

Noah's Ark

Arnold C. Mendez, Sr.

Gen: 6:14-16 "Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; make rooms in the ark and cover it inside and out with pitch. This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits (450-600 ft.) its width 50 cubits (75-100 ft.), and its height 30 cubits (45-60 ft.). Make a roof for the ark and finish it to a cubit above: and set the door of the ark in its side. Make it with lower, second, and third decks."

No one knows the exactly length of the cubit. The length can vary from 18 inches to 24 inches. These models of Noah's ark are all based on the 18-cubit. The ark may have been between 450-600 ft. long.

The displacement tonnage of the ark, which is the weight of water it would displace at a draught of 15 cubits, would be more than 22,000 tons. Its gross tonnage which is a measure of cubic space (100 feet³ is one gross ton) would be 15,100 tons. The U.S.S. United States which has a length of 990 ft. (660 cubits) is the largest American owned ocean liner, has a gross tonnage of 53,330. The ark's total volume would have been 1,518,000 cubic feet, or the capacity of 569 modern railroad stock cars. The length for a stock car is 44 feet and a volume of 2670 feet³. This would make a train more than 5 1/2 miles long. The floor space for the ark would be over 101,000 square feet. This is more floor space than 21 standard college basketball courts. By comparing the measurements of the ark it is easy to see that it would be comparable to today's ocean going vessels. It was probably the largest vessel of its type built until the late 1800's when metal ships were first constructed.

The ark was built on a 1:6 ratio (300 cubits:50 cubits). The science of naval architecture reveals that the most stable ratio for an ocean going vessel is 1:6. All modern day ocean going vessels use this same length to width ratio. It is estimated that the ark could easily have survived even the largest of ocean waves. If the ark were equipped with a dragging stone anchor, it would have been properly positioned to meet any size ocean wave. The design of the ark would have made it impossible to turn over.

The full-length model of the ark is 1/75 scale. The models of the stockcar, and the Pinta, one of the ships that Columbus sailed to the New World are also 1/75 scale. The large cross-section model is 1/35 scale.