



Noah Establishes The Altar

- *Foundations Of Covenant*
- October 8, 2025



The flood of Noah's day was a universal judgment of sin.

- God destroyed the world that existed at that time because of their wickedness.
- Noah pleaded with the people of his day to have faith in God.
- They would not listen and the door to the ark was closed. God's judgment by worldwide flood was unleashed

The Bible Gives Us Several Reasons To Believe That There Was Indeed A Worldwide Flood

- *Jesus Christ believed the Old Testament record of the Flood*
- *The apostle Peter believed in a worldwide Flood*
- *The Old Testament record teaches a global Flood*
- *We, professing to believe in Christ and follow Him, can do no less*

- **Some would say, “Yes, there was a flood. It wasn’t worldwide it was localized.”**
- **The Bible doesn’t leave that option open**

Noah and his sons had to build a huge Ark to preserve animal life

- An ark would be unnecessary for anything but a global Flood.
- The earth's surface and sedimentary crust bear strong witness to the reality of a worldwide Flood
- All the mountains of the world have been under water at some time or times in the past
- Fossils and sedimentary formations appear to have formed rapidly
- Dr. John Morris

“The fact that there are traditions of the great Flood found in hundreds of tribes in all parts of the world (all similar in one way or another to that in the Genesis record) is firm evidence that those tribes all originated from the one family preserved through the cataclysm”

- Dr. John Morris -- President of Institute of Creation Research

According To The Bible:

- *The water covered the earth for 150 days; nothing was left alive*
- *God kept Noah, his family, and the animals safe from harm.*
- *Noah and his family lived on that Ark for 53 weeks, until God told him to leave the Ark and let all the animals go.*
- *God wanted them to begin replenishing the earth with more people and animals.*

Genesis 8:1-12 Tells The Account Of The Flood's Conclusion -- As The Ark Came To Rest On Mt Ararat

- **READ: Genesis 8:13-22**

Noah's First Actions Following His Exit From The Ark:

- Noah Does Something Very Impactful

Genesis 8:20 (NIV) — 20 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.

How Does Noah Acknowledge God's Authority Over His Life After He Came Out Of The Ark?

- *Noah built an altar unto the Lord*
- *On this altar he sacrificed to God*
- *This is the first altar mentioned in the Bible*

Noah And His Family Saw The Devastating Results Of The Sin And Rebellion In The World

- They Saw How Bad The Pre-Flood Society Had Become
- ***Noah Determined That He and His Family Were Going To Do Things Quite Differently***

The First Thing Noah Did Was To Build An Altar

- **An Altar Of Sacrifice To Atonement For Sin**
- Noah put first things first
- He established the priority of the altar
- New beginnings and restored life starts at the altar

Noah Leads His Family To Start In One Area That Is Essential For Anyone Wanting To Do Something For God.

- They start at the altar
- The processes of preparation are empty and are powerless without the altar
- We need the altar experience before we do anything for God

Q. WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ALTAR

A. IT'S THE PLACE FOR PRESENTING SACRIFICES TO GOD

- In Hebrew “***Altar***” means “***Slaughter Place***”
- (Heb 9:22 NIV) “That without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sin...”
- Blood must be shed for sin to be defeated; it's effects to be blocked and overcome

WHAT THE ALTAR TAUGHT:

1. Substitutionary sacrifice is necessary for the forgiveness of sins.
2. There is no forgiveness without the shedding of the blood of a sacrifice.
3. There is no way to approach God (to be saved) other than through the death of a substitute.

In the tabernacle placement of the altar was very important

- ***The altar was the first thing that a prospective worshipper would come to***
- ***Before Entry Into The Holy Place And The Holy Of Holies Sacrifice Must Be Made***

In The Church We Have The Altar Area

- A Place to Lay Our Lives Before The Lord in Submission, Obedience, And Sacrifice

The Brazen Altar in the Courtyard of The Tabernacle was 7-1/2 feet square and 4-1/2 feet high.

- In Solomon's Temple the Altar there was 30 feet by 30 feet square and 15 feet high
- In The Book of Ezra – When the Altar was rebuilt -- the Altar was 75 feet by 75 feet square and 22 1/2 feet high (2 x's bigger)

Perhaps the altar was made so much larger each time because, they knew the altar had to play a bigger role

- The Altar had to assume a higher level of priority and significance In their lives and nation.
- The altar would have to be a main focus in their lives.
- They knew that it was imperative that they come back to the covenantal relationship with the Lord

When Generations Previous Had Left The Worship Of God Out Of The Equation...

- *They Were Driven Into Captivity*
- *The Earth Was Judged by the Flood*
- *Because: the Altar Had Been Avoided and Shunned*

Why Did Noah Start With The Altar?

- Because God's Way Is:
- ***We Make Plans In The Physical***
- ***We Make Progress In The Spiritual***

Physical things are meaningless --unless we make progress in the spiritual

- ***Life on this earth (outside of the ark) will not be truly restored, restarted, and revitalized, until God does something deep inside of us***
- ***Noah knew that when you start at the Altar –Then you don't need anything else to be able to worship God and come into His presence***

Noah Knew That Before Physical Structure He Must Establish A Spiritual Foundation

- *Noah Knew That Worship Should Begin Right Away.*
- *He Put First Things First*
- *You Don't Need A Physical Structure To Worship God*

We Can Worship Now

- ***We Need To Focus On The Living God***
- ***Putting First Things First***
- ***(Mat 6:33 NIV) But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.***

The Altar Was A Priority For 2 Reasons:

- 1. The Altar Was The Means To Make Atonement For Their Sins.*
- 2. The Altar Was The Place To Seek God's Blessing On Their Preparations For Living Successfully After The Flood*

Today The Altar Shares Both Of These Functions For Us:

- We Receive His Sacrifice*
- We Give Ourselves As Holy Sacrifices*

The Altar Is A Priority: The Place Where Guilty People Come To Apply The Sacrifice Of The Blood Of Jesus

- *A place of contact with God*
- *The place where sinning humanity meets God in safety, with full assurance of forgiveness.*
- **Praise God For The Altar. It Was A Top-Level Priority For Noah -- It Needs To Be A Top-Level Priority For Us**

