

# Reasons to Believe



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# **Noah's Flood:** **global, local, or worldwide?**

**global:** inundated all Earth's surface a few thousand years ago, producing virtually all Earth's geological features, fossils, and biodeposits

**local:** flooded part of Mesopotamia  
a few thousand years ago, wiping  
out one or two tribes of humans

**worldwide:** flooded all landmasses  
inhabited by humans and their  
animals several tens of thousands of  
years ago

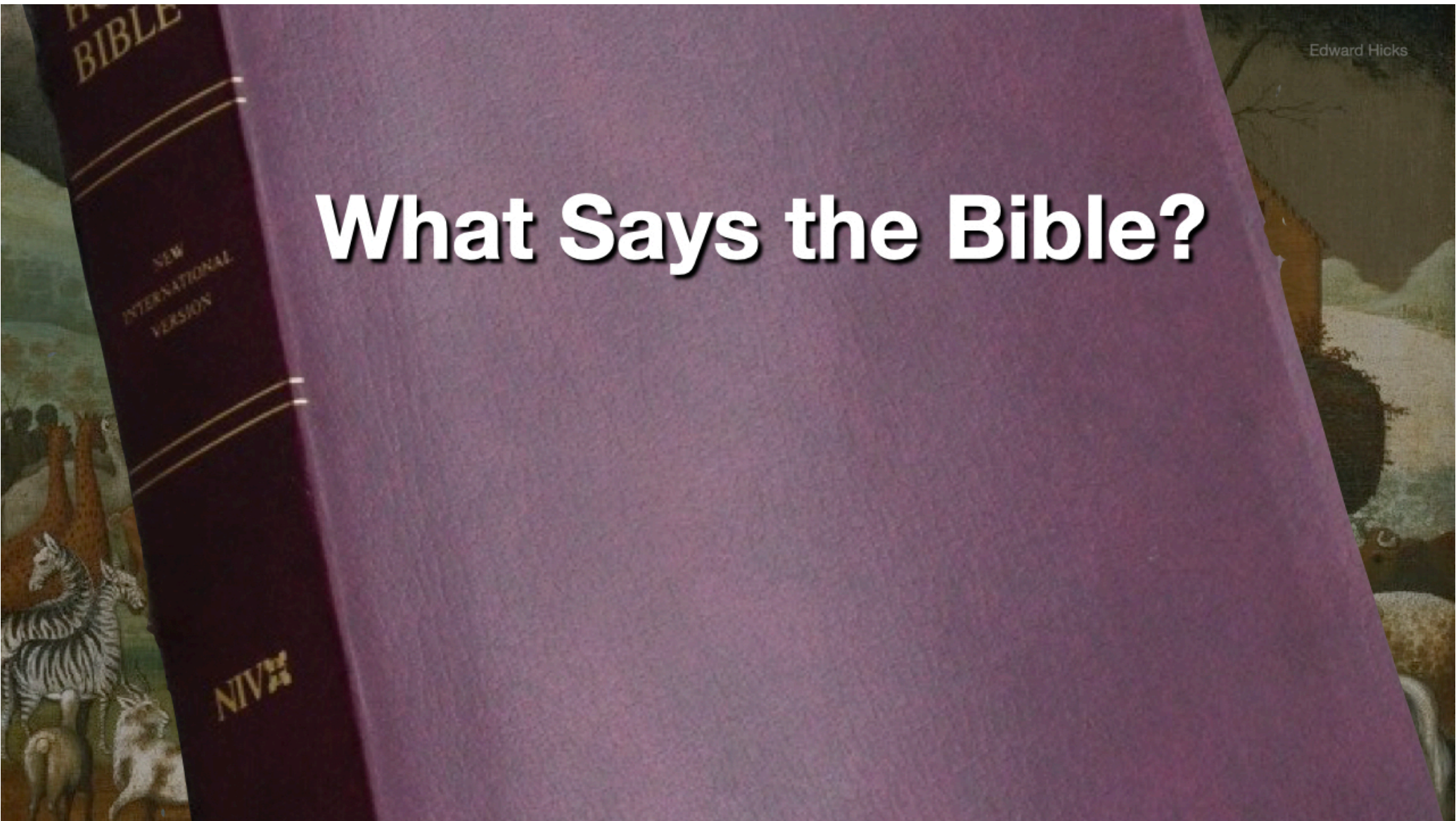
Edward Hicks

# What Says the Bible?

THE  
BIBLE

NEW  
INTERNATIONAL  
VERSION

NIV



# **Resolution Key**

**Integrate all relevant biblical texts.**

# Worldwide Events

**Genesis 41:56-57; 42:5-6**

**1 Kings 10**

**Acts 2:5**

**Romans 1:8**

**Colossians 1:6**



**“Your faith is being reported all over the world.”**

—Romans 8:1

**Aztecs and Maoris at that time did not hear of the Roman Christians' faith.**

# **biblical extent of Noah's flood**



# **Resolution Key**

**Integrate all relevant biblical texts.**

# Biblical Flood Texts

**Genesis 1-3**

**Ecclesiastes 1-3**

**Genesis 6-9**

**Jeremiah 33**

**Job 38**

**Romans 8**

**Psalms 33, 104**

**2 Peter 2-3**

**Proverbs 8**

**Revelation 20-22**

**Worldwide or Global?**



# Worldwide or Global?

**“He set the earth on its foundations. ... You covered it with the deep ... the waters stood above the mountains. But at your rebuke the waters fled. ... They went down into the valleys to the place you assigned for them.”**

—Psalm 104:5–8



# Worldwide or Global?

**“You set a boundary they [the waters] cannot cross; never again will they cover the earth.”**

—Psalm 104:9

# Worldwide or Global?



# Worldwide or Global?

**“By water also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.”**

—2 Peter 3:6

# Worldwide or Global?

**world of that time**

Greek phrase: ***tote cosmos***

amplified definition: **world at the time the event took place**

# Worldwide or Global?

“He brought a flood upon **the world of the ungodly.**”

—2 Peter 2:5

“for the destruction of ungodly men.”

—2 Peter 3:7

# **Biblical Case for Global Flood?**

**“The waters rose greatly on the earth, and all the high [or elevated] mountains [or hills] under the entire heavens were covered.”**

**—Genesis 7:19**




# Global Flood?

**“The tops of the mountains [or hills]  
became visible [to Noah].”**

—Genesis 8:5

# Global Flood?

Noah 





Basilica di San Marino, Venice

# Global Flood?

**“The dove could find no place to set its feet because there was water over all the surface of the earth.”**

—Genesis 8:9

dove → 

# Dating Noah's Flood

Genealogies are of little help.

Assuming no generation gaps, date derived from Adam differs from the date from Moses.

✱ from Adam: 2348 BC

✱ from the exodus: 2458 BC

# Dating Noah's Flood

English: "When X had lived Y years, he fathered Z."

probable biblical Hebrew: "When X had lived Y years, he fathered a family line that included or culminated in Z."

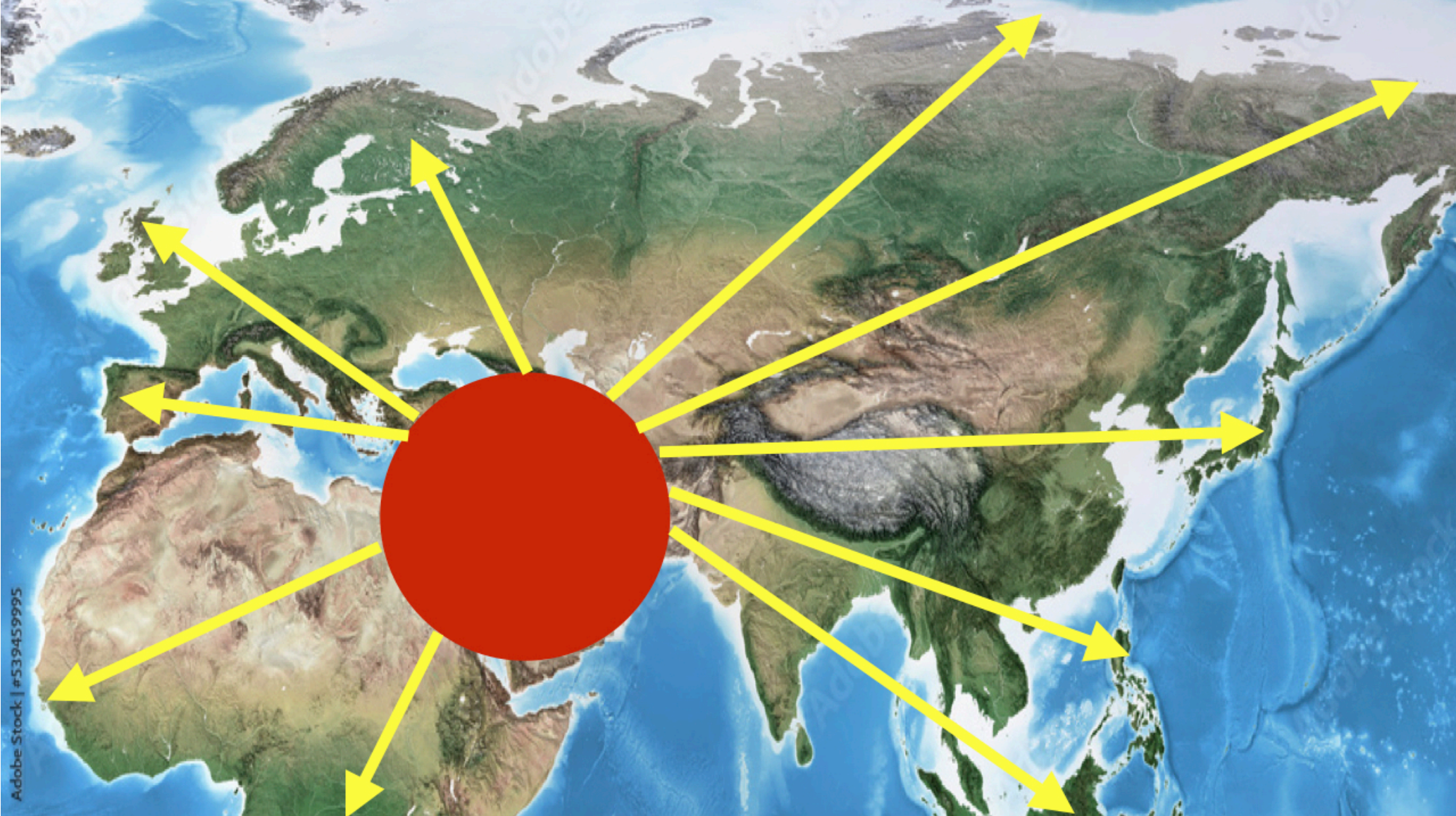
# Dating Noah's Flood

That it took a full year for the floodwater to recede indicates Noah's flood occurred during an ice age.

previous ice age: 120,000–13,000 BP

# Dating Noah's Flood

The date for Noah's flood predates the great dispersals described in Genesis 10–11.



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# **Migration Dating Methods**

**fossils of anatomically modern human remains**

**archaeological artifacts of AMH**

**evidence for agriculture and food preparation**

**genetic analysis**

# Dating Methods (Europe)

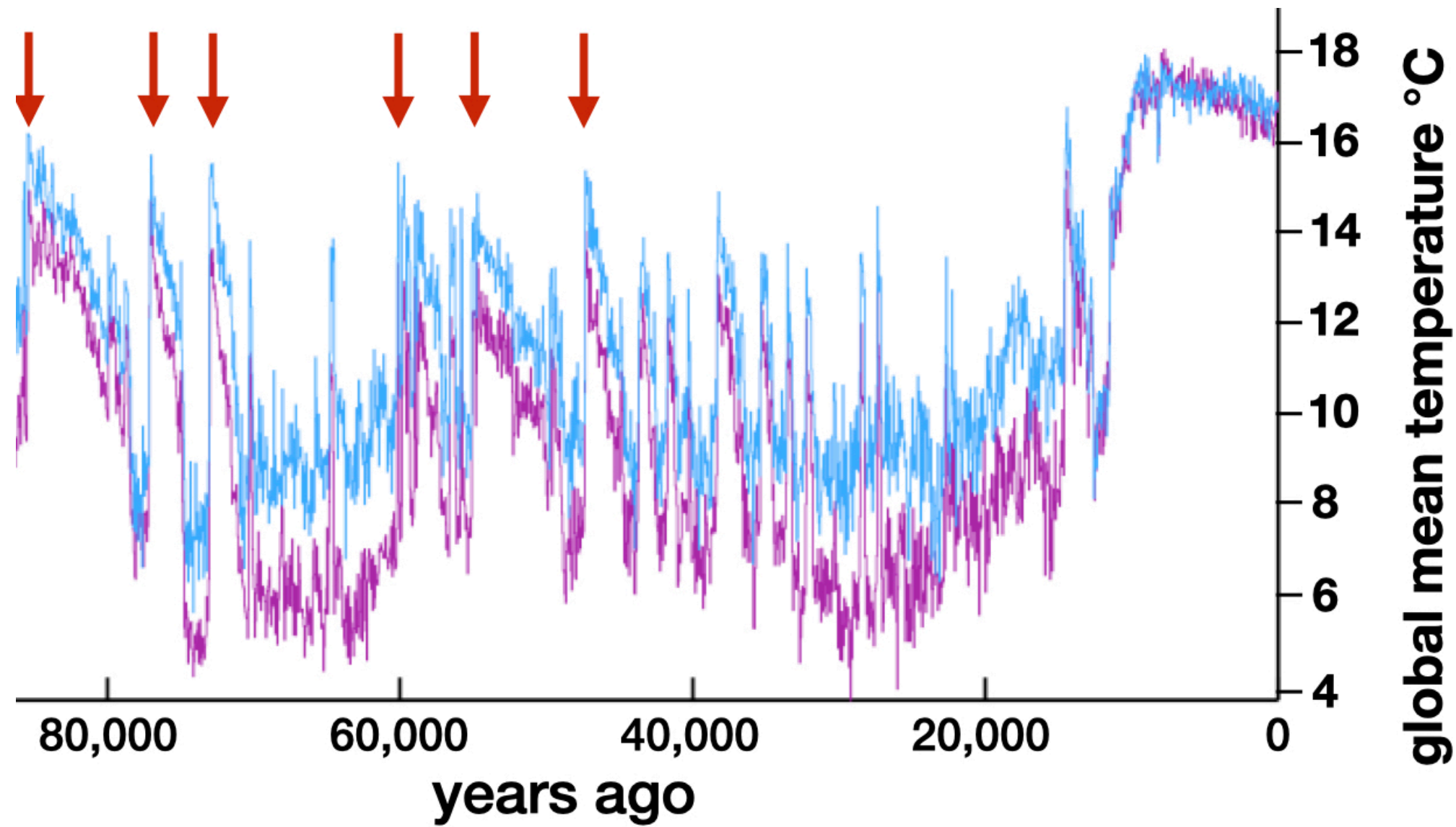
**fossils: 45,000–39,000 BP**

**artifacts: 42,000–38,000 BP**

**food cooking: 40,000 BP**

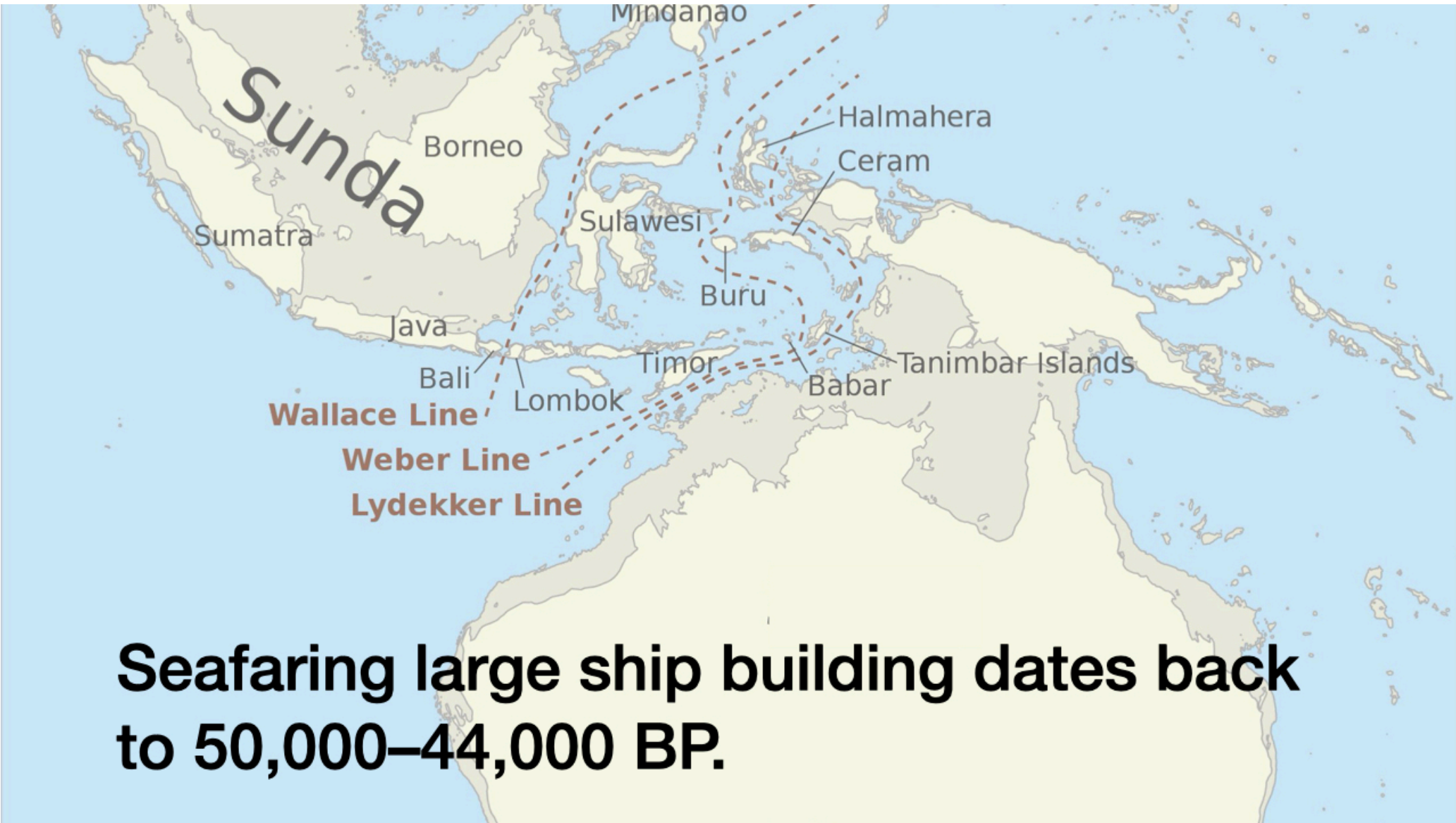
**genetics: 45,000–39,000 BP**





# Noah Date Estimates

**reasonable estimate: 90,000 – 60,000 BP**  
**conservative estimate: 120,000 – 55,000 BP**



**Seafaring large ship building dates back to 50,000–44,000 BP.**

# Alan Hill's Model

Indian Ocean ice age cyclones with sustained winds of 50+ mph could push a fully loaded ark (5,000 tons) 700 miles inland where it would run aground on the foothills of Ararat.

**The Genesis account of Noah's flood no longer is a scientific embarrassment. The biggest barrier to trusting the Bible as God's inerrant Word has been removed.**

