

Journey Through HIStory: Noah and the Flood

Text: Genesis 7:1-24

Introduction:

After one hundred and twenty years since the pronouncement of God's judgment and commissioning Noah to build the ark, God sent the waters to flood the earth and destroy mankind because of their wickedness. But Noah and his family, and some of the land animals and fowls, went into the ark and were delivered from destruction.

I. Entering the Ark. – Gen. 7:1-9

- A. God called Noah to _____ into the ark.
- *"God does not bid him **go** into the ark, but **come** into it, implying that God would go with him, would lead him into it, accompany him in it, and in due time bring him safely out of it. Note, Wherever we are, it is very desirable to have the presence of God with us, for this is all in all to the comfort of every condition. It was this that made Noah's ark, which was a prison, to be to him not only a refuge, but a palace."* ^[1] (Matthew Henry, Commentary on Genesis 7)
- B. God gave seven _____ days before sending the waters to flood the earth.
- This was another act of God's grace, giving a final stretch before executing judgment.
- C. The animals have been moved by _____ to enter the ark unlike Noah, his wife, his sons, and his sons' wives who had to exercise their own positive volition to do so.
1. *"Some wonder how the animals came to Noah or how Noah got them. In Genesis 6:20 God said the animals would **come to** Noah by migration. In some animals, God has created a migratory instinct (which can operate in an amazing manner). It is no difficulty for Him to miraculously place an urge to migrate to the ark in each pair of animals He planned to be preserved in the ark."* ^[2] (David Guzik, Commentary on Genesis 7)
 2. *"God never has a problem getting the animals to do what He wants. Only man is more stupid than the animals. 'The ox knows its owner and the donkey its master's crib; but Israel does not know, My people do not consider.' (Isaiah 1:3)"* ^[2]
- D. Information on animals in the ark. (Excerpts from the article *How Could All the Animals Fit on the Ark?* by Michael Belknap and Tim Chaffey)
1. *"According to Genesis 6:15, the ark was 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high—the proportions of a genuine shipping vessel."* ^[3]
 2. *"The Bible informs us that the ark housed representatives of every land-dependent, air-breathing animal—ones that could not otherwise survive the flood (Genesis 7:21–23). Conversely, Noah did not care for marine animals, and he probably did not need to bring insects, with the possible exception of delicate insects like butterflies and moths—since most insects could survive outside the ark. Also, insects take in oxygen through spiracles in their skin, and the Bible specifies that those creatures targeted outside of the ark were those "on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life.""* ^[3]
 3. *"Though wild animals today are often considered according to their species, the Bible deals with animals according to their *min*, a Hebrew word usually translated as "kind." We can infer from Scripture that God created plants and animals to reproduce after their kinds (Genesis 1:11–25), and it is clear from various texts that a kind is often a broader category than the current concept of a species. This means that a kind may contain many different species. Since Noah was only sent select representatives from relevant kinds, all land-dwelling vertebrate species not present on the ark were wiped out. Therefore, if we see an*

- ark kind represented today by different species (e.g., horses, zebras, and donkeys of the equid kind) those species have developed since the time of the flood. Therefore, species are simply varying expressions of a particular kind.”* [3]
4. *“Noah’s ark was much larger than it is usually depicted, and many of the animals were probably smaller than shown in popular pictures.”* [3]
 5. *“It makes more sense to think that God would have sent to Noah juveniles or smaller varieties within the same kind.”* [3]
 6. *“...there were fewer than 7,000 animals on board the ark.”* [3]

II. Beginning of the Flood. – Gen. 7:10-16

- A. The floodwaters came just as God _____ it would after seven days.
- B. Moses dated the incident, *“In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, on the seventeenth day of the second month.”* (Gen. 7:11 AMP)
 - An indication that a proper record of an _____ event was being written.
- C. Subterranean waters (*“fountains of the great deep”*) and rain (*“windows and floodgates of the heavens”*) flooded the earth.
 - *“This is when the great ‘waters which were above the firmament’ (Genesis 1:7) broke up. These waters formed the huge “blanket” of water in the upper part of the earth’s atmosphere since creation.”* [2]
- D. The rain kept pouring for forty days and forty nights.
- E. The Lord, _____, closed the door of the ark after Noah and his family, and all the animals He required had entered the ark.
 1. No one else followed them, and after that, no one was able to enter the ark anymore until everything was over.
 2. Everyone else was busy carrying out their _____ agenda and was indifferent to God. – Matt. 24:37-39; Lk. 17:26-27

III. Description of the Flood. – Gen. 7:17-24

- A. The “Flood” was _____ and not limited to Noah’s locality or region.
 1. *“Only a global flood would cover all the high mountains under the heavens by at least 15 cubits (about 25 feet or 7 meters: Genesis 7:19). Since water always seeks the lowest level, to cover just the mountains in the Middle East would result in a global flood.”* [4] (Dr. Terry Mortenson, *Noah’s Flood: a Historical, Global Catastrophe*)
 2. *“God directs the animals and Noah’s family to repopulate the earth (Genesis 8:15–17 and 9:1). The commands were only necessary if it were a global flood, since animals and birds outside the flood zone could naturally repopulate the area otherwise.”* [4]
- B. It was a catastrophic event that caused permanent damage to the earth.
 1. *“God destroyed (blotted out, wiped away) every living thing that was on the surface of the earth; man and animals and the crawling things and the birds of the heavens were destroyed from the land. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive.”* (vs. 23)
 2. *“The waters did not reach their peak on the first day. That likely did not occur until the 40th day. From the outset when the fountains were broken up, the waters continually rose and prevailed on the land (Genesis 7:18–20). Tsunamis hammered the land, eroding it as the floodwaters surged higher and higher and retreated between surges. So, during the rising of the water, in any given area there would be times of violence and other brief times of relative calm. It would not have been equally catastrophic everywhere at the same time.”* [4]

- C. The “Flood” was a real _____ event.
1. *“Stories of the Flood—distorted though they may be—exist in practically all nations, from ancient Babylon onward. This evidence must not be lightly dismissed. If there never was a worldwide Flood, then why are there so many stories about it?”* ^[5] (Dr. Monty White, *Flood Legends*)
 2. *“The book of Genesis was written in the style of historical narrative and is vastly superior to any myth. By simply knowing the Flood account well, you can show people how it outshines every manmade flood myth—including the Babylonian version most similar to the Bible.”* ^[6] (Troy Lacey and Lee Anderson, Jr., *The Genesis Flood vs. Flood Legends*)
- D. The flood waters covered the earth for 150 days (5 months).

IV. Spiritual Insights and Principles.

- A. It is noteworthy that only Noah was mentioned to be seen as righteous by God. – vs. 1
- His family probably believed in the Lord through his testimony and then had positive volition towards God after. Regardless, they have been blessed by association _____ him.
- B. After the ark was completed, God gave further instructions to Noah (vss. 1-4), and he still just *“did all that the Lord had commanded him.”* (vs. 5)
- Leadership Principle: God acknowledged His servant. – vs. 1
- C. Noah’s wife, as well as the wives of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, showed remarkable faith and _____ for their husbands.
- No record of their nagging nor complaining was made as opposed to Sarai and Job’s wife.
- D. Noah built the ark, and _____ did the rest—bringing the animals, shutting the door, sending the waters, protecting them inside the ark.
- E. It is most likely (almost certainly) that the Garden of Eden was wiped out during the “Flood.”

Conclusion/Application:

The justice of God made sure to execute His judgement on an evil generation, but it was that _____ justice that acknowledged the righteousness He had seen in Noah and the necessity to keep His promise to mankind, thus preserving humanity. The Lord, He is just (Deut. 32:4).

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1. https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/mhc/Gen/Gen_007.cfm?a=7001
 2. https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/guzik_david/StudyGuide2017-Gen/Gen-7.cfm?a=7001
 3. <https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/how-could-all-animals-fit-ark/>
 4. <https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-flood/>
 5. <https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/flood-legends/flood-legends/>
 6. <https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/flood-legends/the-genesis-flood-not-just-another-legend/>