

“The Ark Parade”

“How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of **your creatures.**” - *Psalm 104:24 NIV*

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT ANIMALS

A. They Were _____ By God.

Although they claimed to be wise, **they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God** for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. - *Romans 1:22-23 NIV*

B. They Are _____ To Humans.

Although they claimed to be wise, **they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God** for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. - *Romans 1:22-23 NIV*

So God created mankind **in his own image**, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.
- *Genesis 1:27 NIV*

C. They Are For The _____ Of People.

The LORD God made **garments of skin** for Adam and his wife and clothed them. - *Genesis 3:21 NIV*

“**Everything that lives** and moves about **will be food for you.** Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything. But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it.” - *Genesis 9:3-4 NIV*

D. They Teach _____ Truths.

“Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not **much more valuable than they?**” - *Matthew 6:26 NIV*

LESSONS FROM THE ARK PARADE

The LORD saw how great man’s **wickedness** on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. **The LORD was grieved** that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. So the LORD said, “**I will wipe mankind**, whom I have created, **from the face of the earth—men and animals**, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air—for I am grieved that I have made them.” - *Genesis 6:5-7 NIV*

1. A Warning Of Impending _____.

“I am going to bring **floodwaters** on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. **Everything on earth will perish.**” - *Genesis 6:17 NIV*

“**As it was in the days of Noah**, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking... up until the day Noah entered the ark. And they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and **took them all away.**” - *Matthew 24:38-39 NIV*

2. An Illustration Of God’s _____.

Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he **sacrificed burnt offerings** on it. - *Genesis 8:20 NIV*

For God’s will was for us to be made holy by **the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time.**

- *Hebrews 10:10 NLT*

To those who were disobedient long ago when **God waited patiently** in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were **saved through water**, and **this water symbolizes baptism** that now **saves you also**—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the **resurrection of Jesus Christ.** - *1 Peter 3:20-21 NIV*

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- What was your favorite pet growing up? How did its demise affect you?
- People believe it's almost a spiritual experience to not eat meat. Compare and discuss how genuine spirituality—believing in Jesus—can change your life.
- The Bible says God created different species of animals. Discuss how the world's religion of evolution is a distraction from the Creation story.
- Read Romans 1:22-23 and discuss how animals have elevated status over mankind today. For example, the president of PETA once said, "A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy!"
- Have you ever learned a spiritual lesson from an animal? Discuss.
- Read Matthew 24:38-38 & 1 Peter 3:20-21 and discuss God's patience and how he desires to save us for eternity.
- What one thing stood out to you in today's message?