

"The Flood"

Part 5

Genesis 7-8

Introduction: This past Tuesday night some of you were able to watch the debate between Ken Ham and Bill Nye. As we watched that there were many thoughts which went through my mind and there were many verses which came into my mind.

Hebrews 11:3

³ Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Through faith we believe that God spoke this world into existence. There are things which cannot be proved with science and that is why it is called faith.

1 Corinthians 2:14

¹⁴ But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

I saw clear evidence of that verse as I watched Bill Nye do all he could to refute the Biblical teaching of Creation.

Now there are many people who claim the Bible was written by people who made it all up. They do not believe the Bible is the Word of God and so it has no authority in their lives. In the debate Bill Nye continued to say he desired to see something which the Bible predicted come about. That is what I call fulfilled prophecy and it is happening today.

In our message today I want you to see a picture of the Christian life which from the days of Noah. Now keep in mind what we are about to look at today had taken place over 2000 years before the birth of Jesus Christ.

This week in my study of the book of Genesis I was reading and praying about Genesis 7-8 again and asking God what it was that He wanted me to share. I looked at the beginning of chapter 8 where we are told that God remembered Noah. I read on and looked really close at the landing of the ark in the mountains. I continued to read on and looked at the raven and the dove which Noah released from the ark.

Then I said, "God what is it that you desire for me to share?" It was then that the Spirit of God began to open my eyes to something I had missed all of the other times I had taught or read through the book of Genesis. I looked at the ark, the flood, the landing of the ark, and the 2 birds and God allowed me to see a beautiful picture of the Christian life.

I. Salvation

There are many pictures to be seen in the story of Noah's ark but the one I want you to see today is one of salvation.

Even more detailed I want us to see the ark as a picture of Jesus Christ.

The first thing we see in this picture is:

II. The Invitation.

Notice Genesis 7:1

Now for Noah to enter the ark there were 2 things required on his behalf.

1. He had to walk away from the world.

Noah had to say, "No" to the old life before the flood and, "Yes" to a new life with God. He was walking away from the old life. Noah had to be willing to walk away from the world as he knew it in order to enter the ark. He knew that the old world would be gone and that he would have a new life with God. He had to be willing to abandon the old life in order to get a new life with God. He could not have both!

This is exactly what we have been talking about on Wednesday evenings. In order for a person to be saved there must be a hatred for the sin in their lives and they must desire a new life with God. There must be repentance which is a change of mind. It is not cleaning up your life but it is saying, "NO" to your life of sin and, "YES" to the new life which God offers to you in Jesus Christ.

You cannot come to Christ and live for the world. That is clearly seen in the story of Noah. Those who loved the world perished in the flood. Noah was willing to walk away from the old life and step into a new life with God.

2. He had to have faith.

Notice Genesis 7:5

When Noah and his family answered God's invitation to enter the ark Noah put all of his faith in the ark. We could say he placed all of his eggs in one basket. He did not have a backup plan. He trusted what God had said completely. He entered the ark on faith and faith alone.

He had no resources to save him and his family from the flood so he believed what God had told him and he placed all of his trust in the promise of God that in the ark he would be safe.

Application:

That is what saving faith looks like. It is a complete trust in God's promise that if we place our faith in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sin that we will be saved.

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.

III. Security

Notice Genesis 7:16

We see here that God shut Noah in the ark. No one slip and fell out of the ark. They were all kept safe inside the ark.

Application:

This is a picture of our position and our security after we are saved.

Galatians 3:26-27

²⁶ For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

²⁷ For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

The word "baptize" here has nothing to do with water. It means "to place into". When we were saved we were placed into the body of Christ. We are now His body.

Ephesians 5:30

³⁰ For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

That is our position. We are in Christ and because we are in Christ we are forever secure. No one fell out of the ark and everyone in the ark was sheltered from the judgment of God. It is the very same way with those of us who are saved.

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Now listen to this: Noah was in the ark and God's judgment fell upon the ark but not on Noah. We are in Jesus Christ and 2000 years ago the judgment of God fell upon Him as He hung on the cross and the judgment of God will never again fall upon Him. So since we are in Him we are forever safe and secure.

Hebrews 7:25

²⁵ Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

The word "uttermost" means "completely".

IV. Power

Notice Genesis 8:1-4

Now within these verses we see the exact day the ark came to rest. There must be a reason why God has told us of this exact day. This is absolutely beautiful.

The ark came to rest on the 14th day of the 7th month.

In the book of Exodus the calendar was changed and the 7th month became the 1st month.

Exodus 12:2

² This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

Now there was something very important which happened in the 1st month.

Exodus 12:3-6

³ *Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house:*

⁴ *And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.*

⁵ *Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:*

⁶ *And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.*

Here we see that on the 14th day of the 1st month the Passover lamb was to be killed. Now stay with me because there is something here we need to see.

Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb.

1 Corinthians 5:7b

For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

Jesus died for our sins and then on the 3rd day He rose from the dead.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

³ *For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;*

⁴ *And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*

So if the Passover was to be killed on the 14th day we know that resurrection day would be 3 days later which would be the 17th day.

Genesis 8:4

⁴ *And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.*

Noah was now on resurrection ground.

Application:

This is a picture of the person who has been saved and the power that we now have in our lives. The very power that brought Jesus Christ from the grave is within every person who is saved.

2 Peter 1:3-4

³ According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

⁴ Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

We no longer are slaves to sin but we now have the power to overcome sin.

Romans 6:5-8

⁵ For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

⁶ Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

⁷ For he that is dead is freed from sin.

⁸ Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

V. Struggle

Now I will show you why we need the power.

Notice Genesis 8:6-12

The 2 birds here represent the 2 natures of the believer.

1. **The Raven** - He was content to feed upon the dead carcasses floating in the water.
2. **The Dove** - He would not touch the dead carcasses but he desired the new life.

As believers we have 2 natures. There is the old nature that desires to feed upon the things which used to exist in our past.

The Divine nature desires to feed upon the New Life in Jesus Christ.

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It is a daily battle but we have the very power within us that raised Jesus Christ from the dead so we can say, "no" to the lust of the old nature.

Conclusion:

This is the life that God offers to every person who will come to Him.

2 Peter 3:9

⁹ *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*