

## Genesis 7-9

### *The Flood: A Story of Redemption*

#### *Jesus is the Savior we Need*

##### Section 1: 7:1-5 & 11-16

First God commanded Noah to build an ark according to the measurements given. Noah obeyed. Then God commanded Noah to gather the animals and enter the ark. Noah obeyed.

We read in verse 5 (CSB): *“And Noah did everything that the Lord commanded him.”* Noah’s life was marked by obedience. It reminds me of the hymn “Trust and Obey”. Today, it seems we hear a lot about grace, trust and faith but very little about obedience. God has clearly outlined His expectations (which are commands not suggestions) to us through His Word...yet we often ignore them.

The day the flood began God called Noah to enter the ark with the animals. I believe this is the day that Methuselah passed as we saw prophesied in chapter 5. Again, we see the theme of obedience in the life of Noah in verse 16 (CSB): *“Those that entered, male and female of every creature, entered just as God had commanded him.”*

Noah was a man of obedience because he was a man of faith. Faith and obedience go hand and hand...just as we learn in James 2:26 (CSB): *“For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.”*

We read more about Noah’s faith in Hebrews 11:7 (CSB):

*“By faith Noah, after he was warned about what was not yet seen and motivated by godly fear, built an ark to deliver his family. By faith he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.”*

Once Noah, his family and the animals entered the ark something amazing happened...God shuts the door. The ark is a picture of Christ and the gospel.

- The ark was planned and prophesied...Jesus was planned and prophesied (John 12:23-28)
- The ark was made of wood and used to save Noah and his family...Jesus died on a cross, made of wood, to save those who believe (John 19:16-24).
- The ark was the only means of salvation and escape from the wrath of God...Jesus is the only means of salvation and escape from the wrath of God (John 14:6).
- The ark protected Noah and his family from the wrath of God...Jesus protects His people from the wrath of God on the day of judgement (John 12:32-33).
- Noah and his family entered the ark through the door...Jesus is the door to the sheep pen (John 10:7-9).
- The flood was not expected by mankind...the second coming of Christ will be unexpected (Luke 17:26-37).

#### Discussion Questions:

- ❖ Can you have faith without obedience? Can you have obedience without faith? Why or why not.
- ❖ Why is obedience and faith so often connected in Scripture?
- ❖ How does the flood narrative point us to Christ?

## Section 2: 8:20-22

Noah responded to the salvation and wrath of God with worship. Worship pleases God.

In God's response to Noah's worship, we see a reminder and a promise.

We are reminded that the heart of man is still evil. This is later echoed by God Himself in Jeremiah 17:9 (CSB): "The heart is more deceitful than anything else, and incurable—who can understand it?" We have a sin problem that only God Himself can solve. And He graciously and mercifully solves our sin problem through Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. Which leads us to the promise.

God promised to never destroy the earth with a flood again. After this promise God makes a covenant with Noah. We see the details of the covenant in Genesis 9.

### Discussion Questions:

- ❖ How should we respond to God's grace, mercy and wrath?
- ❖ Why should we remind ourselves that the heart of man is wicked?
- ❖ Why can only God solve our sin problem?

## Section 3: 9:8-17

God establishes a covenant with Noah and his descendants. Side note: we are descendants of Noah; therefore, this covenant still applies to us today. When God establishes a covenant, it is unbreakable. Even today we see the sign (a rainbow) of God's covenant with all life.

We see Jesus making a covenant with us at His final Passover meal in Matthew 26:26-30.

Covenants are very important throughout the Bible. In the book of Genesis, we will see God make covenants with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And as always...the covenants were pointing to Jesus.

The covenant with all life to never be destroyed by water again with the sign of the rainbow points us to Christ. Through Christ we will never be destroyed by the wrath of God and the sign of this covenant is the seal of the Holy Spirit. Just as the rainbow signifies the earth's safety from a flood...the Holy Spirit signifies one's safety from the wrath of God.

God is faithful to give us reminders of His covenants. The Holy Spirit is the greatest reminder of the greatest covenant ever given to man.

While the earth will never be destroyed by water again...there is a judgement of fire that will come and destroy the entire earth (2 Peter 3:10-13).

The only hope to survive the judgement of water was the ark...the only hope to survive the judgement of fire is Jesus.

### Discussion Questions:

- ❖ What makes the covenant of Christ's blood so valuable?
- ❖ Why can we trust that God will keep His covenant with us?
- ❖ Why is Jesus our only hope?
- ❖ Are you faithfully sharing the gospel as the day of judgement approaches?