

The Man Who Walked With God— Noah



GENESIS 6:5-8

⁵ The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶ And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷ So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them." ⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

- Nine generations after Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden, the world became so wicked and corrupt that God determined to purge the earth of the ungodly race.
- In this world that had turned against God, there was only one household that remained faithful to him.



The story of Noah and the flood is the story of grace in the midst of judgment.





Do I believe in a world-wide flood as Genesis describes it?

Yes, because:

1. I believe the Bible.
2. There are at least 52 anthropological flood stories from ancient civilizations around the world.
3. There is geological evidence of a world-wide flood.



- On a trip to Mot Sinai, my geologist friend Reuben Bullard pointed out a stratum of rock made from mud and clay and said: ***“Those rocks don’t belong there.”***
- Why? They are ***ponded sediments*** made from a massive body of water—something like an ocean. The reason they didn’t belong there is that we were over ***1,000 feet above sea level.***

- The same conditions that gave rise to the flood in the lower latitudes would produce huge volumes of snow and ice in the higher latitudes.
- When a snow bank is over 200 feet deep, it begins to re-crystallize into ice. When it is over 500 feet deep it forms a **glacier**.
- What modern science knows as **the last great ice age** may well be the effects of Noah's flood.



The story of Noah and the flood is the story of grace in the midst of judgment.



1. The wicked generations before the flood remind us that we are a depraved race living in a fallen world.

- The world before the flood was a world *ruled* and *ruined* by sin.

Genesis 6:5

⁵ The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that *every* intention of the thoughts of his heart was *only* evil *continually*.

- We are still a depraved race living in a fallen world.
- Apart from God we will all live *broken lives* and experience *broken relationships*.

- Every human soul has two rooms: a *self-furnished* lower room where our *sinful nature rules* and a *God-furnished* upper room where the *Holy Spirit rules*.
- God created us to be indwelt by his Spirit—to live *in* and *from* that upper room in our hearts with him.
- But our sinful nature is the *root* of most human *misery* and a *barrier* to living that deeper, richer life with God.
- The Bible calls that *fallen part* of our human nature the *sarx*, “the flesh.”
- It is that part of us that *rebels* against God and *indulges* in sin.

- The lower room of your sinful nature is ***worse than you think.***

Romans 7:18

¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

HOW MANY DIAMONDS DOES YOUR HEART RATE?

- AAA Tour books have a system that rates each hotel or inn by giving it from one to five diamonds.
- A **5 diamond** hotel is a luxurious, world-class facility with a high level of service and plenty of amenities for their guests.
- A **one diamond** inns described by words like “*modest*” and “*functional*.” “*They meet the basic needs of comfort and cleanliness.*”
- Imagine your son describing the girl he wants to marry as “meeting the basic standards of cleanliness.” Or saying, “Well, Dad, she’s functional.”
- Unless I’m desperate for a place to stay, I avoid one diamond lodgings.



HOW MANY DIAMONDS DOES YOUR HEART RATE?

- *How many diamonds does your lower room rate?*
- Not even one!
- It's a sewer.
- It's crawling with rats and snakes.
- When you sit down there, there is a river of filth and waste that swirls around your feet.



2. Sin breaks God's heart and invites his judgment.

- Mankind's sin and rebellion broke God's heart.

Genesis 6:6

⁶ And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.

Sin not only *breaks God's heart*, it arouses his wrath and *invites his judgment*.



- In Genesis 6:7, God said he would wipe mankind from the face of the earth, and the next chapter records his doing just that.

Genesis 7:21-23

²¹ And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. ²² Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. ²³ He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark.

- *God takes sin seriously.*

- Jesus said that the Flood is a *warning* to all sinful men that God will again judge their sin.

Matthew 24:37-39

³⁷ For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

3. Noah shows us that we can choose to walk with God regardless of what others choose to do.

- Noah walked with God even when the entire antediluvian world did not.

Genesis 6:9

Noah was a **righteous** man, **blameless** in his generation. Noah **walked with God**.

Genesis 7:5

⁵ And Noah **did all that the Lord had commanded him**.

- Every person has a choice.
- You can live a self-directed life, controlled by your sinful nature.
- Or, you can walk with God under the influence of his Spirit.

4. God shows mercy and grace to those who walk with him.

- Noah was *not* a *perfect* man, but he was a *faithful* man.
- Because Noah walked with God, God saved him by grace.

Genesis 6:8

⁸ But Noah found *favor* in the eyes of the LORD.

- The Hebrew term *ḥēn* means *favor* or *grace*.

- Who closed the door on Noah's ark?

Genesis 7:16

¹⁶ And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. **And the Lord shut him in.**



"THE LORD
SHUT HIM IN."

- GENESIS 7:16 -

- After delivering Noah and his family from the flood, God's covenant with Noah showed mercy to all the earth.



Genesis 9:12–16

¹² And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations:

¹³ **I have set my bow in the cloud**, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

¹⁴ When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶ When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.”

- The Hebrew word for rainbow, *qešet*, is also the word for a **battle bow**.
- Having judged the antediluvian world by the flood, God's battle bow is now "put away," hung in place by the clouds as a sign of peace.
- While God's judgment was completed for that age, judgment will come once again in the end times before the complete millennial peace and rest prophesied in Revelation.



For those of us who have trusted Christ, our sin has been judged in his cross and by grace we now live in favor and peace with God.

Application

- There are only two ways to live: **inside the ark** or **outside the ark**.
 - Most of the people around you are living outside the ark.
 - Most of the people who report your news, produce the films and TV programs you see, record the songs you hear, and write the novels you read are outside the ark.
- Unless you are consciously walking with God, you'll end up outside the ark.
- It's the **default mode** for fallen humans.

- There are people all around us who are perishing.
- We have a message to share.