

Between Crucifixion and Resurrection

1 Peter 3:18-22

First, Jesus went to Paradise!

The story of the thief on the cross...

Luke 23:42–43 (ESV) — And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Second, Jesus Preached in Prison!

1 Peter 3:18–22 (ESV) — For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

→ **Who did Jesus preach to?**

1 Peter 3:19 (ESV) — ... in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison

- **Lost people in hell?**

... problems...

1 Peter 3:20 (ESV) — ...because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

If “lost people” why only those during the days of Noah?

Second problem...

“spirits”

πνεῦμα - Spirit

“person”

Ψυχή- Soul as in human soul/person

- **Demons in hell?**

This makes more sense, but Peter pinpoints a specific group of demons/spirits...

1 Peter 3:20a (ESV) — ...because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared ...

If it is spirits/demons and the specific group Jesus went and preached/proclaimed to were from the “days of Noah”...

WHAT IS PETER REFERRING TO?

Before we answer this let me make sure you are aware that throughout the Bible there are things written under divine inspiration that came from other books not included in the Bible...

The Book of Jashar

Joshua 10:13 (ESV) — And the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, until the nation took vengeance on their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jashar? ...

Paul quotes from this book in 2 Timothy...

2 Timothy 3:8 (ESV) — Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, ...

The Book of the Wars of the LORD

Numbers 21:14 (ESV) — Therefore it is said in the Book of the Wars of the LORD ...

The Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel

1 Kings 14:19 (ESV) — Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, how he warred and how he reigned, behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.

In the New Testament there are over 120 verses that are either quotes or strong allusions from non-canonical books...

Paul quotes from Greek sources in Acts 17...

Acts 17:28 (ESV) — for “ ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, “ ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’

The Book of the Assumption of Moses

Jude 9 (ESV) — But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, “The Lord rebuke you.”

The Book of Enoch

Peter is referring to a very specific book that was well known during his time known as the Book of Enoch...

According to one scholarly study there are 50 New Testament passages that either quote or make strong allusions to the Book of Enoch...

2 Peter 2:4 (ESV) — For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment;

Jude 6 (ESV) — And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day—

Jude 14–15 (ESV) — It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”

They were very familiar with the Book of Enoch!

Here in our passage (1 Peter 3:18-22) Peter sees in a passage in the Book of Enoch a TYPOLOGY of Jesus!

What is a Typology?

A Typology is a symbol, a foreshadowing, or a type of an object that represents something else.

Examples...

Passover Lamb is a Typology of Jesus who became our Passover Lamb!

Melchizedek - Again a Typology of Jesus ...

- ***King of Salem (peace)***
- ***Priest of the Most High God***
- ***His name (Melek – King) and (hesed – righteousness)***

So... back to our passage...

The Book of Enoch...

Expands and explains the Genesis 6 story...

Genesis 6:1–4 (ESV) — When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years.” The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.

The Book of Enoch tell us that these “sons of God” were angels that saw the daughters of men and lusted after them...

They came and had sexual relations with them producing these offspring called Nephilim...

They taught mankind many “secret” practices ...

They taught mankind warfare, sorcery, etc.

The Lord then had them cast into the prison of darkness...

The story in the Book of Enoch goes as follows...

The Lord sent Enoch to pronounce judgment against these “fallen angels” for their attempt to corrupt mankind and thwart the redemptive plan of God...

The Redemptive Plan of God

Genesis 3:15 (ESV) — I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring [seed] and her offspring [seed]; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Peter sees the actions of Enoch as a typology of Jesus...

1 Peter 3:19–20 (ESV) — In which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

Peter would not have simply made this story about Jesus up, so apparently Jesus told Peter of Him going to proclaim to them that their attempts to thwart God’s redemptive plan has been forever foiled!

Peter also includes Noah and the Ark as a typology of Jesus and His redemption of man...

Genesis 6:5–9 (ESV) — The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the LORD said, “I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them.” But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD ... Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God.

Just as Noah was found “blameless”, Jesus was righteous...

1 Peter 3:18 (ESV) — For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,

The Ark was built to safely preserve Noah and his family from the judgment of God!

1 Peter 3:20 (ESV) — because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

→ REMEMBER – The Ark was shut and sealed by God!

Genesis 7:16 (ESV) — And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in.

In fulfillment of this typology...

Jesus Christ, God’s blameless and righteous Son, built the Ark of God’s Redemptive Plan so that everyone who believes in Him may enter His “Ark”, being sealed by the Holy Spirit and delivered from the coming Judgment!

Ephesians 1:13 (ESV) — In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit

And our baptism is a type of ALL THAT JESUS HAS DONE!

1 Peter 3:21 (ESV) — Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ