

THE BIBLICAL GEOLOGIC MODEL

Characteristic Geologic Features can be used as criteria to help classify rocks according to the biblical geologic model. It is expected that rocks formed at different times in earth history, as understood from the biblical record, would have a tendency to display the characteristics listed. It should be noted that special circumstances could produce rocks with characteristics that do not fit the expected tendency. The classification criteria therefore should be considered together and local factors taken into account to ensure an appropriate classification is achieved.

The order of the rocks on the chart corresponds with the way they are found in the earth - the uppermost rocks at the top. The sequence of earth history is understood by reading from the bottom of the chart upwards.

Questions will occur to those not familiar with biblical geology on topics such as radiometric dating, fossil distribution and plate tectonics. There is an extensive literature dealing with such issues to which reference should be made.

PHASE	EVENTS OF GEOLOGIC SIGNIFICANCE	CHARACTERISTIC GEOLOGIC FEATURES
MODERN	Relatively stable geologic conditions producing very little of geologic significance.	Local scale along watercourses, in lakes and at discharge to ocean, minimal disturbance, signs of terrestrial life and death.
RESIDUAL	Continued tectonic activity as earth's crust and systems interact to reach a new equilibrium. Growth and retreat of ice sheets on some continents.	Local scale along watercourses, lakes and at discharge to ocean. Minimal disturbance, signs of terrestrial life and death.
DISPERSIVE	Waters continue to move off the land as ocean basins reach final size. Water sheets divide into separate watercourses many times larger than present flows.	Local scale in separate water courses and lakes, minimal disturbance, plastic deformation, abundant signs of terrestrial death. Erosion of landscape. No signs of terrestrial life.
ABATIVE	Movements of the earth's crust form new ocean basins. Waters move off the new continents in sheets eroding the fresh sediments and redepositing them.	Regional scale at continental margins and inland basins, disturbed, plastic deformation, abundant signs of terrestrial death. Erosion of landscape. No signs of terrestrial life.
ZENITHIC	Waters entirely cover the earth. All land creatures destroyed.	Continental scale, significantly disturbed, plastic deformation, signs of terrestrial life and death. Plateaux and mesas survive erosion during Recessive stage.
ASCENDING	Continued deluge and geologic upheaval. Ongoing destruction and burial of vegetation and animal life by sediments deposited in depositional basins.	Continental scale and thick, significantly disturbed, plastic deformation, abundant signs of terrestrial life and death. Eroded during Recessive Stage.
ERUPTIVE	Worldwide geologic upheaval. Break up of the earth's crust. Intense rain and outpouring of floodwaters. Volcanism. Erosion and deposition. Rising waters.	Continental scale and thick, significantly disturbed, plastic deformation, abundant signs of terrestrial life and death. Minimal erosion during the Recessive stage.
LOST-WORLD	Very little of geologic significance due to low intensity of geologic processes. Prolific growth and development of the biosphere.	Local scale and thin, extensively disturbed, brittle deformation, possible evidence of terrestrial life and death, sedimentary textures.
BIOTIC	Creation of sea life. Continued deposition of sediments from the waters into the sedimentary basins of the time with possible inclusion of plankton etc.	Continental scale and thick, extensively disturbed, brittle deformation, inclusion of plankton and other microscopic sea creatures.
DERIVATIVE	Tectonic activity formed ocean basins and raised land. Erosion of Ensuing and Primordial rocks. Resultant sediments deposited in Pre-Flood ocean basins.	Continental scale and thick, extensively disturbed, brittle deformation, no signs of life or death.
ENSUING	Continued deposition of sediments and other material out of the waters onto the Primordial rocks.	World scale and thick, extensively disturbed, plastic and brittle deformation, no signs of life or death.
PRIMORDIAL	Formation of the earth out of nothing. Initially the earth was covered with water.	World scale and thick, extensively disturbed, brittle deformation, no signs of life or death.

Scale can be worldwide, continental, regional or local. Scale includes the thickness of geologic structures.


Disturbance may be extensive, significant or minimal.

Response of rocks to disturbance may range from plastic to brittle.

Fossils and coal are evidences of death within the geologic record.

Footprints are evidence of terrestrial life within the geologic record.

Texture may range from fine-grained muds and sands to coarse-grained conglomerates and breccias.


Indicates an expectation of significant unconformities at these horizons.