

The Mystery of the Ages

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Has anyone ever solved the mystery of what caused the Ice Age? Will it ever be solved?

Well, most secular and creation scientists agree that there was an Ice Age at some point.

However, the debate of when and how it occurred continues. We are not sure of all the factors that caused the Ice Age, but we can look in the Bible and examine the earth to find evidence for some causes to the Ice Age. We are going to explore volcanoes, the “fountains of the deep”, and how together they contributed to the Ice Age.

All over the Earth’s crust there is proof of many natural catastrophes that have not been historically documented. We can reasonably assume that this is because they occurred during the flood. We are going to look first at volcanoes and the evidence that many erupted during the flood.



Volcanic rocks are all over the world. In fact, 80% of the Earth’s crust consists of volcanic rock.¹ In the last 2000 years, volcanoes like Vesuvius and Mount St Helens have not created as extensive lava flows as we see evidenced in the Earth’s crust today. We can use India’s Deccan Traps

as an example, where 200,000 square miles of “continental flood basalts” are located.

Continental flood basalts are formed when a volcano erupts, ejecting such a large amount of lava that it forms a lake of lava. As the lava cools, it hardens into the magma rock and basalt lava flows we see today. These flood basalts and lava flows are found on every continent:

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volcanic_rock

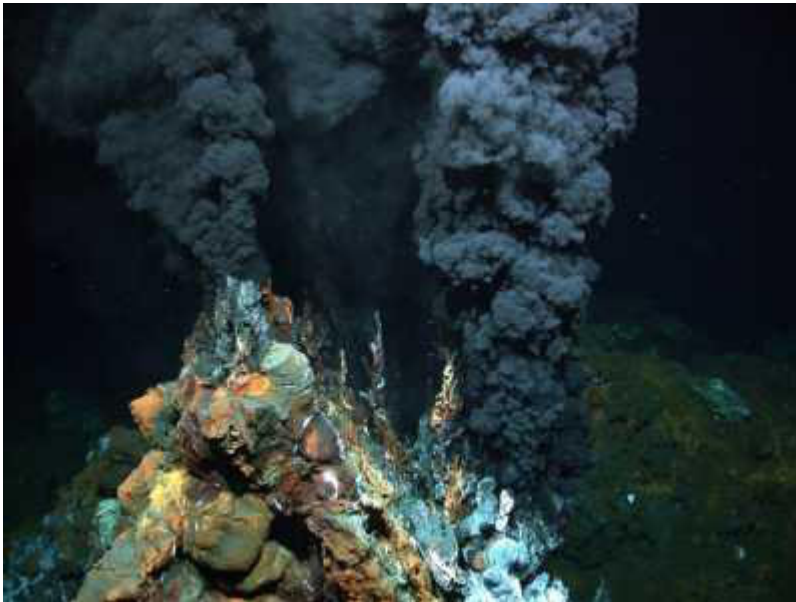
Africa is the home of Lake Tana Basin flood basalt. The Undara lava flow is in Australia. In Antarctica, the East Antarctic continental shield has extensive amounts of basalt rock. South America has the lava field of the Parana basin. There are also the Siberian traps of Asia, the West Mesa lava flows of North America, and the Pillar Basalts in Europe. There are many more. When did all these volcanoes erupt? If they had taken place before the flood, the evidence would have been washed away. If they occurred after the flood, then the eruptions would have been documented. We can therefore conclude that these volcanic eruptions took place during the flood.



<https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/lets-learn-about-volcanoes>

In addition to volcanic activity, we can find clues in the Bible. In Genesis 7:11, we are told that during the global flood of Noah's day, the "fountains of the great deep were broken up". What exactly are these fountains of the great deep? Moses could have been referring to under-water springs, also known as Black Smokers. A Black Smoker is a hydrothermal vent,

usually located on the floor of the sea, and sometimes is referred to as an underwater geyser. It releases rich minerals such as copper, iron, lead, silver, cadmium, zinc and sulfur. It looks like the description “fountains of the deep” could be applied to Black Smokers. We can’t be certain, but it does seem possible that he was talking about something like Black Smokers.



<https://www.le-comptoir-geologique.com/black-smoker-glossary.html>

Now that we have an idea of what the “fountains of the deep” may have been and we know that there was a lot of volcanic activity going on during the flood, it is time to answer the question: What do Black Smokers and volcanoes have to do with the Ice Age? Well, evidence suggests that they, with the help of the water cycle, caused the Ice Age.

Volcanic eruptions can affect the Earth’s climate. For instance, years after the eruption of Mount Pinatubo (1991) in the Philippines the temperature was 5 degrees lower than usual worldwide. Imagine how much colder it would be if many volcanoes erupted around the same time. The temperature would change drastically. Well, evidence suggests this is what happened during the flood. An enormous number of volcanoes erupted which made the

temperature exceedingly lower. Meanwhile, in the ocean, the Black Smokers warmed the water so much that the water evaporated unusually fast, which caused the whole water cycle process to speed up. The clouds became heavy, but instead of raining, the lower temperatures caused the water to precipitate in the form of snow. This same cycle was repeated over and over again. Soon, sheets of ice covered most of the Earth, but the sun was still blocked by volcanic ash and clouds. It would be ages before the ice would melt away.

After finding the clues in the Bible and in the crust of the Earth, we see that during the global flood, many volcanoes erupted, lowering the temperatures of the Earth. At the same time the “fountains of the deep” ejected extremely hot water that warmed the oceans. Knowing what we know about the water cycle, we can reasonably conclude that the conditions of the ocean and the sky worked together to cause a worldwide Ice Age, the mystery of the ages.

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