

## Evidence of the Flood

II. Flood Stories Among Ancient Nations. Stories about the destruction of the world by a great flood, from which only a few people were saved, have been found among many peoples on every continent and even on islands of the Pacific. See fig. 180. R. Andree, *Die Flutsagen ethnographisch betrachtet* (1891), lists 88 Flood stories found all over the world, and B. C. Nelson, *The Deluge Story in Stone* (1949), reports on 41 Flood stories. Nelson points out that most stories have certain features in common, namely, that the destruction occurred by water, that an ark was provided, and that human seed was saved. Many stories stress the universality of the Flood, but other details vary, such as the question as to the cause of the Flood, the saving of animals, the place of the landing of the ship, and the sending out of birds. Although it is possible that some of these stories originated in a disastrous local catastrophe, the worldwide distribution of the Flood stories cannot be accidental and must be accepted as evidence for the historicity of the Biblical Flood narrative.

180. The worldwide distribution of Flood stories; each dot represents a local version

