref=slogin&oref=slogin

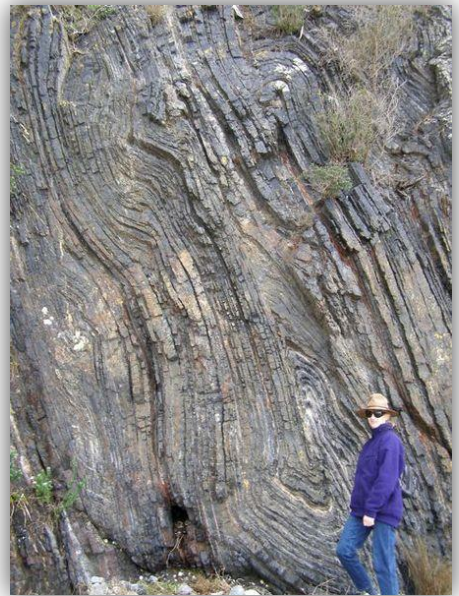
³ "A Canyon in Six Days!" by Dr. John D. Morris - <http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/cm/v24/n4/canyon>

Another large scale instance of canyon like formations being created in short order are the Channeled Scablands of Eastern Washington State. These were carved by “cataclysmic flooding” coming from the breaking of the natural dam which had formed the glacial Lake Missoula that existed during the Ice Age.⁴ Even secular geologists are coming to realize that the flooding from Lake Missoula carved the scablands fairly quickly.⁵ This is a step in the right direction towards the biblically correct worldview!

Rock Layering: Millions of Years or a Few Days?

The secular view of rock layering says that it takes millions of years to form thick rock layers. One way they figure this is based upon the fossils found in each layer. The fossils are supposed to be a certain age based upon the supposed progression of biological evolution. Therefore, it is logically assumed that the layers containing those fossils are around the age of those fossils. Even though the fossils and layers probably are very close in age, the commonly declared amount of time involved in the deposition of those layers is questionable. In fact, when Mt. Saint Helens blew her top, layers of rock hundreds of feet thick were formed in only a few day and weeks.³ There was one particular section of the layering around twenty-five feet thick that was deposited in just a few hours.

Another evidence of rapid deposition of rock layers is the fact that thick layers of rock have been found which are contorted in ways that could only have been accomplished while the layers were wet and soft. There are many instances where rock layers that are easily a couple of dozen feet thick are bent at 90 degree angles while maintaining a cohesive shape.



A Matter of Worldviews

Why would evolutionists want to believe that it takes eons of time to form rocks and carve canyons when we have seen clear evidence that geological processes can be sped up rapidly? They say they have science on their side, but we have seen a few brief examples of evidence that is against their position, and instead is favorable to the Biblical account. Could it be that these evolutionists don't want the Biblical account of the Flood of Noah's day to be historically true? If the Flood really did occur, as the Bible records, then that means that God *does* judge man's sin. The Apostle Peter spoke of this hard-headed attitude nearly two thousand years ago when he said:

⁴ Please note that the evolutionary timescale involves multiple Ice Ages, the most recent of which supposedly occurred some 20,000 years ago. Creationists do not deny that an “Ice Age” occurred, they simply argue that it occurred much more recently (within the past 4,000 years), and was an aftereffect of the worldwide Flood.

⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missoula_Floods

³ http://creationwiki.org/Mount_St._Helens.

“...scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. They will say, ‘Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.’ For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.”⁸

In conclusion, seeing the geologic formations like Mt. Saint Helens, the Grand Canyon, fossil beds, etc., should remind us that geologic processes can occur rapidly. Further, we must remember that God’s judgment on sinful men through the Flood really did happen, and also that one day in the future He will return to judge the world by fire.

⁸ See 2 Peter 3:3b – 7.