

Noah (Lesson3)

Hebrews 11:7; Genesis 8

Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Noah in the hall of fame of faith because when him God warned of what was to come, he moved to prepare for it by building an ark so his family could be saved from the flood and judgment. As a result, his reward was salvation and right position in and with God which comes through faith.

Let's take this apart.

- Noah receives a revelation and warning from God.
- Noah believes the word from God. His faith arrives after he hears the word of God.
 - Romans 10:17 - **So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**
- Noah puts his faith into action by preparing the ark. Faith without works is dead (James 2:14).
- He builds the ark in advance even though the evidence of what God says is going to happen, has not manifested yet. The evidence is not fully there yet...all he has to go on is the word of God....and that seems to be enough for him.
- His actions by faith results in him and others being saved.
- He condemned the world; he preached repentance and he didn't follow the way of the world.
- The reward and results – righteousness and being right with God is in his future because of his faith.

New Insights

In preparing for this lesson, the Lord showed me the following from the previous passages. He works like that often:

- Genesis 6:16 – there were levels in the Ark. If you place yourself in Noah's Ark, which level would you rather be at? I would want to be on the top level. Application: there are still different levels in the spiritual ark. There are believers who are at different levels of maturity. We should strive to not just be satisfied with being saved.
- God tells Noah to bring more clean animals in 7's rather than unclean animals in two. Application: God wants you to be sure you have the resources for praise and worship on your journey. God instructs Noah so he would have what he needed for sacrifice and worship. Make sure you don't run out of praise and worship when going through tough times.

Genesis 8

And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assuaged; ² The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained; ³ And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated.

⁴ And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat. ⁵ And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen.

Verse 4 – ark rested in the 7th month on the 17th day. This is significant. This would be around the time of the Feast of First Fruits. Picture of baptism which connects to this 3rd feast. Look closely at **1 Peter 3:20-21**.

Feast of First Fruits: See Leviticus 23:3-10

In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD's Passover. ⁶ And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.

⁹ And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, ¹⁰ Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest unto the priest: ¹¹ And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.

Prophetic of Christ

- Christ would rise 3 days and nights after he was crucified (Matthew 12:38-40; Matthew 28:1-5; Luke 24:44-49)
- Jesus rose on the 17th of Nisan, the day of the Festival of First Fruits. Jesus is called the First Fruits of those who rise from the dead (Romans 8:18-23; 1 Corinthians 15:16-23)

What does all this mean?

- Verse 4 states the Ark rested on the 17th day of the 7th month. At the time of Noah, the 7th month would have been around the month of Passover. What is described as the 7th month here in Genesis, is switched in Exodus 12 when God declares Nisan or the month of Passover as the first month.
- Leviticus 23 shows that Passover occurs on the 14th day, Unleavened Bread happens on the 15th. Christ was crucified on Passover and if he is resurrected three days later, that would be the 17th of First Fruits.

- That means the Ark rested and rose out of the water on the same day that Christ rose out of the grave. You do the math....and now think about the symbolism and what God is doing on this special appointment day.
- This whole story of Noah is aligned with the plan of God and the ministry of Christ.

Genesis 8:6-13

⁶ And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made: ⁷ And he sent forth a raven, which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth.

⁸ Also he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground; ⁹ But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth: then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled her in unto him into the ark.

¹⁰ And he stayed yet other seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark; ¹¹ and the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf pluckt off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth. ¹² And he stayed yet other seven days; and sent forth the dove; which returned not again unto him any more.

¹³ And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry.

See Genesis 8, New Year's Message under Sermons on the website.

Important Note: I received a new revelation about the one window in the Ark. Genesis 6:16 indicates there is one window. It must be at the top of the Ark. I don't think given the scriptures that Noah could look down at the ground when he looked out the window. If true, why not?

Application: we should not ignore and need to be aware of what's going on in the earth, but it shouldn't be our focus for everyday living and what we see must not drive the decisions we make. We walk by faith and the leading of the Holy Spirit and not by sight.

- A good spiritual friend gave me the term, "I want a window seat". That will preach!

Sent out a raven and a dove. The purpose was to get intelligence on the situation. This is important. Noah wants to leave the Ark but he wants to make sure it is safe. I see the raven representing our soulish knowledge and the dove representing the leading of the Holy Spirit.

This is a crucial assessment. You can be a Christian and be in the ark by faith, and still make decisions not based upon the Spirit, and find yourself in a mess. These scriptures I think show through the example of Noah, how we should make Spiritual decisions. He that believes does not make haste.

Send out a raven. Ravens are one of the most intelligent creatures in the animal kingdom. They will manipulate other animals to get food. They are scavengers meaning they eat dead stuff.

- Raven representing darkness and human wisdom and intellect. Human wisdom and knowledge alone, worldly knowledge alone, what your friends and experts say alone.....will not give you all the information you need to make a major decision. It will never satisfy you fully.
- Oh, just because you are saved...doesn't mean you will make Godly and spiritual decisions. Noah was just saved from the flood, but that didn't guarantee that his next decisions would be led by the Spirit. Saved people still get divorced, Christians still go to jail, and believers can still say mean things and decide to do mean things even after God has just delivered them. Some of the dumbest decisions I've made in life were after I got saved.
- If just sending out the raven was enough, then he wouldn't have had to send out the dove. Your raven will never satisfy you enough or give you enough information in order to make the right decisions in life.

Just using the raven didn't work for Noah so he sends out a dove.

- Dove is a symbol of love and peace. Also symbolic of the Holy Ghost. Send it out the first time, but the dove couldn't find a good place to land.
- Verse 9, found no rest in the place so it returned to the Ark and Noah reached out and pulled her in. Unlike the raven, the dove comes back even though the dove didn't have good news. Even though the news wasn't good, Noah stretches out and receives the dove.
 - Oh, you missed it. Too many times we don't like God's timing. We want it right now, but God says wait. It ain't time yet, you ain't ready to handle what's out there yet.
 - Waited and the dove came back with an olive leaf. The first week might not have been your week...but your week is coming. A sign of peace, a sign of new growth, a sign that what was dead was now alive again.
 - Waited another week, sent the dove out again, but this time, the dove doesn't come back because the dove found a peaceful place where there was rest for the soul. Even though he couldn't see the dove anymore, he knew that the dove had given him the answer he was looking for.

Application: Don't make a major decision unless you have the peace of God through the Holy Spirit and do not lean on your own understanding alone (raven knowledge) when taking action.

¹⁴ And in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was the earth dried. ¹⁵ And God spake unto Noah, saying, ¹⁶ Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. ¹⁷ Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth.

¹⁸ And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him: ¹⁹ Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.

²⁰ And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

²¹ And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

²² While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Verse 18 – they went forth, which means the ark was not the end of the plan. God's plan included us coming out of the tribulation better and with a bright future. This is part of the promise.

Verse 20-21: Builds an altar to worship and sacrifice. The worship reaches the nose of God and He is pleased. True worship and sacrifice is a sweet smell to God which releases more blessings and favor.

- Importance of renewing the mind, because our imaginations are evil. Not only do we need a physical baptism, but a spiritual baptism that includes renewing our minds/thoughts and imaginations.
- Now we see why God told Noah to bring more clean animals...they would be needed as part of Noah's worship.

Noah's faithfulness and obedience results in a promise of peace from God and a new life and beginning. This remains the plan of God for us.

Observation: Notice the Feast steps from Leviticus 23 are fully in play and point to the plan of God being played out in this same sequence.

- First three feasts and seen in the coming judgement of the flood representing baptism. Feast #1 – the need for God; #2 – turned from what he was doing and turned to God and seeking His will/plan; #3 – his obedience and hope rests in the Ark. The Ark lands on what is 1st Fruits (verse 4) a symbol of new life and the resurrection; #4 – the leading of the Holy Spirit as seen through the dove; #5 – verse 13, dry ground and the cover of the Ark is removed on the same day as the Feast of Trumpets representing the Rapture; #6 -- an offering is made unto a sweet smell to the Lord....I see this as representing the Day of Atonement; #7 – God gives Noah a sign of peace and rest.

Genesis 9:1-2: Original plan given to Adam is now renewed with Noah. God will accomplish His original plan for the earth. Chapter covers a new covenant. Likewise we too are under a new covenant when we go through the baptismal process.

Teaching Points and application:

- Ark represents the rapture; as Noah escapes judgment, so can we by faith through God's word.
- God purges the world through water, washing it clean, see Ephesians 5:26; He still uses water today as a symbol for how we need to be washed from old sins.
- Noah exercises faith when he hears of the judgment to come. Do you know that judgment is coming? If so, what are you doing to prepare for it? What does the lesson of Noah teach us about what to do in order to prepare?
- Flood was a baptism for Noah just as the Red Sea was a baptism for Israel. We need to experience a baptism of the Spirit to be in right standing when judgment comes. Flood transfers Noah from the old world to a new world. There's an application here for us.
 - Recall when the pillar moved, that is when the Children of Israel moved. We have the same principle here.
- Water doesn't save Noah...the Ark does which is built by faith. Without faith...there is no ark built and Noah would have not been in righteous position to be saved.
- See Matthew 24:36-42. Back then, people ignored the word of God and His warning even though it was an end time season. Same today, people are going on and living their lives without concern over the warning even though we are living in an end time season. Only faith in the word of God will save you and place you in the Ark of safety when judgment time comes.
- Other references of Noah

- Ezekiel 14:12 -14, 20: Speaks of Noah and his righteousness.
- Hebrew 11:7 – see again now the testimony of Noah. He was moved by fear.
 - It is a good thing to move and live in the fear of the Lord. Explain.
- 2 Peter 2:4-5 – Noah must have preached to others; he saved more than just himself.
 - We need to be preaching to others so they can get in right standing before judgment comes. What can and should we be doing while the ark is being built? Note, not everyone will listen, but some will and be saved.
 - What are you building? Can people see you working on your ark?
 - What scripture tells us that there is a type of ark being built with many rooms?
 - John 14:2-4. Powerful!