



Do you think there were dinosaurs on the ark?

Violet and I just returned from a trip through the western part of the country. We saw a lot of land—the kind that makes you REALLY appreciate trees and lakes and green grass (and not the artificial kind of grass that adorns the lawn at Violet’s aunt and uncle’s place in California!). Along the way we also saw quite a few signs advertising “Dinosaur bones” and “Dinosaur fossils.”

Since I had just recently received the above question about dinosaurs, I thought it was an appropriate time to answer it here. And my answer was: “Of course..”

If dinosaurs were around when The Flood hit - and there’s no reason to think they weren’t - then they would have been included in God’s command in Genesis 6:19-20

*19 You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. 20 Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive.*

A couple other questions usually arise at this point. One of those is something along the lines of “How could they have fit in the ark?” I’d strongly recommend you check out the detailed answer to that question at the excellent “Answers in Genesis” website. Here’s the specific link: [answersingenesis.org/dinosaurs/were-dinosaurs-on-noahs-ark/](http://answersingenesis.org/dinosaurs/were-dinosaurs-on-noahs-ark/).

But the ‘short answer’ includes these three main ideas:

- 1) The ark was huge, so there was plenty of room and
- 2) The vast majority of dinosaurs are no larger than your average horse.
- 3) Of the larger dinosaur “kinds” it would have been natural to take a couple of very young ones (i.e. smaller) onto the ark.

The other usual question has to do with the possibility that humans and dinosaurs lived at the same time. For that I would suggest you go grab your Bible and read about the “leviathan” and “behemoth” in chapters 40 (especially after verse 15) and 41 in the book of Job. In those chapters God makes the point that He is the creator of these two most fearsome of all animals. The description of each sounds very much like what we know of dinosaurs. In these two chapters of Job God is describing creatures that the recipient of His message (a guy named Job) was personally familiar with, so biblical evidence suggests that humans in ancient times did indeed live at the same time as dinosaurs.

I’d encourage everyone to check out more of the Answers in Genesis website. You’ll also find some “Answers” magazines on the “Free Stuff” table at church. Both the website and the magazine have great articles and answers about dinosaurs and other aspects of God’s creation.

Thanks for asking,  
Pastor David

Send your questions to [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)