

## Questions Posed for Study

**Question:** Why did people prior to the flood live so much longer than people today?

**Into:** When it comes to all-things God, the best place to look is in the Scriptures, seeing that this where God, anticipating such questions, has given us answers. As someone has so aptly stated it, “the Bible, is more relevant to our lives than this morning’s newspaper.”

### I. So why did they live longer? Genesis 2:5 – 6.

- A. Interestingly enough, Dr. Carl E. Bough’s book titled, “A Panorama of Creation”, shares from his research and field of expertise, that the earth as we know it today following the flood, was vastly different than one typically imagines it today!
1. For instance, the earth had a firmament \_\_\_\_\_ as well as below.
  2. This means there was a \_\_\_\_\_ above the earth comprised of water of which much was in a frozen state. **Genesis 1:6 – 20.**
  3. The word, firmament means - \_\_\_\_\_ surface (solid), expanse, firmament
    - 1a) expanse (flat as base, support)
    - 1b) firmament (a vault of heaven supporting \_\_\_\_\_ above)
    - 1b1) considered by Hebrews as solid and supporting ‘waters’ above
  4. This would have done several things \_\_\_\_\_ to life.
    - a. It would have \_\_\_\_\_ radiation & ultraviolet rays substantially so in comparison to life following the flood.
    - b. It would have allowed man to see the \_\_\_\_\_ of the stars in ways we can’t without a telescope.
    - c. It made planet earth much like a \_\_\_\_\_ in which things would grow large quickly, making it necessary for very large animals such as the dinosaurs to devour such vegetation.
    - d. Theistic evolutionist are folks who try to \_\_\_\_\_ modern day science, and their billions of years theory into the Bible’s opening account in Genesis chapter one, in order to fit their theories of their alleged prehistoric man and dinosaurs into their angst of not wanting to believe in God.
  5. We notice that from **Genesis 2:6** that there was a \_\_\_\_\_, or for us it would be much like a terrarium affect.
- B. There was a canopy effect in original creation prior to the \_\_\_\_\_.
1. The world was a much different place without the need for \_\_\_\_\_.

2. There was \_\_\_\_\_ vegetation near the north pole.
3. Even following the fall of man, things were very \_\_\_\_\_ until **Genesis 6:4 – 8**.
4. Then comes the need for an ark – **Genesis 6:13 – 21**.
5. What is rain? Seeing there was no need for rain, this was new.
6. A cataclysmic event took place and \_\_\_\_\_ the earth dramatically.
  - a. The firmament above let \_\_\_\_\_. **Genesis 7:4 – 11**.
  - b. The firmament \_\_\_\_\_ also let loose. **Genesis 7:17 – 20**.
  - c. When all was said and done, the canopy above changed & so would life from what it had once been, it would no longer be.
    - (1). Life span would continue to \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (2). Seasons would continue to exist with greater \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (3). The earth's heat would no longer be distributed \_\_\_\_\_ as we see polar ice caps and flourishing jungles at the equator.
    - (4). Now there would be droughts & deserts, violent weather.

C. So how was man's life impacted by all this?

1. From the time of the cataclysm, man has been \_\_\_\_\_ to great amounts of the harmful rays emitted by the sun and has become part of the reason. Cells regenerate quickly, but in a harsher environment, not so easily. Which has become part of God's plan when He changed the environment in which we live via the flood.
2. For the first time God has allowed man to eat \_\_\_\_\_, and while I am not a vegetarian, eating meat is not as healthy as a vegetable diet. **Genesis 9:1 – 4**.
3. Compare this to Isaiah speaking of the Millennium – **Isaiah 11:5 – 9**.
4. We also know that before the flood with long life spans, man was able to perpetuate \_\_\_\_\_ and unrighteousness. A shorter life-span would limit to some degree man's ability to be so sinfully pervasive. **Genesis 6: 5 & 11**.
5. The reason for the long life-span early on appears to be to \_\_\_\_\_ the earth.
6. Following the life of Noah (650 years – **Gen. 9:28 & 29**), life-spans began to decrease and we see Abraham only lived to 175 years. **Genesis 25:7 & 8**.
7. The Psalmist writes – **Psalm 90:10**; here we see just how many years man's life has basically been reduced to as to length of life, 70 to 80 years was considered by David in his day to be a long life.
8. Life, we have no idea how many years we each have, (Acts 9:27), we need to use our time wisely to magnify the Lord our God.