

# Critique of the movie “The Ark in the Darkness” created by Genesis Apologetics

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## **Introduction**

This movie “**The Ark in the Darkness**” is sponsored by the organization **Genesis Apologetics** and includes experts from **Answers in Genesis** and **Liberty University**. These experts are interviewed in the movie concerning various claims that are written into the script. The movie contains computer graphics of lush green forests on hilly country with ponds, and it shows waterfalls with dinosaurs and other animals. There were also computer graphics of layers of sedimentary rocks in monoclinial deformation and plate tectonics with moving plates with subduction under mountain ranges. Included was a video of what looked like a museum somewhere with backgrounds of folded rocks, probably from the Grand Canyon area, and polystrate tree trunks in the museum displays. There were very few views of real rocks. Essentially, there is almost no scientific interpretations of geology that correspond with reality. The movie was virtually all imagination and wild speculation. This

article will examine seven topics with appropriate criticisms of what is promoted falsely in the movie.

### **One: Lush Forest Growth and the Formation of Coal**

Lush green forests were claimed to have been growing prior to Noah's flood and were the source of the coal deposits. That is, the implication is made that a few tens of years of forest growth prior to the flood was the adequate source of the coal deposits found around the world. The gazillions of tons of coal that man has mined and used, with so much coal still underground, could not have grown in half a century. That is wildly illogical speculation.

### **Two: Tsunamis and Trillions of Fossils**

Many trillions of nicely preserved fossils occur across the United States and in the Grand Canyon, yet the movie claims that they were transported there by gigantic tsunamis after tsunamis that swept catastrophically across the whole United States. Does that sound like the Japanese tsunami that occurred on March 11, 2011, following a 9.0-9.1 magnitude undersea earthquake in the Pacific Ocean east of the Oshika Peninsula of the Tohoku region? This tsunami went inland 10 km (6 mi). The piles of debris deposited there by the tsunami were not nice layers of sand, silt, and mud nicely separated into layers like what we find across the United States. What is wrong with this picture in the movie? This is wild illogical speculation. Tsunamis do not sort out fossils into an evolutionary sequence.

### Three: Break up of Pangea

Noah's flood is shown to break-up the supercontinent of Pangea (**Figure 1**) with volcanoes and lava, plus water spewing out of the Earth at supersonic speed. This is more wild speculation.



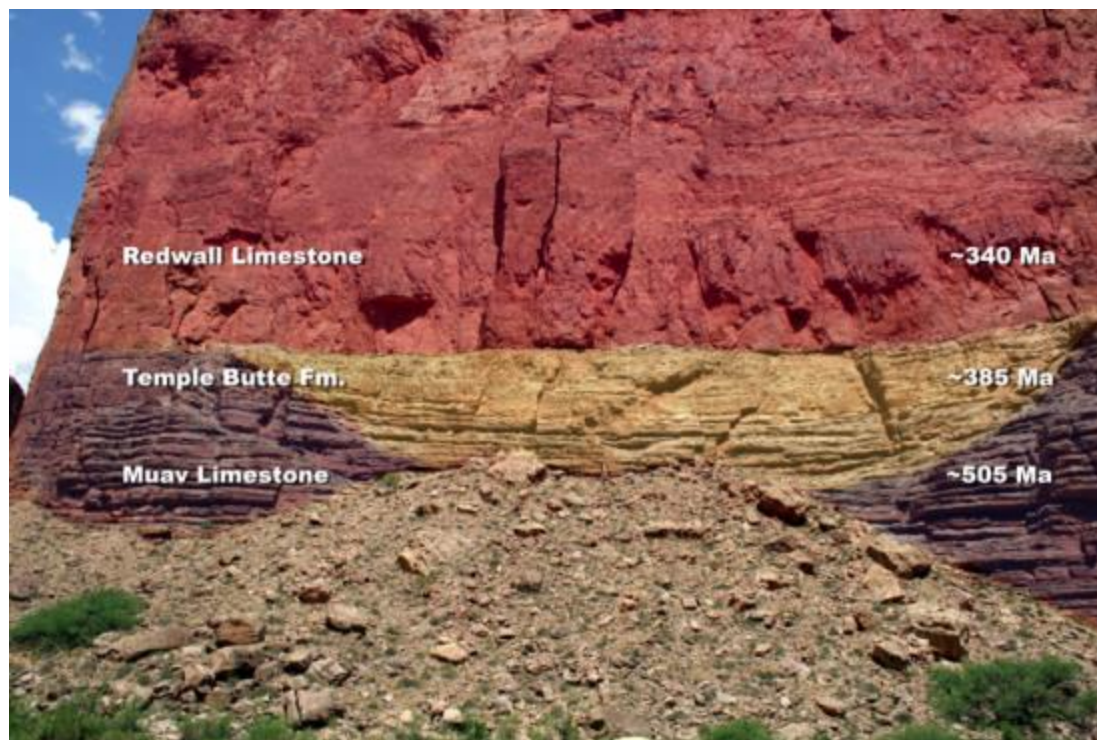
**Figure 1.** Pangea.

## **Four: Movement of Tectonic Plates**

During this Pangea break-up, tectonic plates were moving at speeds billion times faster than today. Such speeds are wild speculation and to show these speeds a mathematical model of the Earth was used that has no connection to reality. A computer programmer can make a model run at any speed he wants, but that does not move massive rock plates, 100 km thick, at such speeds with known physical properties that would prevent it from happening.

## **Five: Lack of Erosion of Sedimentary Layers**

Vast expanses of sedimentary rock layers were laid down with NO evidence of erosion of valleys down into the layers. Yes, it is true that many have no erosion because of continuous deposition. But others have valleys cut as much as 30 m (100 ft) deep in the Muav Limestone underlying the Redwall Limestone in the Grand Canyon (**Figure 2**).

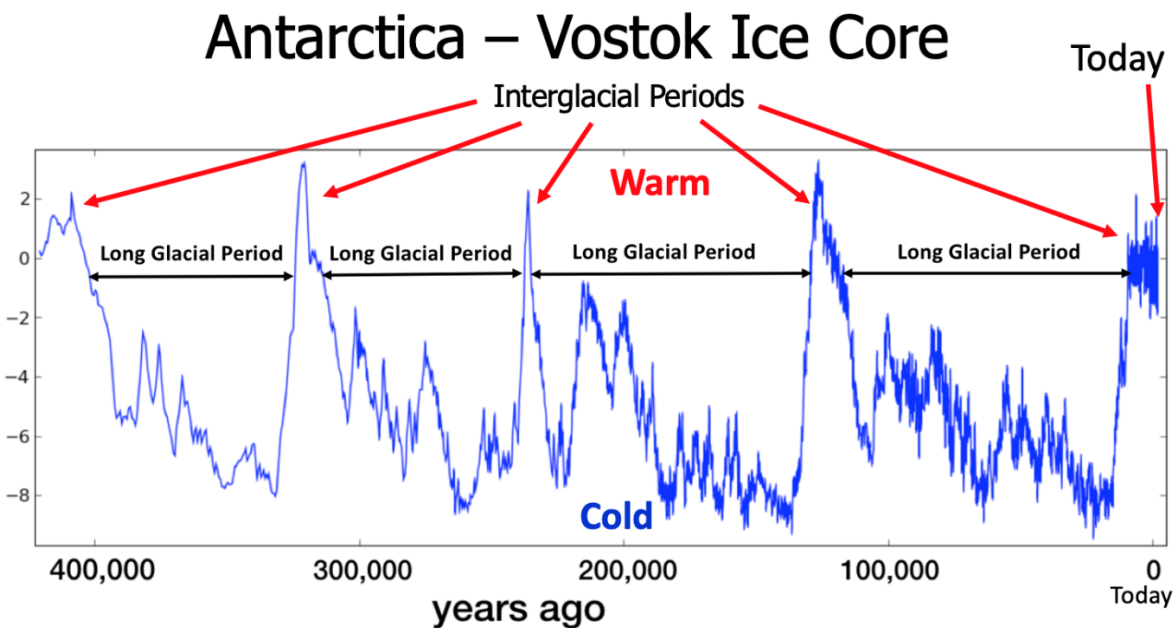


**Figure 2.** Deep valley in the Muav Limestone filled with sediment (Temple Butte Formation) under the Redwall Limestone.

Caves and sinkholes are also in the Redwall Limestone that indicate that this limestone was once at the Earth's surface where falling rain dissolved out tunnels and holes.

### **Six: Ice Age after Noah's Flood.**

The claim was also made that an Ice Age occurred after Noah's flood about 4,500 years ago. This is also wild speculation and thoroughly false. A continental ice sheet has been on Antarctica for more than 420,000 years. See **Figure 3.**



**Figure 3. Antarctica Vostok Ice Core.**

### **Seven: Polystrate Tree Trunks**

Polystrate tree trunks were shown extending through a few feet of horizontal sediments with the claim that secular geologists say that this deposition takes millions of years. This is simply lying. Polystrate trees are created in hours or days when a volcano spews out many tons of ash of a few feet to 10 to 20 feet (**Figure 4**).



**Figure 4. Polystrate tree trunk.**

When tree trunks are floating in a lake, such as Spirit Lake adjacent to Mt. St. Helens, the logs get water-logged and sink to the bottom vertically. Over 10s and 100s of years, the lake fills up with sediment around the vertical tree trunks.

## **Conclusion**

In terms of describing a catastrophic flood about 4,500 years ago, this movie does not describe reality but presents wild speculation. For this, and the failure in

integrity, in showing this movie to Christian audiences, this movie deserves 7 big rotten tomatoes.

Thankfully, the movie did present the Gospel message toward the end of the movie. But why clutter the very best news that has ever been given to mankind by God, our Creator, with an hour and a half laced with fake science?

### **Acknowledgment**

I wish to thank Ken Wolgemuth for assistance in writing this article.