

NOAH AND THE FLOOD

Gen.6:5-22, 7:1-5,11-24,8:13-19,9:8-16

Overview

After Adam and Eve sinned, all the people were born with sin in their hearts. There was so much evil and sin in mankind that God sent a great flood to wash the whole world clean and start over. Noah was the only man who still obeyed God. God told Noah to build a great boat called the ark that was big enough to hold his family and all kinds of animals. When the flood came, Noah and his family and the animals inside the ark were saved. God promised He would never allow another flood to completely destroy the earth. To remind us of His promise, He made a rainbow appear in the sky. Whenever you see a rainbow, you can remember that God keeps His promise and that He wants to save us from sin and death.

The Sin of Mankind and God's Judgement

After Adam and Eve sinned, all children that were born from them were born with sin in their hearts. Those children also passed on the nature of sin into their offspring. With time, everyone on earth was full of wickedness. In **Genesis 6:5** we read that *“GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually”*.

Because the whole earth was filled with wickedness God decided to end everything by destroying everything with a flood – *“And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them”* (**Gen.6:7**). However, God found one man who was righteous. This man hated the evil of the world and he still had the love of God in his heart. His name was Noah.

Noah had a wife. They had three children – Shem, Ham and Japheth. These children also had wives.

God's Instruction to Noah

One day God spoke to Noah in a dream commanding him to make a very large boat in which he was to take animals. God told him that He was about to send a flood which would kill all living things.

Gen 6:17 – 22

17 And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.

18 But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

19 And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female.

20 Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

21 And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.

22 Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

The Destruction of the World by the Flood

Noah did everything God commanded him to do. When he finished making the ark, different animals entered the boat. His family also went into the ark. The family consisted of Noah and his wife, Shem and his wife, Ham and his wife and Japheth and his wife. So, together there were eight people in the ark. Then the rains started.

Noah was 600 years old when the rains started (Gen.7:6). It kept raining until waters filled every place including very high mountains. Many cried for help but there was no one to help. All the people drowned and died.

These people had done evil and refused to follow the Word of God. In that sad moment of the flood they thought they could repent and they wished God could show them mercy, but their opportunities to repent and live right had already been given and could no longer bear with them. They died a very sad death.

Gen 7:23

And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.

End of the Flood and Sending of a Raven and Dove

Gen 8:6 - 11

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.

The raven was sent to check if waters had dried up, but it went to and fro without returning to Noah. Then he sent a dove. The dove returned to Noah with an olive

leaf and Noah knew that the waters had sunk and some portions of land had appeared on earth.

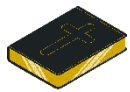
Promise of a New beginning and a New Earth

When the rains ended Noah and his family and all the animals came out of the ark (Gen.8:15-19).

God promised to not destroy the whole world by water again. God promised that in this new world people will plant and harvest and the world will continue to have different seasons of heat and cold weather.

After Noah came out of the boat with his family they found an empty world. So God blessed them and commanded them to multiply and refill the earth (Gen.9:1). Furthermore, God promised that he would not destroy the whole earth with water again. God used the sign of a rainbow for the promise he made (Gen.9:8-17).

Memory Verse



Genesis 8:22

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

Activity

1. What was the total number of people inside the ark?
2. Name the three sons of Noah.
3. How old was Noah when the flood began?
4. What sign did God give to man to show that he would not destroy the whole world with water again.

Reflection

Today we still see the remains of the water which came as a result of Noah’s flood. We have oceans all around the world.

1. What do you learn about the story of Noah?

2. Do you think man is still sinning after the flood of Noah?
 3. What can you tell a person who still lives a sinful life today?
 4. Between the raven and the dove in the story, which bird do you like and explain why you like it.
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Song (Eb)

Noah had drifted	Though I have suffered
On the floods many days	In many a way
He searched for land	I cried for healing
In various ways	Both night and day
Troubles he had some	Faith wasn't forgotten
But not from above	By the Father above
God gave him his sign	He gave me His sign
On the wings of a dove	On the wings of a dove

*On the wings of a snow white dove
God sends down his pure, sweet love
A sign from above
On the wings of a dove*

Jesus, our Saviour
Came to earth one day
He was born in a stable
In a manger of hay
Though here rejected
But not from above
God gave us His sign
On the wings of a dove