

# NOAH AND THE FLOOD (I)

## Introduction

- 1) **Genesis 6-9** – story of **Noah and the Flood** is not a fanciful Jewish tale or an ancient myth (as many consider all of Genesis 1-11), but an accurate historical account from long ago that contains many lessons worthy of our learning (Rom. 15:4)
- 2) The entire book of Genesis is written as a straightforward historical account from the creation to the death of Joseph (*toledothi* [Heb] – “generations, genealogy, records; 13x from 2:4 to 37:2)
- 3) Other “flood stories” [e.g. Gilgamesh Epic] derive from oral accounts passed down in other cultures that inaccurately preserved the memory of the Flood event
- 4) The New Testament spoke of the reality of Noah and the Flood to teach important principles – we need to know the facts about the people and cataclysmic event so that we learn these truths today!

## I) **An Evil and Wicked World** (Genesis 6:1-7, 11-13)

- A) Antediluvian conditions upon the earth (vv. 1-4)
  - 1) Multiplying of population (quickly due to men’s longevity of life and procreativity)
  - 2) “Sons of God” with daughters of men – wicked angels? line of Seth? kings or nobles?
    - a) Actions not pleasing to God; resulting offspring are mighty men (powerful, militaristic)
      - i) Join the *nephilim* – giants (KJV), tyrants, invaders
  - 3) God’s Spirit would not continue to “strive” (convict, restraining force) with man
- B) Extensive and extreme wickedness – thoughts of heart only evil continually (vv. 5, 11-12)
  - 1) Corrupt society – evil men grow worse and worse (2 Tim. 3:13)
  - 2) Sinful thoughts and acts breed deception as to one’s condition (Prov. 14:12; 30:11-12)
- C) God is longsuffering toward sinful man (v. 3)
  - 1) God numbers the remaining days to 120 years (“God waited” 1 Pet. 3:20)
  - 2) Divine message given to sinful man (Noah – “preacher of righteousness” 2 Pet. 2:5)
- D) Judgment to be eventually brought upon unrepentant sinners (vv. 7, 13)

## II) **Noah: Faithful and Obedient** (Genesis 6:8-10, 14-22)

- A) In midst of a corrupt world, only one man and his family are faithful to God
  - 1) Noah was just and blameless – walked with God (cf. 5:24; Amos 3:3)
  - 2) Noah made a conscious decision to walk with God – righteous way of life
  - 3) Power of God’s word to keep our heart and mind in the proper pathway (Psa. 119:11, 105)
- B) God’s grace provides Noah and his family a way of escape, refuge
  - 1) Instructions given to build an ark; Noah obeys with godly fear (v. 22; Heb. 11:7)
  - 2) Grace of God gives command for salvation; Noah obeys in order to be saved (cf. Eph. 2:8)
  - 3) Noah declared righteous because he practiced righteousness (7:1; cf. 1 Jn. 3:7)
- C) **The Ark = divinely designed** (to construct it *any other way* would’ve made it humanly designed)
  - 1) Dimensions of ark (cubit = 17.5 inches)
    - a) 300 cubits long (437.5 ft.); 50 cubits wide (72.92 ft.); 30 cubits high (43.75 ft.)
    - b) Three decks: ca. 95,700 sq. ft.; 1,396,000 cubic ft.; 13,960 gross tonnage (see Davis, 121)
  - 2) “A vessel constructed in this manner uses space efficiently and becomes more stable as its cargo increases; when the ark was filled, the possibility of its capsizing was minimal” (John J. Davis, *Paradise to Prison*, 121)
  - 3) Number of animals kinds [species] on the ark: ca. 16,000 (John Woodmorappe, *Noah’s Ark: A Feasibility Study*, 10-13)

## Conclusion

Like Noah, we live in a wicked world today. We need to have the faith of Noah to walk with God and find grace in His eyes. Will you be like Noah and obey the will of God today?