

In The Beginning

Genesis 8:1-22

- After building this massive structure **Gen 7:1** says the Lord invites Noah, his family, the birds, animals and creeping things into the Ark, once inside **7:16** says “**the Lord shut them in**”. That means the Lord opens the doors and the Lord shuts the doors, just like salvation, God gives out the invites to all, some respond and come, others don’t, while doubting the validity of it all. But eventually the Lord calls those who have accepted His invitation unto Himself while also closing the door on everyone else and allows judgment to pass over all who dared to laugh and mock.

V1-22

- **V1-5** after raining for **40** days and **40** nights it finally stops and scripture says it took **5** months before the waters receded enough for the Ark to rest upon Mt. Ararat, and almost **8** months before the mountains could actually be seen. Anytime we are in a storm we should remember **8:1** says “**God remembered Noah**” in the midst of the worst storm, not the storm of the year or century, but ever, God still has His attention on Noah, so don’t ever think He will forget you, He will always remember us for He has just like Noah made promises to us like **Heb 13:5**- “**He will never leave us nor forsake us**” as He will always be with us no matter what were going through.
- A couple of points the seventh month would go on to become very special to the Jews as they celebrated the **Feast of trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles**. Also **V4** says the Ark “**rested**” on the seventh month, this reminds us that when Noah father named him in **Gen 5:29** it meant “**rest**, as he had hoped that his son would bring rest to a weary world.
- **V6-9** Noah then sent two birds the raven and the dove to scout out the circumstances, the raven being an unclean bird that feasts on dead carcasses felt right at home landing on floating carcasses and devouring its flesh so it didn’t return, the dove being a clean animal found no place to rest its feet so returned to the Ark. **V10-12** he waits a week and sent the dove back out this time he returned with a fresh olive leaf this meant new life was beginning to grow and that they could soon leave the Ark, so he waits another week and sends the dove back out and this time he doesn’t return which tells Noah that the bird found suitable food and shelter.
- **V13-19** although Noah knew that the storm was over and new life has began he still did not leave the Ark until he had heard from the Lord. How many times do people once they think the worst is over and the coast is clear they say thanks God I’ll take it from here but not Noah. **V20-22** look at the very first thin Noah does upon leaving the Ark (build an altar and offer burnt offerings) Noah and his family were upon the Ark for at least a year most believe, so you know it was some sinning going on whether its someone saying or doing something they shouldn’t have Noah understood they needed to worship the Lord and that meant starting with repentance.

- The Lord responds to their obedience and tells them He will never curse the ground or destroy the earth like He just did, even though He knew man's heart would stay corrupt. This again shows that although we remain corrupt and sinful God knowing this still loves us and establishes personal relationship with us, even using the seasons to remind us of the promises He's made to us. **V21 Eph 5:2** when we agree with God and confess and ask for forgiveness it's like opening a bottle of perfume it smells so sweet and good to God, which is why Satan does everything in his power to get us to wrongly think it's better to hide our sin than to confess our sin.