

Hebrews 11

NOAH

Hebrews 11:7

Introduction

1. The story of Noah is well known to many Christians, and it is based upon God’s redemptive plan to rescue Noah and his family from the judgement that was to come upon a wicked and evil world.

Genesis 6:5 “And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth...”

Time of the Flood:	a. <i>The Flood began around 4,359 years ago; about 2348 BC.</i>
Noah’s Account is Found:	b. <i>Genesis 5:29- Genesis 10:32</i>
Other Places Noah is Mentioned:	c. <i>1 Chronicles 1:4, Isaiah 54:9, Ezekiel 14:14, 20, Mathew 24:37, Luke 3:36, Luke 17:26, 1 Peter 3:20, 2 Peter 2:5</i>
Strength	d. <i>Feared and Obeyed God</i>
Weakness	e. <i>Got drunk and brought shame upon himself</i>
Lessons From Noah’s Life	f. <i>God is faithful to those who obey Him. Even a God-fearing man must be careful he does not fall in sin.</i>
Key Verse	g. <i>Genesis 6:22</i>

2. The Description of man’s Wickedness

a. **Constant evil thinking,** *Genesis 6:5 “...and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”*

b. **Corrupt before God,** *Genesis 6:11a “The earth also was corrupt before God...”*

c. **Complete violence,** *Genesis 6:11a “... and the earth was filled with violence.”*

3. The Distress of God’s Heart

Genesis 6:6 “And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.”

Note: There was much sorrow on God’s part to the point where God regrets the fact that he ever made man.

4. The Destruction of the old World

a. God's Judgement upon man.

Genesis 6:7 "And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them."

b. Because of the great rebellion of man-kind God would destroy them.

❖ *William McDonald said "The Lord's sorrow does not indicate an arbitrary change of mind, though it seems that way to man. Rather, it indicates a different attitude on God's part in response to some change in man's behavior. Because He is holy, He must react against sin."*

5. The Divine grace of God

a. But Noah found grace and favour in God's eyes

Genesis 6:8 "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD."

b. Noah would be used to fulfil God's plan

Genesis 6:13-14 "And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. (14) Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch."

6. The Description of the Ark

Genesis 6:14-16 "Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. (15) And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits. (16) A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it."

7. The Deliverance by the Ark

Genesis 6:17-21 "And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die. (18) But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee. (19) And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female. (20) Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive. (21) And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them."

In this subject (By Faith Noah) we will look at three things:

- A. The Pre-warning by Faith – Hebrews 11:7
- B. The Preparation by Faith – Hebrews 11:7
- C. The Promise by Faith – Hebrews 11:7

Memory verse: *Genesis 6:22 “Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.”*

A. Pre-warning by Faith,

1. *Hebrews 11:7 “By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet,*

a. Noah is a perfect example of Hebrews 11 and verse 1.

Hebrews 11:1 “Faith... is the evidence of things not seen.”

b. Noah was warned by God of something that had never happened before.

❖ *I like what Vernon McGee discerns, he says “Abel showed the way of faith; Enoch illustrated the walk of faith; and now Noah is the witness of faith.”*

c. Noah acted on God’s Word though he had never seen rain in his lifetime, let alone a flood or boat. Genesis 2:5-6 states that the ground was watered by a mist.

Genesis 2:5-6 “And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.”

Genesis 6:17 “And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.”

d. As Noah was building the ark for about 120 years, there are no signs that Noah ever doubts God’s plan. Noah never gave up building the ark.

❖ *John Philips states “Noah was mindful of the Word of God. God had spoken, and that was enough. He was “warned of God of things not seen as yet”*

- e. Noah would have also warned the people of the coming Judgement, as Noah is described as a “*Preacher of Righteousness.*”

2 Peter 2:5 “And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;”

❖ *A man of God said “Doubtless as he built the ark, his hammer blows were interspersed with warnings to the mocking spectators to turn from sin or face God's righteous punishment for their wickedness.”*

- f. By Faith Noah was working, warning, witnessing, and walking. It takes faith to walk into the ark.

Genesis 7:13 “In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark;”

B. The Preparation by Faith,

1. *Hebrews 11:7* “...moved with fear...”

- a. Noah was moved with fear because Noah knew that God would do what He says He would.

Proverbs 22:3 “A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.”

- b. Faith in God makes one wise.

- i. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. (That’s Faith)

Psalm 111:10 “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.”

- ii. The fear of the Lord is to depart from evil. (That’s Faith)

Job 28:28 “And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.”

- iii. The fear of the Lord prevents us from disrespecting God. (That’s Faith)

Psalm 19:9 “The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

- iv. The fear of the Lord will give you long life. (That’s Faith)

Proverbs 10:27 “The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.”

Proverbs 14:27 “The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.”

Proverbs 9:23 “The fear of the LORD tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.”

- v. The fear of the Lord will give you safety – Shelter in the time of storm. (That’s Faith)

Proverbs 14:26 “In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.”

vi. The fear of the Lord is better than prosperity.

Proverbs 15:16 "Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith."

vii. The fear of the Lord is better than the life of the wicked.

Proverbs 23:17 "Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long."

viii. The fear of the Lord is a choice and the result is escaping the judgement to come. (That's Faith)

Proverbs 1:27-29 "When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. (28) Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: (29) for that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:"

ix. TRUE Faith moves a person to have the utmost respect for God, His Word, and His ways.

Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Hebrews 11:7 "“...moved with fear, prepared an ark..."

a. Genuine faith moves a person to action.

A man of God said "Noah's faith involved the whole person: his mind was warned of God; his heart was moved with fear; and his will acted on what God told him."

b. Faith obeys God in every detail. Noah builds the Ark exactly the way the Lord commanded.

Genesis 6:22 "Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he."

- The Construction of the Ark, *Genesis 6:14-16*,
- The Covenant made with Noah, *Genesis 6:18*
- The Congregating of the Animals, *Genesis 6:19-20*
- The Carrying of all foods in the Ark, *Genesis 6:21*

Genesis 7:1-5 “And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation. (2) Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female. (3) Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth. (4) For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth. (5) And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him.”

3. *Hebrews 11:7 “...prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world,”*

❖ *A man of God said “But Noah's faith was rewarded: his household was saved, the world was condemned by his life and testimony, and he became heir of the righteousness which is received on the basis of faith.”*

The Ark is a picture of Salvation

Note: By entering into the Ark, Noah and his family were given assurance that they will not die. When a person enters into saving faith through Jesus they are guaranteed eternal life. The Ark has only one door, and Noah had to enter in order to be saved from the Flood- the Judgement of God.

a. Enter in through Faith, Ephesians 2:8-9

Ephesians 2:8 “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:”

b. Only one door, John 14:6

John 10:9 "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."

c. Escape the wrath of God, John 3:36

John 3:36 "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

d. The door shut. One day it will be too late for people to enter in Christ.

Genesis 7:16 "And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in."

Matthew 25:10 "And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut."

4. *Hebrews 11:7 "...prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world,"*

a. The life of Noah, His faith and obedience to God condemned the unbelieving, wicked world around him.

❖ *William McDonald said, "Noah's faith was rewarded: his household was saved, the world was condemned by his life and testimony, and he became heir of the righteousness which is received on the basis of faith."*

b. The flood is a picture of God's judgment upon an unrepentant wicked and ungodly people.

2 Peter 2:4-6 "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; (5) And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; (6) And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;"

- c. God promised to never flood the world again. The rainbow is a sign of God's promise.

Genesis 9:12-17 And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: (13) I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. (14) And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: (15) And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. (16) And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. (17) And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

- d. The promise of God to never flood the world again does not mean that one day God will never Judge the world again.
- e. Jesus used the event of Noah and the flood to warn people to be ready for Christ's return.

Matthew 24:36-39 "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. (37) But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. (38) For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, (39) And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

❖ *Illustration of the Donkey going into the Ark*

C. The Promise by Faith

1. *Hebrews 11:7 "...and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."*

- a. Noah continues to set the example that it takes a walk of faith – Believing God to be made right with God (or to have the righteousness of Christ).

James 2:23 "And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God."

- b. The key to being an heir of righteousness is doing what God commands us to do. Remember the key verse.

Genesis 6:22 "Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he."

- i. Noah built the Ark because he believed God
- ii. Noah feared and obeyed because he believed God
- iii. Noah entered into the Ark because he believed God
- iv. Noah was right with God because he believed God
- v. Noah pleased God because he believed God

Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

- c. The key to being an heir of righteousness is to have a WALK WITH GOD.

Genesis 6:9 "These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God."

Conclusion

- a. If we are to see our children (our generation) be made right with God and receive Christ as their Saviour, and have a diligent walk with God, they must not only hear of our faith, but they must SEE our faith. HOW?
- b. By our strong walk with God. If they are to love Him, then we must love Him.