

# Noah Obeys God

Genesis 6:5-22

Lesson Objective: Obedience - When everyone around us is doing wrong, we can stand out from the crowd and be different.

Key thought: "...I am sorry that I have made them." God was so grieved and hurt that mankind had made decisions that led them to their own destruction and that would eventually lead us to the cross of Christ.

Introduction:

- A. Family tree (1 Chronicles 1:1-4)
  - 1. 10 generations (Gen. 6:5-6).
    - a. "sorry" does not mean that God made a mistake, rather God was heartbroken (grieved) that man's decisions had filled the earth with violence.
    - b. Lamech, Noah's father had hoped that one day Noah "...will give us rest for our work and from the toil of our hands arising from the ground which the Lord has cursed." (5:29)
  - 2. Godly family (Genesis 4:26): Gen. 5:24
  - 3. Therefore, Noah had a godly heritage and strong influence to remain faithful to God.
- B. Noah was able to remain righteous in the midst of rebellion, wickedness and violence (Genesis 6:8-9).
- C. Romans 15:4-Post flood and pre-fire warnings.

Outline:

- I. The state of Noah's world
  - A. 6:5- "The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."
    - 1. Genesis 1:4, 9, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31 – at creation God called everything He created GOOD, at Genesis 6:5-6 His creation became so wicked that God was grieved to the point that the only way to rescue the remnant was to destroy the world.
    - 2. 6:5 should be read in light of 8:21

6:5 Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

8:21 The LORD smelled the soothing aroma; and the LORD said to Himself, "I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his

youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done.

- B. The world around Noah
  1. Wicked- "how *great* man's wickedness," "every inclination," and "only evil all the time."<sup>1</sup>
  2. Every intent of the thought of his heart was evil continually – How terrible it must have been to have lived on earth during that time.
  3. Earth was corrupt and filled with violence (11-13).
  4. Saturated with sin and rebellion.
- C. The shedding of blood has a price to pay (6:13)
  1. Abel's blood cried out from the ground (Genesis 4:10)
  2. Sodom and Gomorrah, "The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave." (Genesis 18:20)
  3. "The earth had already been destroyed in God's sight. All flesh had destroyed life on the earth. So God determines to carry out the destruction which all flesh had generated"<sup>2</sup>
- II. **THEME:** Noah stood out (Genesis 6:9; 6:14; 7:1, 6:18) ("Noah's righteousness came because he clung tenaciously to God."<sup>3</sup>)
  - A. Of all mankind only Noah stood out in the crowd and was different.
    1. Genesis 6:9; "Noah was a **righteous** man, **blameless** in his time; Noah **walked with God.**"
      - a. Righteous/Just
      - b. Blameless
        - 1.
      - c. Walked with God
    2. Genesis 6:14; "Make for **yourself...**"-NASB, ESV, NIV- "Make **thee...**" KJV
    3. Genesis 7:1; "...for you *alone* I have seen *to be* righteous..." NASB "...for I have seen that you are righteous..." ESV "...I have found you righteous in this generation..."NIV "for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation." "I have found that you are the only one in all the world who does what is right." Good News Translation
    4. "But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall enter the ark" (Genesis 6:18)
  - B. **Noah's story serves as an exhortation to righteousness and enduring faith in the face of degenerate times.**<sup>4</sup>
- III. Noah obeyed God (Genesis 6:14-16, 18-22; Hebrews 11:7)

<sup>1</sup> Mathews, K. A. (1996). [Genesis 1-11:26](#) (Vol. 1A, p. 340). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

<sup>2</sup> Roop, E. F. (1987). [Genesis](#) (p. 69). Scottdale, PA: Herald Press.

<sup>3</sup> Girdwood, J., & Verkruyse, P. (1997). [Hebrews](#) (Heb 11:7). Joplin, MO: College Press.

<sup>4</sup> Mathews, K. A. (1996). [Genesis 1-11:26](#) (Vol. 1A, p. 357). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

- A. God commanded the construction of the ark with specifics in material, measurement, door, window and cargo. (see handout)
  - B. Noah obeyed to the letter.
    - 1. The Bible is silent on his surroundings during the construction.
    - 2. One can only imagine the ridicule, the attempts at sabotage, etc.
- IV. Applications:
- A. Do not be conformed to the world, but be conformed to God (Romans 12:2/Romans 8:29)
  - B. There is no way to escape the world, there is no way to hide from the world, therefore we need to be good salt-shakers and lights (Matthew 5:13-16)
  - C. The flood serves as a warning that God does have patience (longsuffering) and that His patience will wear thin. We are living in the post-flood and pre-fire stage (1 Peter 4:3-5; 1 Peter 3:20)
  - D. Christians are called to be different and come out from among the world and live by a higher standard (2 Cor. 6:17)
  - E. Our goal should be to walk with God, be blameless and righteous.
  - F. We are living in a time when mankind is becoming more and more like Noah's day, and in spite of what happened around him and maybe even in his own family he was a righteous man. We can accomplish the same thing today. With God all things are possible.

Conclusion:

- A. "...by faith Noah did three things: (1) he built an ark; (2) he condemned the world; and (3) he became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith."<sup>5</sup>
- B. Noah had the right relationship with God.
- C. When he entered the ark he probably did not know where he would land, how long he would be in the ark (over a year), and that he would receive the same marching orders Adam and Eve received, "be fruitful and multiply." But more importantly, Noah probably did not know that he was playing a major role in the re-creation process that would lead up to the cross of Christ.
- D. Noah did not possess a portion of miraculous favor or righteousness.
- E. There is only one way that we can walk with God and that is through Jesus the Christ, through obedience of the Gospel.

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<sup>5</sup> Girdwood, J., & Verkruyse, P. (1997). *Hebrews* (Heb 11:7). Joplin, MO: College Press.