

Flood

Read Genesis 6-9

Adam and Eve's sin in the Garden of Eden impacted all of God's creation. Man, beast, and the earth itself. Everything is now sick to death with sin. After their exile from the garden, two sons were born. Cain killed Abel, his brother, in a jealous rage.

Behind the physical realm, a spiritual war broke out everywhere, in everything and everyone. Because of sin's global pandemic, God decided to start all over, to wipe the slate clean, and begin again with one man and his family. That man's name was Noah.

Noah alone was righteous in God's eyes. Noah was not a perfect man. He sinned just like you and me. But Noah followed the One God, not the demonic forces aligned with Satan. His belief in God was credited to Noah as righteousness.

Talking Points

- As Adam's descendants multiplied on the earth, "every intent of his (man's) heart was evil continually."
- God was sorry that He had made mankind. He decided to destroy all flesh on the surface of the earth.
- Noah, his wife, their three sons, and their wives were the only survivors following a world-wide flood.
- God unconditionally promised to never again to destroy the world with water. The token of God's promise was the rainbow.
- Noah's descendants were commanded to multiply and spread out over the face of the earth once again.

One Man's Legacy

For nearly 100 years, Noah and his family worked together building an ark. The ark was the vehicle God used to keep the woman's seed (See Genesis 3:15) safe for a future time. While almost everyone died in the flood, through Noah's faith, humanity as a whole was delivered from the consequences of global wickedness.

Imagine for a minute what was going on in the minds of Noah and his family. The ark was lifted off the earth by rising water. Outside, panic was spreading as everyone's death became imminently apparent. Men, women, boys, and girls. Every creature outside the ark died.

Discuss this question with your family. ***In Noah's place, what would you have been thinking?***

Reality Check

It rained for forty days and forty nights, just like God said it would. Noah's family of eight people lived inside the ark, along with pairs of all the kinds of animals that God had made, for about a year. The sun came out and began to dry up the waters covering the land. When it was safe to exit the ark, Noah's family built an altar and worshipped God with sacrifices.

Looking down from heaven, the Lord painted a rainbow in the sky. Then He said:

It shall come about, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow will be seen in the cloud, and I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh. - Genesis 9:14-15

God made an "I will" statement. This covenantal agreement is unconditional. God alone is responsible for keeping the conditions of His promise. They are not dependent on anyone except God. God has made Himself accountable to you and me!

It is important to note what God has said He wouldn't do. It is equally important to understand what He did not say. This is a sobering thought in our time when so many do not believe God nor obey His commandments.

Genealogies

The records of family lines are vital to anyone seeking to understand the Bible. Take a few minutes and read Genesis 5. This chapter opens with the words: **This is the book of the generations of Adam. - Genesis 5:1**

The Hebrew word for "generations" is *tol dot*. Eleven different times in the book of Genesis, *tol dot* is used to record a significant divinely driven family line. Using this genealogy containing the names of fathers and sons along with their ages, it is possible to construct a timeline from Adam to Noah. Adam lived for 930 years. He lived through every generation until the time of Noah's father, Lamech. This timeline reveals that Lamech was 56 years old when Adam died.

Think about it. God wanted us to know that there was reliable first-person testimony covering the 930 years of Adam life to the time of Noah's father. Lamech made sure Noah knew who God was and what he had done. He told the story of his family to all who would listen. Noah made sure that we would hear this story too! Are you listening?

Bible Conversations Questions

- Identify the similarities between people in the time of Noah and the people of our own time.
- Describe Noah. How was he different from the rest of the people?
- Before Noah's time, what did people eat? How did this change after the flood?
- What was different about man's relationship with animals following the flood?