Jason Dirks==Genesis 6:5-22==10/1/23

We are back in our *Genesis series*... we started with *CREATION*... God speaking the universe and all that is in it into existence...

God created Man and Woman **in His own IMAGE**... to have **dominion over the earth** and to have a relationship with their creator in which they are **capable of delighting** in and **displaying the Glory of God!**

God created them Male and Female for the **Purpose of Marriage** in order to **Be Fruitful and Multiply and fill the earth with IMAGE BEARERS**... both in Procreation and in Discipleship... winning people to **Faith in JESUS** who is ... the PERFECT IMAGE of God.

Then in *Genesis 3*... even though God had given Adam and Eve a world full of "YES'S"... Provided *all they needed for Joy and Satisfaction and happiness*...

Adam and Eve **listened to the voice of the Serpent** and decided that they **could not TRUST GOD**... their hearts were filled **with UNBELIEF** and they took the forbidden fruit and everything CRASHED...

Sin entered the world and brought *misery and death*... by *Genesis 4* there was a *MURDER in the first family*... Cain killing Abel in cold blood... and by *Genesis 6*... Humanity has plunged headlong into SIN...

And <u>ONE THING</u> that stands out **LIKE a NEON SIGN** in the account of **the FLOOD** is that **SIN DESTROYS**...

I feel like <u>if</u> we could All *embrace that truth today*... If we could all **believe** what the Bible says *about Sin*... Our lives would radically be Transformed...

Within a couple of 1000 years... Things are *really bad*...

<u>If you have in your mind that THINGS ARE REALLY BAD today... and that</u> everything in the past was the good ol' days.... Well... you <u>haven't read your bible</u>.

It is hard to know the **FULL EXTENT OF THE BLESSING** that the **BIBLE** and **the Church** has been to the World!!!

The *Kingdom of heaven <u>ruling</u>* in the hearts of men and women all around the world following a *Judeo-Christian Ethic* has produced **SO MUCH GOOD**... SO MUCH **JUSTICE**

and *PEACE* and *MERCY* and *CARE for the NEEDY*... (Our World is BROKEN for Sure... But there is also *MUCH LIGHT Blazing* in the hearts of men and women and students who have **believed the Gospel** and are following **Jesus**)

We certainly see **<u>NONE of that</u>** in the DAYS OF NOAH...

1st... we See the DEPRAVITY of Man in Sin. Genesis 6:5-13 ...

6:5---- GREAT WICKEDNESS... ----Great evil on the earth... Great INJUSTICE... GREAT IMMORALITY... GREAT IDOLATRY.... GREAT OPPRESSION...

It's <u>**not just**</u> that you could find examples of great wickedness on the earth... but rather. GREAT WICKEDNESS **PERMEATED the whole** of mankind on the earth..

6:5... "every intention of the thoughts of his heart"... "only evil continually."

Humanity *purposed evil*... they were *consumed with evil*.. they had fallen headlong into Sin without restraint and *acted* on the intentions of their *wicked heart CONSTANTLY*..

When Sin is not repented of.... It GAINS MOMENTUM... It grows... It consumes more and more of your life.

In **6:11-13**.. it says specifically **2X**...that the earth was filled **with VIOLENCE**... People were *taking what they WANTED* by FORCE... The **Strong oppressed the WEAK**... the WEAK OPPRESSED the WEAKER... People **MURDERED** and **RAPED** and **PILLAGED** and **ENSLAVED** without RESTRAINT...

They INDULGED their FLESHLY DESIRES and LIVED CONSUMED WITH IDOLS>...

And SIN did what SIN ALWAYS DOES.... IT CORRUPTS.. (Genesis 6:11-12)---- 3X!! ...

Corrupts means... It Ruins things... It spoils things... It destroys things.

It still does today right?!! ---Galatians 6:8

Sin Ruins Relationships...

Sin Corrupts a Culture...

Sin DESTROYS MARRIAGES and Families and Reputations and SpOILS our JOY and our FLOURISHING...

Sin creates a World of Violence and Vengeance and Selfishness and Brutality and Genocide and Racism and Abuse...

Sin was Ruining the EARTH...

<u>NOW...</u> if you are **an Athiest**... if your explanation for the World is a Big Bang and Billions of years of Evolution... I guess this is.... O.K... maybe even expected?

A Whale can devour 16 metric Tons of Krill a DAY... In the ocean the strong devour the weak.. And Male Lions and Bears will Kill cubs that were not sired by them in order to quicken the females preparedness to mate.. And A Mother stork will throw one of her chicks out of the nest to die on the ground if it means helping her other chicks to thrive...

So **<u>if</u>** we are just evolved Animals... then maybe Murder and pillaging and Stealing and infanticide are all just o.k... or maybe the argument would be that we have evolved past all that and we now know *it's best* for everyone *if we be nice*... But it's <u>**not**</u> really right or wrong.. good or evil.... It's just the most promising track for every one prosper...

But According to the Scripture.... **God hates Sin**. SIN **GRIEVES** the HEART OF GOD! **Genesis 6:6**

This is *a phenomenal verse*. ---- God is GRIEVED to the HEART----- That is **PAIN... HURT**.

We can **FEEL INTENSE PAIN** when we or someone close to us is **BETRAYED**... or **ABUSED** or **OPPRESSED** or **ATTACKED**.

<u>But we might not feel anything</u> if it is people we aren't close to.... We have Christian Brothers and sisters of the KUKI tribe in Northeastern India who are being slaughtered... Hundreds of churches burned... homes destroyed... Christians murdered... young women stripped, abused and lead out into fields to be executed... probably the most horrendous footage I've ever witnessed...

Most of the World..... is **probably indifferent** at best...

There <u>are even times</u> when we may feel that **victims** of violence <u>got what they</u> <u>deserved</u>...

But **GOD IS GRIEVED**>... PAINED by SIN.... ------ <u>Whenever you are attacked</u> or betrayed or unjustly treated... **KNOW that SIN GRIEVES the HEART of GOD**... that **GOD HURTS** over the Sin against you.

And God is NOT INDIFFERENT... GOD IS NOT PASSIVE... GOD IS NOT UNJUST... God is HOLY and RIGHTEOUS and JUST...

God will **BRING JUSTICE**... GOD WILL **MAKE THINGS RIGHT**... GOD WILL <u>NOT ALLOW</u> <u>SIN to have the Final say</u>...

God will *cleanse the earth of Sin*... So we see the Depravity of Man...

2nd we see the Faith of Righteous NOAH.... (Genesis 6:9)

The book of **2** Peter uses NOAH as an example of the Fact that **God knows how** to **rescue** the godly and keep the unrighteous **under punishment** for the day of Judgment. **(2** Peter **2:5..9)** ...

God will **SAVE the RIGHTEOUS**..... GOD WILL **BRING HIS WRATH in Judgment** upon the Unrighteous.... Both of those things will Happen!

IN *Genesis 6* the *World is going to be judged* but *God sets His FAVOR* upon NOAH... *(vs.8)* ...

Noah is described as *a RIGHTEOUS MAN*.... *Blameless* in his generation... *Noah walked with God.*

Now... <u>where</u> did NOAH get this Righteousness... IN a World full of Wickedness how did Noah achieve Righteousness?

The Answer in the Bible is <u>the SAME</u>... no matter when or where you ask it....the answer is: **By FAITH**...

Look at *Hebrews 11:7* Did you hear the end of that verse? The Righteousness that comes by Faith.

Noah **trusted God**... Noah **believed God**. ------ God **Revealed certain TRUTH** TO NOAH... and NOAH BELIEVED GOD... Now **what TRUTH** did God reveal **to NOAH?** (vs.13)--- God is going to destroy the Earth.

(vs.17)--- God is going to *bring a flood of waters* upon the earth to destroy everything and everyone.

(vs.14-16). Build an ark... A Big floating rectangular Box... 450 feet long...(about as long as a football field and a half) 75 feet wide and 45 feet high... with 3 decks

Review... God said... I'm going to destroy everything on the earth.... You and the animal kingdom can be saved only by building a GIANT ARK...

ALL of this.... ACCORDING TO HEBREWS 11:7--- Is "UNSEEN"

Noah has **no evidence** for this... **NO WEATHERMAN** calling for 40 days and nights of Rain.. No GEOLOGIST predicting cataclysmic changes in the earth's structure that would cause the fountain's of the deep to erupt.. **(7:11)** ...

---- **<u>If</u>** you believe the **"canopy" theory**... that there was a water vapor canopy surrounding the earth before the flood... and it is what God used to flood the earth... this might be what **Genesis 1:7... 2:5-6** may be describing...

If that is True... Noah had never seen Rain..

So <u>essentially</u> God is telling Him **to believe** that something is going to happen that had <u>never</u> <u>happened before</u>.. nor did Noah understand **how it could happen.**

God called NOAH to believe the "UNSEEN" ...

Now... this is at the <u>VERY HEART of FAITH</u>... it is to some degree at the very definition of Faith.. Hebrews 11:1 says... (READ)...

In Fact... Just like NOAH... God has revealed to us... **the "UNSEEN"...** and Called us to **BELIEVE HIM!**

In The Bible God has Revealed that Jesus Christ is coming back again...

He will split the eastern Sky ...

The *Bible has revealed* that the Dead joined to Christ will *RISE FROM THE DEAD*... and given Resurrection Bodies.

The *Bible has revealed* that there will be *a judgment*... a separating of believer from unbeliever..

The *Bible says* that those <u>not joined</u> to Jesus will be *cast into the Lake of Fire* prepared for the Devil and His angels where they will be tormented day and night for all eternity..

The *Bible says* that believers will **give an account** for their lives and will be **rewarded** for the things they did for Christ and then join JESUS on the *New heavens and New earth* living in fullness of Joy and pleasures forevermore.

All of that is.... "UNSEEN"...

The Spiritual warfare of the Devil and his demons who are seeking to steal, kill and destroy is UNSEEN...

The Truth that **God resists the Proud** but **gives grace** to the humble is "unseen". The Truth that God is **working all things for Good** for those who love Him is unseen.

Faith is BELIEVING and TRUSTING GOD... even when things are UNSEEN>

Hebrews 11:7 says that Noah's Faith in God's Word produced "REVERENT FEAR" ...

Faith means that you TAKE THE WORD OF GOD seriously...

You **don't IGNORE GOD**... ... You don't **"toy" with Him**... You don't treat what He says with a **"careless flippancy"** You are not like the toddler running for the toy who pretends he doesn't hear his parent yelling "Stop!"..

Think about this.... **when did the people of NOAH's DAY FEAR???** When the water was up to their waist and the Fountains of the deep opened up and **dead bodies** started floating by in the streets!!!

When did NOAH FEAR... when God spoke...

Noah's FAITH... brought about Reverent FEAR which RESULTED IN..... WORK... NOAH's FAITH... ACTED... James 2:18–20

Faith is <u>NOT REAL</u>... it's <u>NOT SAVING FAITH</u> if it does not **produce something**... and MAYBE THE **MOST VIVID** example of that is NOAH!!!

If Noah had **Heard** the Word of God ... Heard the Warning of God... ---- Said.. to himself... and OUT LOUD TO OTHERS.... --- **A Catastrophic Flood is coming!**

<u>If</u> Noah had put it on the Calendar... *Printed t-shirts and Ball caps that said*... <u>"SAVED or</u> <u>SINK"..</u>

But if he didn't act in obedience to God...

<u>If</u> he <u>didn't get up</u> the next morning with his **Ax and Saw and start chopping down** trees...

He didn't really Believe.

There are *a lot of folks today that "SAY"* they *Believe JESUS*... But then they *don't ACT*!!! They *don't ACT* with their TIME They *don't ACT* in Worship They *don't ACT* in HOLINESS... in turning from Sin... in pursuing righteousness. They *don't ACT* with their MONEY... They *don't ACT* with their testimony... They *don't ACT* in Justice and Righteousness and Mercy...

So..... They **don't really BELIEVE!**

Noah BELIEVED and OBEYED... GENESIS 6:22 ... Gen. 7:5 ...

And NOT ONLY DID NOAH BELIEVE and OBEY..... He Believed and OBEYED *for a REALLY LONG TIME!*

It takes awhile to Work... to provide for your family and to build an ark Bigger than a football field!!

Noah Worked for YEARS>>> for Decades... for what to us would be a lifetime!

Believing God through the **years without Rain**... without any sign of the coming FLOOD.. **Believing God** through the **years of Mocking** and attack of his neighbors. -----**Believing God**... when you are **the ONLY ONE**... **BELIEVING GOD** when you are **ALONE.**.

I don't know that anyone has ever been so ALONE in faith than NOAH!!!

Noah's FAITH also... **Heraided the Gospell** ---- 2 Peter 2:5 ... Both by His **ACTIONS... Noah's life** was **preaching a sermon** about the coming judgment... but also by **his** words.

Noah's Faith **impacted his Family**... (Hebrews 11:7)--- his household was saved. I have no GREATER DESIRE.. than that my Family be in the ARK OF CHRIST WITH ME> So we have seen the DEPRAVITY OF MAN... The FAITH OF RIGHTEOUS NOAH and now

<u>3rd...The TERRIBLE WRATH OF GOD ..</u> Genesis 7:11-12 ...

Noah and his wife, his 3 sons and their wives and 2 of every animal... 7 of every clean animal that could be used for sacrifice.. **come into the ARK**....

When they entered the ARK they were ESSENTIALLY saying ---- *I'm dead to the World*. MY LIFE is *not in the World*... My hope is *not out there* *My HOPE and MY LIFE* are with God.

It's a very similar thing that we are saying **when we are baptized**.... I'm dead to the old life... The old me is dead and gone... buried with Christ... and I'm carried through the judgment of God being placed in Christ.... Joined to Christ to be RAISED TO NEW LIFE!! **(1 Peter 1:20-22)** ...

Then in *Genesis 7:15-16* is says... The *Lord shut him in.*

The Lord shut the Door... ------ the Door had been open... The WAY to Salvation was open to all who would Turn from Sin and Believe God...

But *that OPPORTUNITY ENDED* when the LORD Shut the Door... and the LORD SHUT IN ALL THOSE IN THE ARK...

Just as we are **SEALED with the SPIRIT**... the LORD SEALED in those in the ARK from the Judgment all around them...

Matthew 24:36-42 ---- They were going about their lives.... Making plans and having parties and celebrating milestones... NOT REALIZING that the DOOR was Being SHUT.

And Jesus says it will happen the same way again... AGAIN!!

Because the FLOOD did not fix the World ...

Genesis 8:18-19--- They come out of the ARK... and **Genesis 8:20**--- They offer SACRIFICE to the LORD... ----- Why Sacrifice? Because something else made it on to the ARK..... "SIN"...

Illus--- ever hear people say... if only we could get rid of those people...... The Bad people..... the people causing all the trouble.. then we could Fix things... England tried it with Australia... But the problem is that the BAD is not just "OUT THERE"... it is "IN HERE"...

Noah was the Best of us... ------But we need a BETTER NOAH... A BETTER ARK

They Get off the ARK... God commands them to **"BE FRUITFUL and MULTIPLY and FILL the EARTH".....** Mission is the same

God makes a Covenant with man... never to flood the entire Earth again.

God gives a sign.... *Genesis 9:13*-----Sets his Bow----Weapon--- in the clouds.

Many have Made the observation.... *That the bow is pointing up*....

There will come a **BETTER NOAH**... with a **BETTER ARK** and God will **Shoot His WRATH** into His own Son and He will have the **Final victory over Sin, death and the GRAVE..**

God is *Fixing the World* through His Son JESUS>..

Jesus will RETURN... and the Door of Salvation will be shut and Sin will be completely Defeated.