

Were There Carnivores Before the Flood of Noah?

Question Answered by Pastor Kevin Lea
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The Bible does not say that animals/dinosaurs did not eat meat before the flood. It only talks about what man was supposed to eat.

In *Genesis 2* and *3*, God said:

Before the fall of man:

Gen 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

After the fall of man:

Gen 3:18-19 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return."

There is no discussion of man eating meat until Genesis 9, after the flood:

Gen 9:1-4 So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move on the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood."

Since death came into the world by Adam (*Romans 5*, *1 Cor 15:22*), most (if not all) young-earth creationists believe that prior to the fall of man animals were plant eaters (herbivores) and no animals killed and ate other animals for food.

Some will argue that this view is impossible because the digestive tracts of carnivores (meat eaters) are such that they cannot survive as herbivores, and if God created them in the six days of creation with the organs etc. that they have today, then they must have had to kill and eat before Adam and Eve fell.

As a rebuttal to this view, the scriptures are clear that when Jesus returns the lion will lie down with the lamb and eat straw like an ox. Therefore, God restores things to the way they were before the fall of man (and before the flood) when T-Rex was eating veggie burgers rather than chasing us down for a snack.

Isa 65:23-25 [When Jesus sets up His Kingdom on Earth] *"They shall not labor in vain, nor bring forth children for trouble; for they shall be the*

descendants of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain," says the LORD. (NKJ)

Isa 11:6-9 [When Jesus sets up His Kingdom on Earth] "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. (NKJ)