



NOAH'S ARK

December 6, 2025 | *Genesis 6:11-17; Hebrews 11:7*

The Flood

After the Fall, when sin entered the world, it did not take long for mankind to become so perverted that the Lord Himself grieved His creation. Moses described it in *Genesis 6*.

“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. The Lord was sorry that He had made man, and He was grieved in His heart. The Lord said, ‘I will blot out man whom I have created..., for I am sorry that I made them.’” *Genesis 6:5-7*

At first, this might seem like God made a mistake in creating mankind, but God does not make mistakes. Everything He does is good. The word *sorry* means that the Lord was grieved or sorrowful because of a loss. God is holy and righteous, and our sin grieves His Spirit or causes Him to be sorrowful (*Eph. 4:30*).

Furthermore, while God is patient with sin, His patience gives way to justice. He said, “My Spirit will not strive with man forever” (*Gen. 6:3*). In fact, God gave a deadline for repentance. “His days shall be 120 years” (v.3).

At the end of that time, God would blot out everything and everyone with a flood. But why? Didn’t He know this would happen? Of course.

But we must remember that Satan attempted to ruin any chance of a Chosen Seed by defiling the women of the earth (*Gen. 6:1-4*), so the Lord had to do something, or evil would’ve triumphed.

Therefore, the flood assures us of several things.

First, God’s judgment is real. He holds people accountable for their sins.

Second, God's mercy is real. While He judges us for our actions, He always extends time for us to repent.

Third, while God would've been justified to wipe out everyone on earth and start over completely, He saved some people, another act of mercy. He did not have to save any, but He did. Thus, we get another picture of salvation.

Noah

Of all the people on earth, Noah "found favor with God" (*Gen. 6:8*). What does that mean? Noah's words, attitudes, and actions were pleasing to God. Noah did what was right by Him. He was also bold and preached repentance to the people of his day (*2 Pet. 2:5*).

Noah was "blameless in his time" (*Gen. 6:9*). To be blameless does not mean sinless, but Noah was a man of integrity, above reproach. Noah also "walked with God," like Adam, meaning that he had a relationship with the Lord (*v.9*).

Noah is listed in the Hall of Faith for believing God's words enough to build an ark (*Heb. 11:7*). Because of God's mercy and Noah's faith, He saved Noah and his family from the flood (*Gen. 7:7*).

Often in Scripture, God judged a tribe, a city, or a nation, but He preserved a remnant of people who remained faithful to Him. That's what He did in the flood.

However, though Noah was righteous and faithful, and God would protect him and his family from the flood, he would not be the Promised One. Noah was not perfect or sinless, and he would die (*9:24-29*). But Noah and the ark are a picture of the salvation that God would provide later through the Promised One, His Son Jesus.

The Ark

God revealed to Noah that He was about to destroy the earth because of the wickedness of men (*Gen. 6:11-13*). He told Noah that He would send a flood (*v.17*). The only way to survive this judgment of God was to build an ark (*v.14*). The word *ark* means "treasure chest or box."

Notice that God did not tell Noah to make an ark of his choosing, but rather God gave Noah instructions. The words, "This is how you shall make it..." are very important (*v.15*). We cannot save ourselves from God's judgment. He must do that for us.

We are given a few details about the ark. The dimensions were to be 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high, roughly 450 feet long (a football field and a half), 75 feet wide (50% wider than a football field), and 45 feet high (four or five stories tall).

The ark had three floors and would've covered approximately 101,250 square feet, which is the equivalent to 522 train box cars or 260 semi-truck trailers.

The ark was made of gopher wood. It was to have many rooms for the animals (space enough for 125,000 sheep), and it was covered with pitch to seal it or to make it watertight. The ark had a window, one cubit from the top, for air and light. It also had one door (in the side) and three levels.

The ark is a type or foreshadowing of Christ. The author of *Hebrews* wrote, “By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for *the salvation* of his household” (*Heb. 11:7*). Simply put, the ark was (or is) the equivalent of salvation.

If the ark is a picture of salvation, then we should see similarities to Christ, and we do. For example, the ark had three levels, a picture of the Trinity. The ark had one door (and the Lord closed the door, *7:16*) — one way to be saved. Jesus said, “I am the door. If anyone enters through Me, he will be saved...” (*Jn. 10:9; 14:6*).

Just as the ark saved Noah and his family from God’s wrath and judgment (physical death), so does Christ save us from God’s wrath and judgment (spiritual death).

Also, the ark was sealed with pitch, but our salvation is sealed by the Holy Spirit (*Eph. 4:30*).

The story of Noah’s Ark and the great flood gives us a clear picture of salvation. Man’s heart is desperately wicked, full of evil, and God is justified in His condemnation of sinful men. Though grieved by sin, God is patient, but His patience gives way to justice. However, we also see God’s mercy in that He saved some from judgment, a foreshadowing of our salvation in Christ.

What Child is this in the manger? The Child is Noah’s Ark — our salvation from God’s judgment.

Ponder and Pray

How was the great flood both an act of judgment and mercy?

Are you aboard the Ark? Have you surrendered your life to Christ?

If so, then pray and ask the Lord whom He wants you to help lead to the Ark, to be saved from His judgment.

**Have you missed some days?
Click [here](#) to access previously emailed devotions.**

The reading plan and devotions were developed by Aaron Ferguson, one of our Elders and author of the *Study Guide and Daily Reflections for the One Year Chronological Reading of the Bible and the New Testament*. For more details, visit his website at BiAY.org.



