

Jesus said... **“Search the scriptures...they are they which testify of me.”** (John 5:39)



INTRODUCTION

Last week, we saw how Abel’s offering—a sacrificial lamb—was acceptable to God. This week, we’ll examine a very familiar story that we often teach to children: Noah’s Ark. While Noah’s obedience to God in the midst of an evil world is Christ-like on its own, we’ll focus instead on the ark itself, which provided **SALVATION** to the remnant who trusted God. We’ll pay especially close attention to the **DOOR** of the ark, since the Bible specifically mentions it. And the Bible doesn’t waste space! Amen!!

1. The historical application. **Genesis 6:1-16, 7:16**

✓ Centuries after the Garden of Eden, **WICKEDNESS** ruled the hearts of *almost* all men.

1) *Men did evil, and God was witness.*

- *And **GOD** saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth...*
- *...every imagination ... thoughts of his heart was **only evil continually**.*

Analyzing the Evil

Can we relate to this description of men today?

Did these men believe in God’s judgment? Did they believe in God *at all*?

2) *God was grieved, but Noah found grace in His eyes.*

- *And it repented the LORD ... and it **grieved** him at his heart.*
- *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*

Analyzing the Grief and Grace

Why did God feel such grief?

Why did Noah find grace in God’s sight?

3) *When they had entered as God instructed, God shut the door of the ark.*

- *And they that went in, went in ... as God had commanded him:*
- *and the LORD shut him in.*

Analyzing the Door

Why would God shut the door Himself?

W1828 “Wickedness”
Departure from the rules of the divine law; evil disposition or practices; immorality; crime; sin; sinfulness; corrupt manners wickedness generally signifies evil practices.

Men who believe in God at all seem to believe that He’ll let anyone in to heaven with an unlimited time frame (e.g., Purgatory). While God is loving, He is also **JUST**, and we are beholden to His timing!

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2. The doctrinal (or prophetic) application.

✓ Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life ... and the **DOOR!**

John 3:19

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved DARKNESS rather than light, because their deeds were EVIL.

- 1) We are living in a world “as it was in the days of Noe” *right now*.
 - **Luke 17:26** – Jesus prophesied that He’d return at a time like Noah’s day.
 - **Mat. 24:36-42** – Jesus’s description clearly speaks of the coming **RAPTURE**.
- 2) God knows every sin that every person has ever committed.
 - **Prov. 15:3** – *The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil ...*
 - **Ecc. 12:14** – ... God shall bring every work into judgment ... **every secret thing** ...
- 3) God provided a way to escape the coming judgment.
 - God became a man—the Lord Jesus Christ—and lived a perfect, sinless life.
 - He was unjustly convicted, brutally crucified, and securely buried.
 - On the third day, He rose again, defeating sin and death, and giving us hope!
- 4) One day, time will be up and it will be too late to be saved by grace alone.
 - **Rev. 22:20** – *He which testifieth ... saith, **Surely I come quickly.** Amen. ...*

John 10:9

I am **THE DOOR**: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

3. Some practical applications.

✓ Our lives should reflect the truth and **URGENCY** of His coming!

- 1) Noah’s life was the **EXCEPTION**, not the rule.
 - **Ezek. 14:14,16,18** – *Though these three men, **Noah**, Daniel, and Job ...*
 - **2 Tim. 3:12** – *Yea, and all that will live godly ... **shall suffer** persecution.*
- 2) Noah and his family obeyed God, even when it **DIDN’T** make sense.
 - **Prov. 3:5-7** – *Trust in the LORD with **all thine heart** ... fear the LORD ... depart from evil.*
 - **Ps 50:10** – *For every beast ... is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.*
- 3) Noah had almost no converts. But he saved his **FAMILY**.
 - **1 Tim. 3:4-5** – Men, we’re called to lead and **RULE** our houses. We cannot back down from this mandate without consequences!
 - **Prov. 31:21** – Ladies, is all your household clothed with scarlet (saved)?
 - **Ezek. 33:1-6** – This description of good/bad watchmen should spur us to action.

Romans 8:31

What shall we then say to these things? **If God be for us, who can be against us?**

Why is it so easy to see the same people, day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year ... and say **nothing?** Why do we yield to our flesh and shut our mouths? Is embarrassment, ridicule, or worse in this earthly life such a price to pay for the *chance* to save the souls of those (we claim) we love most?