

GENESIS 8

AFTER THE RAIN

LAST WEEK PASTOR BO TAUGHT US ABOUT THE FLOOD.

THIS IS AN EVENT THAT EVERY PERSON IN HERE MOST LIKELY GREW UP KNOWING ABOUT.

DID YOU KNOW THAT ALMOST EVERY ANCIENT CIVILIZATION HAS A STORY ABOUT A WORLDWIDE CATASTROPHIC FLOOD?

THESE CIVILIZATIONS INCLUDE: SUMERIAN, MESOPOTAMIA, HINDU, GREEK, NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, SOUTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS, CHINESE AS WELL AS POLYNESIAN CULTURES.

THESE NARRATIVES SHARE COMMON THEMES, SUCH AS A DIVINE DECISION TO PUNISH HUMANITY, A CHOSEN SURVIVOR AND THEIR FAMILY OR A SELECT GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO BUILD A VESSEL TO ESCAPE THE FLOOD, THE LANDING OF THE BOAT ON A MOUNTAIN, AND THE EVENTUAL REPOPULATION OF THE EARTH.

SO, IF THIS WAS JUST A MYTH HOW DID THEY ALL COME UP WITH EXACT SAME STORY BEING SEPARATED BY OCEANS AND THOUSANDS OF MILES.

THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S NOT A MYTH, IT IS HISTORY THAT WAS PASSED DOWN FROM PEOPLE THAT WERE ACTUALLY THERE AND WITNESSED IT.

NOAH AND THE GREAT FLOOD CAPTURES PEOPLES IMAGINATION.

PEOPLE TRYING TO IMAGINE THE ARK AND ITS TRUE ENORMITY.

PEOPLE IMAGINE THE TORRENTIAL RAINS AND RAPIDLY RISING WATERS.

PROCESSING THE FACT THAT ONLY EIGHT PEOPLE IN THE ENTIRE WORLD WERE SPARED.

THINKING ABOUT ALL THE ANIMALS THAT WERE ON THE ARK.

ALL OF THIS COMBINE TO MAKE AN UNBELIEVABLE STORY.

AND YES, IT IS DEFINITELY SOMETHING THAT IS HARD FOR HUMAN MINDS TO COMPREHEND, LET ALONE TRULY UNDERSTAND.

BUT THIS ISN'T THE GREATEST FAIRY TALE EVER WRITTEN...

THIS IS HISTORY.

NOAH IS A REAL PERSON, THE ARK WAS A REAL A BOAT, AND THE FLOOD REALLY HAPPENED AND THE ENTIRE EARTH WAS NOT ONLY AFFECTED BUT WAS COVERED WITH WATER.

SO, AS WE WORK OUR WAY THROUGH TONIGHT LET'S PROCESS THIS FOR WHAT IT IS.

FACT.

REMEMBER THAT THERE WILL A COME A DAY WHEN WE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET NOAH.

SO, EVEN THOUGH THIS EVENT HAPPENED THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO WE NEED TO KEEP ALL THESE THINGS IN MIND AS WE CONTINUE OUR STUDY IN GENESIS.

WHAT WE SAW LAST WEEK WAS THE ULTIMATE DE-CREATION OF THE EARTH.

I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK BACK TO GENESIS 1

GENESIS 1:1-2

IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH. ² AND THE EARTH WAS ^[A]FORMLESS AND VOID, AND DARKNESS WAS OVER THE ^[B]SURFACE OF THE DEEP, AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD WAS HOVERING OVER THE ^[C]SURFACE OF THE WATERS.

SO THE EARTH STARTED OUT AS A GIANT BALL OF WATER.

WE WON'T SEE DRY LAND APPEAR UNTIL DAY 3.

JUST LIKE GOD STARTED CREATION WITH EARTH BEING COVERED BY WATER HE WILL START THE RECREATION THE SAME WAY.

THE MASSIVE AMOUNTS OF WATER FALLING FROM THE SKY AND RUSHING UP FROM THE DEPTHS WOULD SHAPE AND MOLD THE TERRAIN INTO WHAT WE SEE TODAY.

GOD USED THE DESTRUCTIVE FORCE OF WATER TO SHAPE THE WORLD WE LIVE IN.

AFTER THE FLOOD EVERYTHING WOULD BE DIFFERENT.

NOAH WOULD BE EXITING THE ARK INTO A WORLD THAT HE HAD NEVER SEEN.

EVERYTHING WOULD SEEM FOREIGN TO HIM.

I'M SURE THIS CHANGED EVERYTHING.

IMAGINE GETTING OFF THE ARK SEEING A BRAND-NEW WORLD WHERE THERE WERE NO PEOPLE.

THAT ALONE MUST'VE BEEN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO PROCESS.

TO GO FROM A DENSELY POPULATED WORLD TO A WORLD THAT ONLY HAD EIGHT PEOPLE.

WE JUST DON'T THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS WHEN WE THINK ABOUT THE FLOOD.

WE PICTURE NOAH AND HIS FAMILY GETTING OFF THE ARK AND JUST GOING BACK TO THEIR LIFE.

BUT THAT WOULD'VE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE.

THEIR OLD LIFE WAS GONE.

EVERYTHING ABOUT IT, THEIR HOMES, THEIR POSSESSIONS.

ALL THEY HAD WHEN THEY GOT OFF THE ARK WAS GOD AND EACH OTHER, AND YOU KNOW WHAT?

THAT WAS ENOUGH.

IF YOU HAVE JESUS, YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED IN LIFE.

BUT AS CRAZY AS ALL OF THIS IS.

THE FLOOD, THE NEW EARTH, THE ARK AND ALL THE ANIMALS THAT'S NOT PURPOSE OF THIS CHAPTER.

WHAT WE SHOULD TAKE AWAY FROM THIS IS THAT NOAH WAS THE TYPE OF PERSON THAT GOD SPARED.

WHEN GODS CATACLYSMIC WRATH WAS POURED OUT ON SINFUL MANKIND, NOAH WAS SPARED AND NOT ONLY NOAH BUT HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN.

AND WHY IS THAT?

BECAUSE NOAH WAS A RIGHTEOUS MAN AND WHY WAS CONSIDERED RIGHTEOUS?

BECAUSE HE BELIEVED WHAT GOD SAID.

DO YOU BELIEVE WHAT GOD SAYS?

DO YOU BELIEVE HIS WORD?

DO YOU BELIEVE WITH EVERY FIBER OF BEING THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE RISEN SAVIOR?

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD IS GOING TO DO WHAT HE SAY S HE WILL DO?

NOAH HAD FAITH THAT THE LORD WAS GOING TO DO WHAT HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO DO.

AND HOW DID HE DISPLAY THAT FAITH?

BY BUILDING THE ARK!

WE CAN'T MISS THE FACT THAT HE WAS A FAITHFUL AND OBEDIENT MAN, THE ONLY MAN IN HIS GENERATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED RIGHTEOUS.

FOUR DIFFERENT TIMES IT SAYS "NOAH ... DID ALL THAT GOD COMMANDED HIM."

WE HAVE A COMMAND ON OUR LIFE TOO!

AND WHAT IS THAT COMMAND?

REPENT AND BELIEVE!

AS WE SAW LAST WEEK THE DE-CREATION AND RECREATION ARE PERFECTLY DIVIDED INTO HALVES.

WE HAVE 7 DAYS OF WAITING FOR THE FLOOD AND THEN 7 MORE DAYS OF WAITING.

THEN WE HAVE 40 DAYS OF THE FLOOD.

150 DAYS OF TRIUMPHING ON THE EARTH.

THAT'S THE DE-CREATION.

THEN WE HAVE:

150 DAYS OF WATER WANING.

40 DAYS OF WAITING.

THEN 7 DAYS OF WAITING AND FINALLY 7 MORE DAYS OF WAITING.

GOD IS A GOD OF ORDER. EVERYTHING HE DOES IS PERFECT AND WITH PERFECT REASON.

LET'S READ THE LAST FEW VERSES WHERE PASTOR BO LEFT OFF LAST WEEK.

GENESIS 7:21-24

21 AND ALL FLESH DIED THAT MOVED ON ^[c]THE EARTH: BIRDS AND CATTLE AND BEASTS AND EVERY CREEPING THING THAT CREEPS ON THE EARTH, AND EVERY MAN. 22 ALL IN WHOSE NOSTRILS WAS THE BREATH ^[b]OF THE SPIRIT OF LIFE, ALL THAT WAS ON THE DRY LAND, DIED. 23 SO HE DESTROYED ALL LIVING THINGS WHICH WERE ON THE FACE OF THE GROUND: BOTH MAN AND CATTLE, CREEPING THING AND BIRD OF THE AIR. THEY WERE DESTROYED FROM THE EARTH. ONLY NOAH AND THOSE WHO WERE WITH HIM IN THE ARK REMAINED ALIVE. 24 AND THE WATERS PREVAILED ON THE EARTH ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DAYS.

EVERYTHING DIED THAT WASN'T ON THE ARK.

GOD UTTERLY DESTROYED THE EARTH AND EVERYTHING ON IT.

I IMAGINE THE VAST MAJORITY OF TREES AND PLANTS DIED AS WELL SEEING AS VERY FEW PLANTS COULD SURVIVE ALMOST A YEAR COMPLETELY SUBMERGED.

GENESIS 8:1-3

THEN GOD REMEMBERED NOAH AND ALL THE BEASTS AND ALL THE CATTLE THAT WERE WITH HIM IN THE ARK; AND GOD CAUSED A WIND TO PASS OVER THE EARTH, AND THE WATER SUBSIDED. 2 ALSO THE FOUNTAINS OF THE DEEP AND THE ^[a]FLOODGATES OF THE SKY WERE CLOSED, AND THE RAIN FROM THE SKY WAS RESTRAINED; 3 AND THE WATER RECEDED FROM THE EARTH, GOING FORTH AND RETURNING, AND AT THE END OF 150 DAYS THE WATER DECREASED.

VERSE 1 STARTS OUT BY SAYING “THEN GOD REMEMBERED NOAH”

DOES THIS MEAN THAT GOD HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT THEM?

DID HE FORGET TO SET A FLOOD TIMER AND ALL OF A SUDDEN REMEMBERED WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH NOAH?

OF COURSE NOT.

SKEPTICS USE VERSES LIKE THIS TO TRY AND TRIP UP CHRISTIANS.

THEY WILL SAY IF GOD IS ALL KNOWING THEN HOW DID FORGET NOAH, THEY'LL SAY IF YOU BELIEVE THE BIBLE THEN YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE WHEN IT SAYS HE REMEMBERED THEM SO IN ORDER TO REMEMBER THEM HE MUST'VE FORGOTTEN.

SO WHAT DO WE DO WITH THAT STATEMENT WHEN IT IS POSED?

WE FIRST MUST REMEMBER THAT THE OLD TESTAMENT WAS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN IN HEBREW AND TRANSLATORS DID THEIR BEST TO TRANSLATE IT BUT SOME THINGS JUST DON'T TRANSLATE WELL.

ANYTIME IN SCRIPTURE WHEN IT SAYS "AND GOD REMEMBERED SO AND SO"

THIS SPEAKS TO THE ACTION OF GOD NOT HIM HAVING A POOR MEMORY.

**EVERY TIME GOD REMEMBERS SOMEONE IT IS ASSOCIATED WITH HIM TAKING ACTION IN THEIR LIFE.
GOD REMEMBERED ABRAHAM AND THEN HE SAVED LOT.**

GOD REMEMBERED RACHEL AND SHE CONCEIVED.

BREVARD CHILDS WROTE "GOD'S REMEMBERING ALWAYS IMPLIES HIS MOVEMENT TOWARD THE OBJECT.... THE ESSENCE OF GODS REMEMBERING LIES IN HIS ACTING TOWARDS SOMEONE BECAUSE OF A PREVIOUS COMMITMENT"

NOW GOD REMEMBERS NOAH OR ACTS IN NOAH'S LIFE TO BRING RESTORATION TO THE FLOODED WORLD.

VERSE 1 SAYS THAT "GOD CAUSED A WIND TO BLOW OVER THE EARTH AND THE WATERS SUBSIDED"

THE WORD USED FOR WIND IS THE SAME HEBREW WORD USED TO DESCRIBE THE SPIRIT OF GOD HOVERING OVER THE WATERS IN GENESIS 1.

ALL OF THIS CLOSELY PARALLELS THE ACCOUNT OF CREATION.

GENESIS 8:4,5

⁴ IN THE SEVENTH MONTH, ON THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF THE MONTH, THE ARK RESTED UPON THE MOUNTAINS OF ARARAT. ⁵ NOW THE WATER DECREASED STEADILY UNTIL THE TENTH MONTH; IN THE TENTH MONTH, ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH, THE TOPS OF THE MOUNTAINS APPEARED.

AS THE WATERS STARTED TO RECEDE, I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE WHAT NOAH AND HIS FAMILY WERE THINKING AS THEY BEGAN TO SEE THE NEW WORLD, THEY WOULD LIVE IN, SLOWLY RISING UP OUT OF THE WATERS.

IT SAYS THAT THE ARK RESTED ON THE MOUNTAINS OF ARARAT.

WHICH IS ABOUT 17,000 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL THAT ALONE GIVES US A REFERENCE TO JUST HOW DEEP THE WATER TRULY WAS.

THEY WOULD STAY IN THAT GROUNDED ARK FOR OVER 60 DAYS AS THEY WAITED FOR THE LAND TO DRY OUT ENOUGH FOR THEM UNBOARD.

I'M SURE THEY WERE GLAD TO NO LONGER BE FLOATING BUT THIS WOULD TAKE A CONTINUED FAITH ON NOAH'S BEHALF TO STAY PUT.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE WHAT TRUE FAITH IS.

NOAH'S FAITH PERSEVERED, IT WAS ONGOING.

NOT A ONETIME THING.

JUST AS JESUS SAYS IN JOHN 15:5

JOHN 15:5

⁵ I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES; HE WHO ABIDES IN ME AND I IN HIM, HE BEARS MUCH FRUIT, FOR APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING.

TO ABIDE IN CHRIST MEANS TO STAY, THIS ONE VERSE COMPLETELY DEMOLISHES WHAT WE WOULD CALL EASY BELIEVEISM OR THE IDEA THAT IF YOU JUST SAY THE PRAYER THEN YOU'RE SAVED.

NOAH DIDN'T JUST BELIEVE GOD ABOUT THE FLOOD HE BELIEVED EVERYTHING HE SAID.

HE HAD FAITH THAT GOD WOULD NOT ONLY PROTECT THEM FROM THE FLOOD BUT ALSO THAT HE WOULD PROVIDE FOR HE AND HIS FAMILY AFTER THE FLOOD.

WHAT A TESTIMONY TO THE DEPTHS OF NOAH'S FAITH!

GENESIS 8:6-12

⁶ THEN IT HAPPENED AT THE END OF FORTY DAYS, THAT NOAH OPENED THE WINDOW OF THE ARK WHICH HE HAD MADE; ⁷ AND HE SENT OUT A RAVEN, AND IT WENT OUT FLYING BACK AND FORTH UNTIL THE WATER WAS DRIED UP ^[B]FROM THE EARTH. ⁸ THEN HE SENT OUT A DOVE FROM HIM, TO SEE IF THE WATER WAS ABATED FROM THE FACE OF THE LAND; ⁹ BUT THE DOVE FOUND NO RESTING PLACE FOR THE SOLE OF ITS FOOT, SO IT RETURNED TO HIM INTO THE ARK, FOR THE WATER WAS ON THE ^[C]SURFACE OF ALL THE EARTH. THEN HE STRETCHED OUT HIS HAND AND TOOK IT AND BROUGHT IT INTO THE ARK TO HIMSELF. ¹⁰ THEN HE WAITED YET ANOTHER SEVEN DAYS; AND AGAIN HE SENT OUT THE DOVE FROM THE ARK. ¹¹ AND THE DOVE CAME TO HIM TOWARD ^[D]EVENING, AND BEHOLD, IN ITS ^[E]BEAK WAS A FRESHLY PICKED OLIVE LEAF. SO NOAH KNEW THAT THE WATER WAS ABATED FROM THE EARTH. ¹² THEN HE WAITED YET ANOTHER SEVEN DAYS AND SENT OUT THE DOVE; BUT IT DID NOT RETURN TO HIM AGAIN.

THESE VERSES FOCUS ON NOAH'S PATIENCE DURING THIS TIME ABOARD THE ARK.

MAN! WE CAN WE LEARN A LOT FROM THIS?

WE LIVE IN A WORLD OF INSTANT GRATIFICATION.

FAST FOOD, ANY MOVIE YOU WANT TO WATCH AT YOUR FINGERTIPS, ANY SONG YOU WANT TO LISTEN TO CAN BE PULLED UP AND PLAYING IN MERE SECONDS.

WE LIVE IN WHAT HAS TO BE THE MOST IMPATIENT GENERATION TO EVER EXIST... AND ITS ONLY GETTING WORSE.

WITH THE ADVANCEMENTS OF AI AND SEARCH ENGINES WITH ACCESS TO ALL THE INFORMATION IN THE WORLD THIS DOWNWARD SPIRAL WILL ONLY GET INCREASINGLY WORSE.

BE VERY CAREFUL THE INFORMATION YOU FEED CHAT GPT AND ALL THESE OTHER AI SOFTWARES.

DON'T THINK FOR A SECOND THAT ALL THAT DATA ISN'T BEING STORED UP SOMEWHERE.

POINT BEING THAT WE HAVE INSTANT ACCESS TO BASICALLY ANYTHING WE WANT.

WE RUSH THROUGH OUR DAYS DOING OUR BEST TO STAY BUSY SO WE DON'T GET BORED.

THE WORD BORED DIDN'T EVEN EXIST UNTIL THE 60'S.

PEOPLE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO BE BORED.

THEY WERE WORKING, AND IF THEY WEREN'T WORKING THEY WERE ACTUALLY SPENDING TIME WITH THEIR FAMILIES.

DID YOU KNOW IN THE 1950'S THE AVERAGE FAMILY DINNER WAS BETWEEN 60-90 MINUTES...

TODAY IT'S BETWEEN 15-30 MINUTES AND THAT'S IF THEY EVEN EAT TOGETHER AT ALL.

BECAUSE EVERYONE IS SO BUSY...

BUSY STANDS FOR BOUND UNDER SATAN'S YOKE.

IT'S ONE THING TO BE BUSY AS PARENT JUGGLING WORK, KIDS, GROCERIES AND ALL THE THINGS NECESSARY FOR LIFE.

BUT IT'S SOMETHING ENTIRELY DIFFERENT TO BUSY JUST FOR THE SAKE OF BEING BUSY.

SLOW DOWN, LEARN TO WAIT ON GOD.

ENJOY TIME WITH THOSE YOU LOVE.

SO WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS HAVE TO DO WITH NOAH?

WE NEED TO TAKE A PAGE FROM THIS CHAPTER AND LEARN TO BE MORE PATIENT.

STOP DEMANDING GOD DO THINGS ON YOUR TIMELINE.

STOP ASKING GOD TO DO THINGS ACCORDING TO YOUR WILL.

WE NEED TO LEARN TO BE STILL AND LISTEN.

TO BE PATIENT AND GIVE GOD THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK IN OUR LIVES.

WE ASK GOD TO DO SOMETHING IN OUR LIFE AND WHEN IT DOESN'T HAPPEN IMMEDIATELY, WE THROW OUR HANDS UP IN FRUSTRATION AS IF WE TRULY KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR US.

NOAH SAT GROUNDED ON THAT ARK FOR OVER 2 MONTHS WAITING FOR A SIGN THAT IT WAS TIME TO LEAVE.

WE HAVE NO RECORD OF GOD SPEAKING TO NOAH WHILE HE WAS ON THE ARK OR GIVING HIM ANY NEW INSTRUCTIONS.

BUT WE DO KNOW THAT THE BIBLE TELLS US HE WALKED WITH GOD.

SO I CAN ONLY IMAGINE THAT RELATIONSHIP CONTINUING ON DURING HIS TIME ON THE ARK.

BUT WE DON'T KNOW IF HE WAS GIVEN ANY MORE INSTRUCTIONS.

WHAT WE DO KNOW IS THAT HE PATIENTLY WAITED UNTIL THE TIME WAS RIGHT FOR HE AND HIS FAMILY TO LEAVE THE ARK.

HE WAITED FOR GOD HIMSELF TO TELL HIM WHEN HE SHOULD LEAVE.

JUST LIKE GOD TOLD THEM WHEN THE TIME HAD COME FOR THEM TO BOARD THE ARK, HE TOLD THEM WHEN IT WAS TO LEAVE.

IN VERSE 7 IT TELLS US THAT NOAH FIRST RELEASED A RAVEN...

DOES ANYONE KNOW WHY HE RELEASED THE RAVEN FIRST?

BECAUSE IT WAS UNCLEAR.

IT COULD NEITHER BE USED AS A SACRIFICE NOR BE EATEN.

SO, IT WAS EXPENDABLE.

THE DOVE HOWEVER WAS WHITE AND CLEAN AND OFTEN USED FOR SACRIFICES.

SINCE IT WAS AMONG THE CLEAN ANIMALS IT WOULD'VE BEEN USED AS PART OF SACRIFICE IN NOAH'S POST FLOOD OFFERINGS.

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DOVE RETURNING WITH AN OLIVE LEAF?

IT SHOWED THAT THERE WAS DRY LAND AND TREES HAD BEGUN TO GROW.

FUN FACT... WHO WANTS TO GUESS HOW LONG IT TAKES FOR AN OLIVE TREE TO SPROUT FROM THE TIME IT IS PLANTED?

40 DAYS!

THEN WHEN THE DOVE DID NOT RETURN NOAH KNEW THAT IT HAD FOUND FOOD AND SHELTER AND NO LONGER NEEDED THOSE THINGS THAT ARK HAD PROVIDED FOR THE PAST YEAR.

ALL OF THIS HAD TO BE VERY ENCOURAGING CONSIDERING WHAT THEY HAD GONE THROUGH.

NOT ONLY THE STORM WHICH WAS LITERALLY THE WORST THING THAT HAS EVER HAPPENED TO THIS VERY DAY.

BUT THE DAYS, WEEKS AND MONTHS OF WAITING WONDERING WHEN THEY WOULD GET OFF THE ARK.

SO WHEN THE DOVE DIDN'T RETURN I'M SURE THERE WAS RENEWING OF THE HOPE THAT WAS WITHIN THEM.

GENESIS 8:13

¹³ NOW IT HAPPENED IN THE SIX HUNDRED AND FIRST YEAR, IN THE FIRST MONTH, ON THE FIRST OF THE MONTH, THE WATER WAS DRIED UP ^[f]FROM THE EARTH. THEN NOAH REMOVED THE COVERING OF THE ARK AND LOOKED, AND BEHOLD, THE ^[g]SURFACE OF THE GROUND WAS DRIED UP

HERE WE HAVE EXACT DAYS AGAIN, WHY ARE THESE SO IMPORTANT?

BECAUSE ITS HISTORY.

THIS TELLS US THE WATER WAS DRIED UP FOR THE EARTH, THEN NOAH REMOVED THE COVERING OF THE ARK.

THE WORD FOR COVERING IS THE SAME WORD USED IN NUMBERS 4

NUMBERS 4:5,6

⁵ "AND WHEN THE CAMP SETS OUT, AARON AND HIS SONS SHALL GO IN AND THEY SHALL TAKE DOWN THE VEIL OF THE SCREEN AND COVER THE ARK OF THE TESTIMONY WITH IT;⁶ AND THEY SHALL PUT A COVERING OF PORPOISE SKIN ON IT AND SHALL SPREAD OVER IT A CLOTH OF PURE ^[c]BLUE AND SHALL INSERT ITS POLES.

SO NOAH HAD CONSTRUCTED A COVERING OF SOME SORTS THAT COVERED THE ARK, THIS WOULD'VE HELPED WITH KEEPING EVERYTHING DRY DURING THE STORM AND PROBABLY KEPT THEM FROM WITNESSING SOME OF THE HORRORS AND DESTRUCTION

THAT CAME UPON THE EARTH.

THE END OF VERSE 13 TELLS US THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THEY HAD SEEN DRY GROUND SINCE THEY BOARDED THE ARK.

“THEN NOAH REMOVED THE COVERING OF THE ARK AND LOOKED, AND BEHOLD, THE ^[e]SURFACE OF THE GROUND WAS DRIED UP”

GENESIS 8:14

¹⁴ IN THE SECOND MONTH, ON THE TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF THE MONTH, THE EARTH WAS DRY.

SO FROM THE TIME THEY REMOVED THE COVERING AND SAW DRY GROUND UNTIL THE EARTH WAS TOTALLY DRY WAS 1 MONTH AND TWENTY SEVEN DAYS.

JUST IMAGINE WHAT THEY'RE GOING THROUGH.

FOR ALMOST 2 MONTHS WATCHING AS WHAT WILL BE THEIR NEW HOME SLOWLY DRY OUT AND BECOME WHAT IT IS TODAY.

NEW LANDSCAPES, THE SUN BRIGHTER THAN THEY HAD EVER SEEN.

EVERYTHING WOULD BE DIFFERENT.

GENESIS 8:15, 16

¹⁵ THEN GOD SPOKE TO NOAH, SAYING, ¹⁶ “GO OUT OF THE ARK, YOU AND YOUR WIFE AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR SONS' WIVES WITH YOU.

THIS IS AS FAR AS WE HAVE RECORDED THE FIRST TIME GOD HAS SPOKEN TO NOAH SINCE HE TOLD HIM TO GET ON THE ARK.

IN CHAPTER 7 VERSE 1 WE HAVE:

GENESIS 7:1

THEN YAHWEH SAID TO NOAH, “ENTER THE ARK, YOU AND ALL YOUR HOUSEHOLD, FOR YOU ALONE I HAVE SEEN TO BE RIGHTEOUS BEFORE ME IN THIS GENERATION.

AND WE HAVE NO OTHER RECORD OF GOD SPEAKING TO NOAH UNTIL IT WAS TIME FOR HIM TO GET OFF THE BOAT.

NOAH KNEW THAT GOD WOULD TELL HIM WHEN IT WAS TIME.

GOD HAD DIRECTED HIM TO THIS POINT AND WE KNOW THAT NOAH WAS MAN OF FAITH BECAUSE HE BELIEVED GOD.

HE BELIEVED GOD WHEN HE TOLD HIM HE NEEDED TO BUILD AND ARK.

HE BELIEVED GOD WHEN GOD TOLD HIM HE WAS GOING TO DESTROY THE EARTH AND IT'S INHABITANTS.

SO I'M SURE HE BELIEVED THAT GOD WOULD TELL HIM WHEN IT WAS TIME TO EXIT THE ARK.

GENESIS 8:17-19

¹⁷ BRING OUT WITH YOU EVERY LIVING THING OF ALL FLESH THAT IS WITH YOU, BIRDS AND ANIMALS AND EVERY CREEPING THING THAT CREEPS ON THE EARTH, THAT THEY MAY SWARM ON THE EARTH, AND THAT THEY MAY BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY ON THE EARTH. " ¹⁸ SO NOAH WENT OUT, AND HIS SONS AND HIS WIFE AND HIS SONS' WIVES WITH HIM. ¹⁹ EVERY BEAST, EVERY CREEPING THING, AND EVERY BIRD, EVERYTHING THAT MOVES ON THE EARTH, WENT OUT ^[H] BY THEIR FAMILIES FROM THE ARK.

I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE THIS MOMENT.

THIS WOULD BE THE EQUIVALENT OF US GETTING OFF A SPACESHIP ON AN ALIEN PLANET.

THIS WOULD'VE BEEN A MUCH HARSHER ENVIRONMENT THAN THEY HAD BEEN USED TO PREVIOUSLY.

THEY WOULD NOW BE LIVING IN A WORLD WHERE THE LONGEVITY OF LIFE WOULD BE SHORTENED TREMENDOUSLY TO ABOUT 1/10 OF WHAT IT WAS PRIOR TO THE FLOOD.

EVERYTHING WOULD BE DIFFERENT.

BUT THIS WAS THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH NOAH WAS CREATED.

HE WAS CREATED IN THAT DAY AND TIME FOR THAT DAY AND TIME.

AND THE SAME GOES FOR US.

WE WERE ALL SPECIALLY CREATED FOR THIS TIME.

WE CAN'T BE FEARFUL BECAUSE THINGS ARE CHANGING.

HISTORY TELLS US THAT CHANGE IS INEVITABLE.

AND GOD DOESN'T WANT US TO LIVE IN FEAR.

FEAR IS FROM THE ENEMY; FEAR CAUSES DOUBT AND ALSO PEOPLE MAKE BAD CHOICES WHEN THEY ARE SCARED.

FEAR IMMOBILIZES WHICH IS WHAT THE ENEMY WANTS, IF YOU'RE IMMOBILIZED YOU ARE NOT A THREAT.

IF YOU ARE TOO SCARED TO STAND UP FOR THE TRUTH THEN YOU ARE OF NO CONSEQUENCE TO THE DEMONIC REALM.

BUT GOD HAS PROMISED US STRENGTH THROUGH HIM.

ISAIAH 40:29-31

DO YOU NOT KNOW?

HAVE YOU NOT HEARD?

THE LORD IS THE EVERLASTING GOD,

THE CREATOR OF THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

HE WILL NOT GROW TIRED OR WEARY;

HIS UNDERSTANDING IS BEYOND SEARCHING OUT.

29HE GIVES POWER TO THE FAINT

AND INCREASES THE STRENGTH OF THE WEAK.

30EVEN YOUTHS GROW TIRED AND WEARY,

AND YOUNG MEN STUMBLE AND FALL.

31BUT THOSE WHO WAIT UPON THE LORD WILL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH;

THEY WILL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS LIKE EAGLES;

THEY WILL RUN AND NOT GROW WEARY,

THEY WILL WALK AND NOT FAINT.

AS THE WORLD CONTINUES TO GROW MORE AND MORE SINFUL, WE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT THE BIBLE SAID IS GOING TO HAPPEN.

THIS SHOULD VALIDATE OUR BELIEF NOT CAUSE US TO DOUBT.

WE SHOULD LOOK TO GOD AND REST IN THE PROMISES HE HAS MADE.

AS NOAH AND HIS FAMILY EXIT THE ARK THEY ENTER INTO A NEW WORLD AND HE AND THE ANIMALS ARE GIVEN THE SAME COMMAND WE SEE IN GENESIS CHAPTER 1.

BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY.

EVERY HUMAN AND EVERY ANIMAL ON THE PLANET TODAY CAME FROM THIS MOMENT IN TIME.

ABOUT 4400 YEARS AGO.

GENESIS 8:20

20 THEN NOAH BUILT AN ALTAR TO YAHWEH AND TOOK OF EVERY CLEAN ANIMAL AND OF EVERY CLEAN BIRD AND OFFERED BURNT OFFERINGS ON THE ALTAR.

THE FIRST THING NOAH DID WAS WORSHIP.

HE OFFERED SACRIFICES TO GOD TO HONOR HIM.

THEY HAD BEEN ON THE ARK FOR A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AND THE FIRST THING NOAH DOES IS GIVE THANKS TO THE ONE RESCUED HE AND HIS FAMILY.

DO WE DO THIS THOUGH?

WHEN WE GO THROUGH SOMETHING VERY DIFFICULT, DO WE IMMEDIATELY WORSHIP GOD AND GIVE THANKS?

PROBABLY NOT AS MUCH AS WE SHOULD.

GENESIS 8:21

21 AND YAHWEH SMELLED THE ^USOOTHING AROMA; AND YAHWEH SAID ^UTO HIMSELF, "I WILL NEVER AGAIN CURSE THE GROUND BECAUSE OF MAN, FOR THE ^KINTENT OF MAN'S HEART IS EVIL FROM HIS YOUTH; AND I WILL NEVER AGAIN STRIKE DOWN EVERY LIVING THING AS I HAVE DONE.

FROM THIS VERSE UNTIL 9:17 WE SEE THE START OF A CHANGE FROM NOAH'S FAITHFULNESS TO GODS RESPONSE TO NOAH.

A RESPONSE OF GRACE, BLESSING AND COVENANT.

THREE WORDS FOR THE NEW WORLD.

GRACE, GODS RESPONSE TO NOAH WAS ONE OF GRACE.

HE SAID THAT HE WOULD NEVER AGAIN CURSE THE GROUND BECAUSE OF MAN.

HE ALSO SAYS HE WILL NEVER AGAIN STRIKE DOWN EVERY LIVING CREATURE.

THE AROMA OF THE SACRIFICES WERE PLEASING TO GOD AND THIS WAS HIS WAY OF SHOWING THAT HE ACCEPTED NOAH'S OFFERING.

DOES THIS MEAN THAT GOD JUST REALLY LIKE THE WAY THE SACRIFICES SMELLED?

No!

HE WAS PLEASED IN THE FACT THAT THIS WAS NOAH'S RESPONSE TO WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

BUT NOAH'S SACRIFICE WAS ACCEPTED BY GOD IN SUCH A WAY THAT AFFECTED ALL OF MANKIND.

HE SAID HE WOULD NEVER AGAIN STRIKE DOWN EVERY LIVING CREATURE AFTER HE SMELLED THE PLEASING AROMA OF NOAH'S SACRIFICE.

AND REMEMBER FROM CAIN AND ABEL GOD IS WHO DECIDES WHAT IS A WORTHY SACRIFICE.

MEANING GOD DETERMINES HOW HE WILL BE WORSHIPED.

AND WE KNOW THAT ONE REQUIREMENT OF THAT WORSHIP IS THAT IT MUST BE OUR BEST FRUITS.

STOP GIVING GOD YOUR LEFTOVERS.

STOP SETTLING FOR THE BARE MINIMUM.

THE GREATEST FORM OF WORSHIP IS HOW WE LIVE OUR LIVES, SO WE MUST LIVE TO EXALT OUR CREATOR AND NOT FOR EXALTING OURSELVES.

GENESIS 8:22

***WHILE ALL THE DAYS OF THE EARTH REMAIN,
SEEDTIME AND HARVEST,
AND COLD AND HEAT,
AND SUMMER AND WINTER,
AND DAY AND NIGHT
SHALL NOT CEASE.”***

A PROMISE FROM GOD.

WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THE GOD WE SERVE ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES.

DOES ANYONE REMEMBER WHAT GOD TOLD NOAH IN GENESIS 6:18?

GENESIS 6:17, 18

AND BEHOLD, I MYSELF AM BRINGING FLOODWATERS ON THE EARTH, TO DESTROY FROM UNDER HEAVEN ALL FLESH IN WHICH IS THE BREATH OF LIFE; EVERYTHING THAT IS ON THE EARTH SHALL DIE. ¹⁸ BUT I WILL ESTABLISH MY COVENANT WITH YOU; AND YOU SHALL GO INTO THE ARK—YOU, YOUR SONS, YOUR WIFE, AND YOUR SONS’ WIVES WITH YOU.

THAT’S EXACTLY WHAT WE ARE SEEING TAKE PLACE.

**NOAH HAD NO IDEA WHAT THE COVENANT WOULD BE BUT I'M SURE
IN THIS MOMENT HE REMEMBERED BACK TO WHAT GOD HAD SAID.**

**JUST LIKE WE CAN THINK BACK TO ALL THE PROMISES HE HAS
GIVEN US THROUGH HIS SON.**

THE GREATEST OF WHICH IS OUR SALVATION.

**THE ARK WAS NOAH'S SALVATION, IT HAD ONE WAY ON, ONE DOOR
TO SAVE HIM FROM THE WRATH OF GOD.**

**JESUS IS OUR SALVATION HE IS THE ONLY WAY TO FATHER HE IS THE
ONLY DOOR.**

**WE MUST ENTER THROUGH HIM TO BE SPARED FROM THE WRATH TO
COME.**