

15 Reasons Why the Catastrophic Plate Tectonic Theory Can't Be True

The *Catastrophic Plate Tectonic theory* is a theory that has been developed by a few creation scientists to try and explain the cause and source of the global flood. Unfortunately, the theory is based on a widely-held evolutionary theory called *Plate Tectonics*. In essence, the Catastrophic Plate Tectonic (CPT) theory is just the same thing as the evolutionist's Plate Tectonic theory – but just sped up a million fold. Although the creationists were most certainly well-intentioned in their efforts to promote the CPT theory as a viable model for the flood, they evidently failed because they broke a “cardinal rule,” so to speak, in the Christian's book of logic – that is, never assume that the claims of evolutionists are right just because many people believe them.

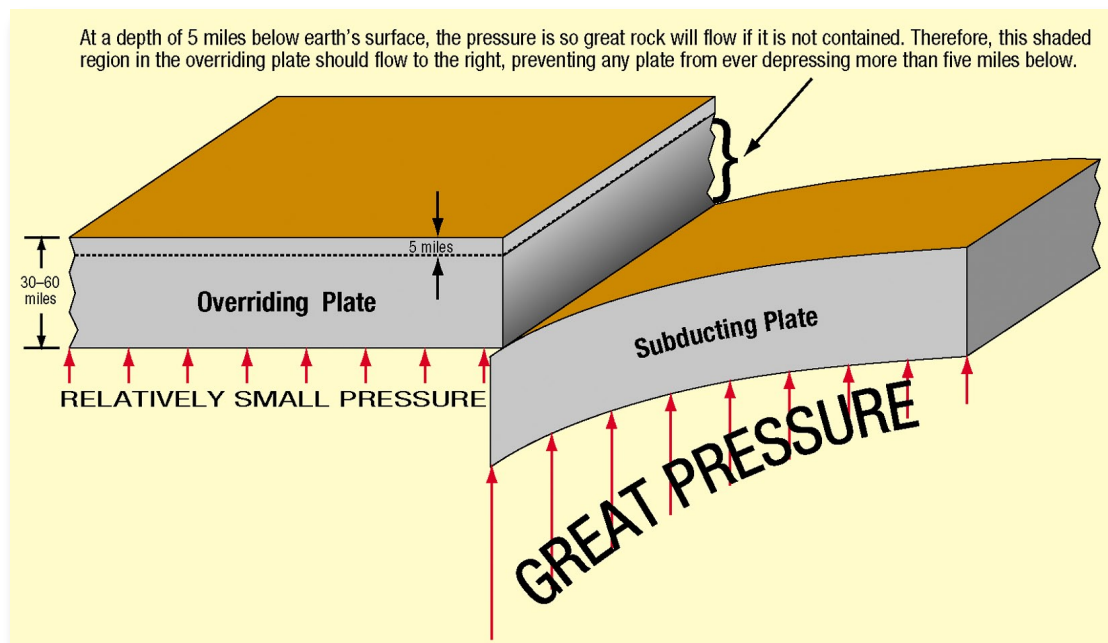
In the case of the CPT theory,

it failed this test of logic. It is completely based on the faulty theory of evolutionary Plate Tectonics. In short, the Plate Tectonic Theory is to geology what organic evolution is to biology. It is based on faith only, for there is NO MECHANISM to make it work. There is NO FORCE available to make it happen. It can only happen in the minds of evolutionists, or in the processors of supercomputers that are programmed with the assumptions of these faulty theories.

One of the main facets of the standard theory of plate tectonics is something called *subduction*. Allegedly, the crust of the earth is divided up into dozens of plates (the number of them keeps changing). These plates are at least 30 miles thick. To imagine how high that is, note that if you were to travel up for 30 miles, you would be in outer space!

Then, somehow, miraculously, an unknown and unobserved mysterious force causes that 30 mile thick plate to dive into the Earth! That's right, a 30 mile thick plate just starts its dive down into the mantle of the Earth! Of course, the process of subduction takes millions of years (they say), but we know that it happens because of the big ocean trenches that we see today (they say).

Folks, you don't have to be a “rocket scientist,” nor an advanced geologist for that matter, to know that a gigantic piece of the earth's crust is not going to slowly dive into the earth's mantle. The following chart (next page) lists at least 15 reasons why subduction cannot occur, thereby giving us 15 reasons why the CPT theory can't be true (since the CPT theory is based on the idea of subduction).



Subducting Plate Diagram

Please note, that the deeper you go into the earth, the more the pressure increases. If one tried to send a plate 30 miles or more below another plate, the intense upward pressure would not allow it to happen. By this alone, subduction cannot occur, and therefore both the plate tectonic theory and the catastrophic plate tectonic theory can't work.

15 Reasons Why We Know Plates Do Not Subduct, Cannot Subduct, and Have Not Subducted

1. A subducting plate would experience too much resistance in diving down through just the top of the mantle. The blunt, front end alone would stop movement. The unspecified force needed to overcome these resistances would (if a push force) crush the plate or (if a pull force) pull the plate apart.
2. Sediments, volcanoes, and plateaus have not been scraped off “subducting” plates in trenches.
3. Sedimentary layers in trenches are undisturbed. These layers would be mangled if plates subducted.
4. Forces are not available to break the crust into plates or separate those plates from their bases.
5. One plate cannot even begin its dive under an adjacent plate that is 30–60 miles thick. Cliffs cannot be higher than 5 miles (see diagram on previous page).
6. Subduction cannot occur along an arc. Subduction is geometrically possible along only a straight line. (The arc and cusp pattern of oceanic trenches indicates subsidence, not subduction.)
7. Most volcanoes are on the wrong side of trenches if subducting plates produce volcanoes.
8. Below trenches are mass deficiencies, not mass excesses as subduction would produce.
9. Beneath trenches, large earthquakes sometimes occur across a broader region than the width of a plate.
10. Seismic tomography has not shown unambiguous subducted plates in even two dimensions. If plates subducted, seismic tomography could convincingly and dramatically show them in *three* dimensions.
11. Some Benioff zones are horizontal. Subducting plates should always move on a downward slope.
12. Thick, buoyant continents should prevent subduction.
13. Trench locations and lengths do not correspond to ridges as plate tectonic theory requires.
14. There are three locations where a trench (and supposedly a descending plate) intersects a ridge (where material is supposedly rising)—material cannot be going up and down at the same time. These locations are: 50.5°N latitude and 130°W longitude, 20.5°N latitude and 107°W longitude, and 47.3°S latitude and 75.7°W longitude.
15. Ancient trenches have not been found.

This chart was taken from the book, *In the Beginning*, a book that presents the Hydroplate Theory – a theory which presents a sound and scientific model for the flood and that also easily explains the formation of ocean trenches.

This chart and the accompanying notes for each of the 15 arguments can be found online at <http://www.creationscience.com/onlinebook/Trenches5.html>.

In Dr. Brown’s book, *In the Beginning*, an entire chapter is devoted to explaining the origin of the ocean trenches. Very sound scientific analysis is presented and much evidence is seen which completely obliterates the concepts of the various plate tectonic theories.

In closing, let us note the following excerpt from *In the Beginning*:

FINAL THOUGHTS

Thomas Crowder Chamberlin¹, former president of the University of Wisconsin and the first head of the Geology Department at the University of Chicago, published a famous

paper in which he warned researchers not to let one hypothesis dominate their thinking. Instead, they should always have or seek multiple working hypotheses, especially in fields, such as geology, where much remains to be learned. Chamberlin stated that testing competing hypotheses or theories sharpens one’s analytical skills, develops thoroughness, reduces biases, and helps students and teachers learn to think independently and discriminate rather than simply memorize and conform. Chamberlin said the dangers of teaching only one explanation are especially great in the earth sciences. The explanation for oceanic trenches is an example. The plate tectonic theory dominates the earth sciences. A recent survey of scientists selected it as the most significant theory of the 20th century. Undoubtedly, Darwin’s theory of organic evolution would be voted as the most significant theory of the 19th century. Both dominate, despite their growing scientific problems, because schools and the media ignore competing explanations. Chamberlin warned about the comfort of conformity.

1 Thomas Crowder Chamberlin, “The Method of Multiple Working Hypotheses,” *Journal of Geology*, Vol. 5, 1897, pp.837–848. This famous paper was also reprinted in *Journal of Geology*, Vol.31, 1931, pp.155–165 and in *A Source Book in Geology: 1400–1900*, editors Kirtley F. Mather and Shirley L. Mason (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1967), pp.604–630.