

Noah

3 Falls/ One Hope

We are looking to the second Fall During the time of Noah

THE BIBLE STORY: Noah and the Ark is found in Genesis 6

This is such a popular story....especially with kids!

There is a a-lot more going on in this story than what we tell the kids
This is actually a major reset for mankind

What Theologians Identify as the 2nd Fall of Mankind
God destroys everything living....End of Genesis 7

This Always been hard to Understand for me
Destroying everyone and everything....seems harsh!
It's hard to reconcile this with the Loving God that we know.

I'm not saying this because I doubt it but because it's normal
We must move through that and process
Try to understand why God did this
-How does this line up with the Character of God?
-What does it mean for us today?

Genesis 6

10 Generations went by from ADAM to NOAH!

The Torah teaches 1656 years from creation to the flood

Sin and death had entered the world

-People would no longer live forever

-But people lived a LONG time!!

This was a change after the 2nd Fall

So 1656 years and 10 Generations inGod was going to start over

Genesis 6:5-7

The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time.⁶ The Lord regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled.⁷ So the Lord said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them."

GODS HEART WAS TROUBLED

"For I regret that I have made them"

The Hebrew word for regret doesn't mean that God made a mistake

Meaning more that he Grieved

He was grieved....troubled....distracted that it had gone so wrong

God Created Adam and Eve

Because he desired a family.....He wants to be with us....in relationship!

He made us in his own image.

Genesis 1:27

So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

So because we are made in his image.....he gave us choice

He could have created drones that had to obey

But is that true love?

Because of Choice....

After 1656 years Mankind had fallen so hard

-Nothing left of the purpose of God's creation

-Man didn't choose God

All They could think about was evil....all the time!

-Not just oops I slipped up again.

It was so bad there was nothing left in the relationship that God desired

THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE GOD'S CHARACTER

God is love.....this sounds hypocritical
How could GOD DO THAT TO THEM?

HE DIDN'T REALLY DO IT TO THEM

He turned them over to themselves
They Chose the path to Death and Destruction
-He Pleaded with them to change....to live righteous!

The Evil that they immersed themselves in led to death and destruction
It was their choice.....and it GRIEVED HIM!!

We do the same stuff!
How could God do this to me??
-Often the result of our own choices

Our best route is to turn back to him!!!

THE WEIRD STUFF:

It wasn't just the choices of Man that led God to send the flood
We all know the story but often ignore the weird stuff

Genesis 6:1-4 Wickedness in the World

When human beings began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, ² the sons of God saw that the daughters of humans were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. ³ Then the Lord said, "My Spirit will not contend with humans forever, for they are mortal; their days will be a hundred and twenty years."
⁴ The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterward—when the sons of God went to the daughters of humans and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.

2 weird things in the is passage.

First God reduced the normal life span
I mentioned it before

After the first fall of Adam Men and Woman would not live forever

Sin and Death was their choice!

They had to live....or die....with that consequence

But they lived for 500-900 years!

-Then God says that's too much

Second and even more Weird is the “**Sons of God**”

Lets DIG into it for a minute here

Start with the Devil

Lucifer was a leader in heaven!

Isaiah 14 & Ezekiel 28 Jude 6 & Revelations 12

Rebellion of Angels...Fallen...

He took 1/3 of the Angels with him

Isaiah 14:12-15 How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn!
You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! ¹³ You said in
your heart, “I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God;
I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon.
¹⁴ I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.” ¹⁵
But you are brought down to the realm of the dead, to the depths of the pit.

You have been cast down to Earth.....talking about satan

He clearly roamed the earth and TALKED to EVE!!!!

So back to the text leading to Noah and the Ark

VS 2 “Son’s of God”

Jewish & Christian scholars believe these were FALLEN ANGELS!

Satan was cast out of heaven with 1/3 of Angel...

Fallen Angels started having babies with humans! CRAZY STUFF!!!!

This created a hybrid called NEPHELIM! (offspring of a fallen Angel & human)

-Giants! “heroes of old....men of renown”

Weird stuff, right?? I told you.....but it’s important to understand!!

This is also one reason that God needed to send the flood
To put an end to the Nephelim who were never a part of his plan

It was a Big Reset!!

After God gave ample time to Turn back to him.....he made the plan to reset

And there was One man that he found he could trust.....Noah

THE CHARACTER OF NOAH

Genesis 6:8-13

But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. ⁹ This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God. ¹⁰ Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. ¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹² God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³ So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. ¹⁴ So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out.

Noah found Favor in the eyes of the Lord

His Character stood out..

He was righteous, blameless, and he walked faithfully with God

Righteous

Kind of a religious churchy word.

Means he Did what was right regardless of those all around him

He stayed on the right course!!!

1 John 3:7

Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

He did what was right and followed the Lords instructions

One of the Themes of the Story of Noah

"Noah did everything just as the Lord Commanded it"

He was obedient!!
He didn't pick and choose what to follow

That can speak to us today.....encourage us
Follow God at every step....even when it's hard!!

Blameless

He was without fault....Pretty high standard!!
But it is the challenge we are given

Philippians 2: 14-15:

Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe.

Great challenge.....the way we live should be noticeably different

Interesting that Complaining and Arguing are called out
Imagine building an ARK that took 50-75 years to build!
-3 sons and their wives

Some of you have drama at Christmas
Imagine doing a construction project!!

Anyone ever remodeled a house with your spouse?
It is the best way to test/strain your marriage
Try that without complaining or arguing
What a great challenge!!

Walked with God

The Last thing Noah is credited with is walking with God
Probably the most significant

He walked with God: this means to have the same mind,
thought, character, feelings, countenance,
seeing the same way as God.

This is literally what we are striving for as Christians
To follow him....to walk with him
To see what he sees and act when he moves us
To think like he does and feel like he does
TO BE LIKE HIM!!!

John 3:30

He must become greater; I must become less.

This is the cry of the heart of those who Walk with God
More of you in conversations
More of you in my family, marriage, job, entertainment
More of you and less of me.....

Noah had Character that we can learn from....strive for
Noah wasn't dealing with the challenges I am...
Noah's opposition was EXTRAORDINARY

OPPOSITION OF NOAH

Think of the world he lived in.....Rampant evil
So much so that God needed to destroy it!!

Many think America is in a bad spot right now
It may be worse that it was....but it can get a lot worse!

We are seeing a sharper contrast as the nation steps away from God
As we remove God from our society and Culture we see more evil

Mankind living for ourselves isn't a new way to live
It's the same tactic of the enemy that he has used for 1000's years

Look at History and the Evil that existed
Things the Romans did....unthinkable!
Other cultures.....we just haven't experienced it here

We are living in the end days.....I agree
But it's not tomorrow

42% of planet does not have access to the Gospel
And God is not willing to let any go that havent heard
We have work to do.....things need to happen!!

Is it evil now....Yes.....But Imagine Noah!!

No one else righteous around him
Evil that had engulfed everyone
Can you imagine the opposition....the mockery?
You are going to do what??.....Build a boat??
Have you done that before?.....where is the lake?
The Mockery must have been intense!

This should Challenge us in our faith

Sometimes we Treat God and his ways like an Accessory to our lives.

We add God to the life we are building for ourselves
If things are going ok, if church makes me feel better
If I like the worship, If I like the preaching
THEN I am going to put it on and things will be good

But the minute it gets in the way of our life....our plan....our desires
We take it off....discount it....selectively disregard the teaching
If it demands change we can easily dismiss it

What happens when your faith hits opposition?
What happens if you become the odd one for your beliefs?
If like Noah....you're the only one in your circle
What happens if you're labeled and shunned because of your faith?

Challenge you today to Dig in....Build your faith, character

Press into Jesus!!

So if you find yourself in the place Noah did
You have the character to pull you through
You could be found Righteous...doing the right thing
Blameless.....without fault
Walking with God regardless of the challenges!!

This entire series shows us that we need Jesus
We are fallen and we need Jesus
Left to our own.....leading to death and destruction

But there is a HOPE....It all points to Jesus!!
Not just as an Accessory

AS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR LIFE

AS THE CORNERSTONE

AS THE NECESSITY, MOST CRUCIAL, MOST IMPORTANT, MOST
TRUSTED, MOST VALUED THING

This is the thrill of hope!!
Even if we are surrounded by evil.....we have the ONE
Who conquered sin and the grave so we can be close to him
That was willing to give us free will.....the choice to choose him

That is the hope we have
THAT GOD IS STILL WILLING AND LONGING TO SAVE THOSE WHO CALL
UPON HIS NAME!!

God Created you for relationship with him
Sin separates you from that relationship
He desires to be back in relationship with you

He made a way through Jesus!!

