

"The Flood"

Part 2

Genesis 6:8-22

Introduction: Today we shall continue our study in the book of Genesis and within our study we are looking at the flood of Noah's day.

Now last week I told you that the flood and all the evidence of it in our world today is very important.

2 Peter 3:3-7

³ *Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,*

⁴ *And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.*

⁵ *For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:*

⁶ *Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:*

⁷ *But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.*

The Bible tells us that God will one day judge this world and all of the ungodly. The flood is evidence to show that prophecy will be fulfilled. The global flood which took place in Noah's day is very evident in all areas of the world and it is a testimony of the righteousness of God.

Now, many people deny the flood because of the lack of human fossils. Think about something with me for a moment. If there were 8-10 billion people alive on the earth then why are there not many fossils of humans? Let me just tell you how quickly they would have multiplied.

In 1850 we had 1 billion people in the world.

In 1930 2 billion.

In 1950 3 billion.

Today we have over 6 billion.

So in 164 years you go from 1 billion to 6 billion and people only lived into their 50's, 60's, and 70's. In the days before the flood they lived 900 years and had children into their 500's.

Let me give you something to think about for a moment.

Man back then was very intelligent. Therefore when the rain began to fall and the fountains of the great deep broke open and the waters began to rise man would have headed for higher ground. There were no doubt boats in those days for they would have sailed the seas and many would have been fisherman. So as man headed toward the higher ground he would have been the last animal to drown. Do you know what happens to a person who drowns? They will eventually bloat and then they will float. The tissue then begins to deteriorate and the body simply goes to pieces. Some would have been devoured by birds as they searched for places to land and for food. So many of the people would not have been imbedded in the mud and would have simply returned back to the dust of the earth.

Now in our study of the flood we must take a close look at one of the main characters and that would be Noah. Today I want us to look at some lessons from Noah the man. He lived some 5000 years ago but the lessons from his life are very applicable to our lives today. This is a very practical sermon today which we all need. We shall see in Noah the marks of a disciple of God.

I. Lessons From Noah's Life

Have you ever wondered what Noah was like? I am sure you have all pictured him in your mind. To me he looked like Charlie in a baptismal robe. But what he looked like on the outside was not important. Let us take a close look into his life.

1. **He was an ordinary man saved by grace.**

Notice Genesis 6:8

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Here in this verse we see that Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. Grace is unmerited favor. In other words Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. This grace was a result of Noah's faith in God's promise of a future Redeemer.

The news of Genesis 3:15 had been passed down by Adam for 931 years.

Genesis 3:14-15

¹⁴ *And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:*

¹⁵ *And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*

Now Noah did not understand the cross as we do but he knew there was coming a Seed of the Woman who would destroy Satan and Noah believed that promise and it was his through his faith that he found grace.

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

⁹ *Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

When Noah placed his faith in God's promise he was then saved by grace through that very faith. He looked ahead to the cross we look back.

But here is the point I want you to see: Noah was not any different than we are. He was a sinner saved by grace through faith.

2. God had a specific purpose for Noah.

Genesis 5:28-29

²⁸ *And Lamech lived an hundred eighty and two years, and begat a son:*

²⁹ *And he called his name Noah, saying, This same shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD hath cursed.*

When Noah was born God had given to his father Lamech a message concerning Noah. Lamech did not know what Noah would do but he knew that through him there would be

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relief from the ungodliness which existed within the world. He knew that Noah had a specific purpose assigned to him by God.

Now we already know that through Noah the human race would be saved and through Noah the promise of the Jesus Christ would be kept alive.

Application:

Let me just remind you that God has a specific purpose for every one of His children.

I showed you in the first point that Noah was an ordinary man saved by grace through faith and I want you to see that God has a purpose for every ordinary person who has placed their faith in Jesus Christ.

Jeremiah 1:4-5

⁴ Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

⁵ Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

God has a purpose for Jeremiah and He had a purpose for Noah. In the same way God has a purpose for each one of us who are saved. He has given to you at least 1 spiritual gift and He wants you to use it.

Let me just say it is God's desire for you to exercise that gift so that through you He will be glorified and Jesus Christ will be seen. You are not called to build an ark or to be a prophet as was Jeremiah but God has something for you to do so that others will see Christ in you.

Galatians 2:20

²⁰ I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

3. Noah was surrendered over to God's will.

Notice Genesis 6:14-17, 22

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In verse 22 we see that Noah asked no questions nor did he give God a list of reasons as to why he could not serve God. He was willing to place everything else aside and give all of his life over to the will of God.

This reminds me of the disciples when they were called by Jesus Christ.

Mark 1:16-20

¹⁶ Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

¹⁷ And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.

¹⁸ And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him.

¹⁹ And when he had gone a little farther thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets.

²⁰ And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

Application:

God desires to use you to make an impact and to let others see Jesus Christ in you but it takes this kind of surrender.

Luke 14:25-27

²⁵ And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them,

²⁶ If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

²⁷ And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

In order to have an impact for God He must be first in our lives.

There are many distractions which come our way but we must keep our eyes upon Him and what it is that He has gifted us to do.

4. Noah's ministry was very difficult.

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Notice Genesis 6:14-16

Noah was called to build an ark that was huge in size. It was about 450 feet long. It was about 75 feet wide. It was about 45 feet high.

This was a large rectangle that was longer than a football field and taller than a 4 story building. It would take Noah 120 years to complete the project.

There was no other boat built this big until the 19th century and the same formula which was used for the ark is used for ships today. It was a 6 to 1 ratio.

The point I want you to see is that this was hard work. He preached while he built the ark and he saw not 1 convert.

2 Peter 2:5

⁵ And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

But he continued to be faithful to what God had called him to do for 120 years.

Application:

The lesson here for us is that following God is not easy. Our Lord endured the cross and who are we to think that we will not go through suffering as we follow Him?

But the point I want to make here is that surrender to God does not mean life is easy. Let me show you Luke 14 again.

Luke 14:27

²⁷ And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

Let me give to you something you need to remember:

“Circumstances do not determine the will of God.”

2 Timothy 3:12

¹² Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

5. Noah was not influenced by his society.

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Notice Genesis 6:8-9

The society of Noah's day was deep into sin but Noah lived a life of separation.

Application:

When we look at Noah we can see that it is possible to live in the midst of a corrupt society and walk with God.

6. Noah walked by faith.

Hebrews 11:7

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 had never seen rain or a flood but he believed God and had a deep reverence for God and therefore Noah walked by faith.

He would have endured great criticism from his society but he was not deterred by them. He was resting in the Word of God and by faith he stayed true to the purpose which God had for him.

Conclusion:

This is what a disciple of Jesus Christ looks like.

Noah was only one man who is still impacting the world today as people study the Bible. We have an opportunity to impact the lives of people as we live a life of surrender to the will of God and we live by faith.

Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

² And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.