

## THE DAYS OF NOAH | STORIES YOU HEARD WRONG | FLANNEL BOARD

ROCK OF GRACE JORDAN BIEL JULY 11, 2021

*NOTES TO SELF - GET A 'PRIZE' ready on stage to throw out.*

### NOAH GEN 5-6

STORY TIMELINE:

- **After Adam & Eve's sin, destruction multiplied, making bad worse!**

Generations after Creation of Adam and Eve, people continued to sin and reject Him and His ways. However, some people did choose to follow God, we see that in Genesis 5. They were few and far between the Bible indicates.

Sin was spreading like gangrene.

Genesis paints a picture of mankind ruining itself. Men kept becoming more and more selfish, more and more violent and their sin was spreading, causing destruction everywhere.

- **God regrets creating man, hoping they would simply trust Him.**

God literally says "I regret that I ever made man." Gen. 5:6

That's discouraging. But know that the NT makes it clear that it was all apart of God's plan to redeem mankind.

But let's stop and think about this. This is a powerful thought.

**Rampant sin separated human from their loving, Creator God.**

**Sin is what happened when created men thought they knew better than Creator God. This is still the case today for those that don't receive Christ.**

Let's back up a few hundred years to Adam and Eve. **TWO TREES picture up.**

**Or white board**

There was a tree of life in the garden of Eden.

There was a tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil.

They were told NOT to eat from that tree. They had to be given free will for them to have the capacity to love.

Love can not exist without the context of free will.

If I put you in a cage and insist "You will love me." You'd say "look Psycho. You just put me in a cage. Clearly I can't love you."

**Love only can work and be genuine within the context of free will and trust.**

So for us to love God and for us to have a back and forth loving relationship with God, He had to give us free will.

Satan filled took on the role of a serpent and tempted the first humans to ignore God's instruction and to eat from the tree of good and evil. He tempted them with "You will be like God knowing Good and Evil"

Like all temptation, there was a bit of truth in it. They would indeed know good and evil. BUT this decision wouldn't benefit them as Satan implied; instead it would banish them from the special place, the special gift of the Garden of Eden. So much so that God put angels with flaming swords at the entrance.

So what am I saying ...

**God takes sin very seriously.**

Let's zoom forward in time again - back to our moment of Noah - generations later. Noah was seen by God as the ONLY righteous person because **The world had become SO DARK and SO SINFUL and SO DESTRUCTIVE.**

It was so sinful that we read in Genesis, Chapter 6 that

### **Fallen Angels Procreated with Humans Creating Super-humans "Nephilim"**

"The "sons of God" saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. <sup>3</sup> Then the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years." <sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. <sup>7</sup> 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." <sup>8</sup> But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

[\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Ge 6:2–8). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

You make think "That's crazy!" Yes, indeed it is! But it's in the Bible. If it's in the Bible, we can't just ignore it and pretend it isn't there.

THIS is one of the reasons, God had to wipe out mankind, except for Noah and his family. The nephilim, the super-humans created by angels having relations with women, were the "hero's of old" Did you know that many societies have painted on the walls of their caves and relics huge, strong, seemingly giants that ruled over all the people OR lead them to victory - which most societies seems to have - all over the world - that was a real thing. There were seriously giant, super-human creatures and God had to wipe them all out! Why?

**God takes sin very seriously. It separates us from Him for He is pure and holy.**

- **God found Noah to be Righteous and Save-able (vs 10-18)**

Finally, Good News in this story!

Noah was the grandson of Methuselah, the oldest man who ever lived. And I've got a prize for anyone who knows how old he was when he died.

Who knows how old Methuselah was? 969. PRIZE THROWN

God commanded Noah to build an ark to rescue him, his family and all the animals. **“I will establish my covenant with you and you shall come into the ark, you your sons, your wife, your sons wives with you and of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two, one male, one female.”**

**Twice we read “Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him.” (6:7 and 6:22)**

### **God's Rescue Plan**

- God commands Noah to preach repentance. They didn't repent after 120 YEARS of warning. God always gives you a chance, many chances, to repent and turn from your selfish ways before He brings judgment. With God, grace is the goal. He always extends grace before He brings judgment.

Noah & His Family in the Ark and it rains for 40 days and 40 nights!

God “shut the door” to the ark

### **Ge 7:11-18**

**11 “...on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. <sup>12</sup> And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. <sup>13</sup> On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark,**

**<sup>14</sup> they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. <sup>15</sup> They went into the ark with Noah,**

**two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. <sup>16</sup> And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the Lord shut him in. <sup>17</sup> The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. <sup>18</sup> The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated**

Fun Fact: There was a burst from inside the earth where water was stored! We also see this fact given to us in Ch. 8:2.

**Noah and the family exited the ark and started the human race anew. 8:1-20 God established a covenant of grace to never wipe out humanity in a flood again, giving the sign of this promise as a rainbow after rain.**

God established the covenant with Noah promising never to flood the earth again - giving a rainbow in the heavens. Don't let society steal the symbol of God's grace! (Vs. 12-17) "I have set my bow in the cloud... When I see it, I will remember my promise to you and all mankind"

From Ham, Shem and Japheth, all the people of the earth were dispersed.

## 4 Big Ideas & Take-Aways

### 1. God is ultimately in charge of this whole thing.

He can wrap it all up when He wants.

Rev 6:14 "The heavens rolled up like a scroll and every mountain was leveled." God's going to make a new heavens and new earth one day.

Another scripture from the New Covenant communicates this same idea.

#### 2 Cor 5:9-10

**<sup>9</sup> So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.**

We're told here that we will each stand before the judgment seat of Christ and give an account and we'll be rewarded what it due to us - whether we did good or evil - whether we served God with our lives or ignored Him.

I'm afraid there are Christians today who don't realize that and they believe that grace is a license to do whatever they want - to sin - believing falsely that "God will just forgive them" When the reality is that **Grace enables us for righteous living. Grace not only forgives us but empowers us to please God.**

**"We make it our aim to please Him."**

When God makes someone new and empowers them to please God, everything changes. When you surrender to God and HIS plan not just for you but for mankind, a peace enters your life that simply wasn't there before.

*I want to tell you about a young man that I'm so proud of. I met with this young man for about 3 months weekly and it's been so cool to see how God is shaping him into the husband, father and person that He wants him to be AND the person that HE wants to be.*

*It's my greatest privilege as a Pastor - to see people grow and change as they surrender to Jesus Christ and let HIM change them from the inside out.*

## 2. God takes sin seriously

You may need reminded today that God takes sin very seriously. Think about it with me for a few moments.

If God felt the need to completely start over with Noah and his kids, then that means He really doesn't like when we sin - when we choose our ways over His ways.

I want to make some sub-point observations on this idea of sin.

- A. Sin is what we do when we think we're smarter than God
- B. Sin is what we do when we want to have more power over others
- C. Sin is what we do when we put our desires over God's plan
- D. Sin separates us from God because God is sinless
- E. "The World" as defined in the Bible, will consistently teach you to push down others to define yourself as good. In that pushing down and attempting to define your own goodness, you're ironically sinning. Only God can make someone good.

Let me flesh this out some more. I want you to see how this works in society. When men and women make up their own rules, it always leads to two things: Confusion & Pain Confusion & Pain

ESPN ANCHOR - REMOVED - WHY? SHE DIDN'T APPEAR GOOD (MORAL)

I was enjoying the NBA finals the other day with some guys on the staff and before the game, someone mentioned the anchor that was scheduled to do game analysis but was removed last minute. Why? Because someone recorded her saying something privately that she didn't adhere to publicly.

Publicly she did her very best to appear as "woke" and as "good" and even "better" than others. But then in private, she said something that appeared to be inconsistent with her public statements.

I've noticed there's one thing even the world can't stand - lack of integrity

Why did ESPN cancel her then? Let's just think about this in the context of our sermon - the Bible - the morality of mankind - mankind struggle to find it's way. We live in a CRAZY time in the world.

I said this last week and I'll say it again maybe all month long in this series - We live in a time when people are constantly trying to appear as one of the "good people"

Networks in their attempt to appear as part of the "good people" group will cancel someone's entire career if one of their team members appears to be "not good"

Let's say "immoral"

Even if they use the word "racist" which we all know is used WAY TO OFTEN. Sadly it's welded as a weapon that has very little to do with most situations.

But when they say "racist" what they're really saying is "Immoral"

Therefore, they deem themselves as moral - part of the "good people" That's the only logical conclusion.

Here's the only problem.

They have sins that no one else knows about.

They have comments that were *not* recorded. Therefore they won't get fired.

They are simply better at hiding them.

Maybe that's true of you. Maybe today you're sitting here in church or you're watching online and you have parts of your life that you simply know aren't right - you know that you have thoughts that you wish you didn't have!

You have thoughts and actions in your past that if plastered onto a billboard on Route 11, you would be beyond embarrassed. Why?

Paul says it like this "the sin within me" He also says "I do what I don't want to do then I don't do what I WANT to do..."

Even the great Apostle Paul had sin that had to be repented of.

Since Adam and Eve sinned, people are born into this world with sin.

So what's the answer?

ADMITTING YOUR SIN and asking JESUS to forgive you. Jesus is described as the "new Adam" or "second Adam" who starts things over for you! The problem is that society tries to fix sin without Jesus.

**Society tries to "fix sin" and put people in the "good people" crowd all the time.**

**Through Sociology**

**Through Art**

**Through Sports**

**Through Economics**

**Through Politics**

**The problem is... These solutions don't work.**

The problem is that all of these solutions, politics, (make better laws and do your best to humiliate your opponent) economics (make good money and get ahead)

Art (make something subjective so you objective sins appear subjective)

Through Sports (make a name for yourself on the field or the court and it won't matter what you do in your private time) Through sociology (appear to be so understanding, so tolerant, so loving, that you compromise obvious truths)

All of these solutions fall short in helping mankind.

All of these solution FAIL to deliver a way OUT of our sin - the sin that leaves us hopeless and hurting.

So what's the answer to this problem? I'm glad you asked!

### **3. God is patient and rescues us through the mystery of Jesus' cross and makes us new in baptism \*2 Co 5:14-21**

The earth was submerged - baptized - death, burial, resurrection - renewed - new life Our body is submerged in the death of Christ - new life emerges!

Noah preached for 120 years!

120 years God warned people to repent and turn back to Him.

Don't get this story wrong!

**God is much more patient than you think. If He wasn't, you wouldn't be here right now! Me either!**

By the way, **can we stop using Noah's Ark in Kids Ministry** areas in our churches? Why do we do that? I've been to hundreds of churches over the years when I used to travel doing music. Did you ever enter a church and seen the whole kids wing is like an Ark and animals everywhere? And they're all smiling - it's like "hungry hippo" with his big smile full of those huge chicklet teeth.

I mean, if we're going to use the Bible, let's at least be true to the text right?

I mean, where's the screaming people drowning - gargling - dying for air!? No really, why do we decorate like this. Imagine this - humor me.

Imagine new guests coming downstairs into our kids ministry being escorted by one of our ushers into the REAL Noah's Ark re-enactment!

*What's that picture dad? Why is the that giraffe dying?* He wasn't one of the two that was chosen - he's OUT son?

*Who's is that screaming?* Oh son it's just a live enactment of Noah's Ark! Those are people who didn't repent. They're dying a slow, horrible death. =)

*Uh, What's that smell?*

Oh that smell! That's animal poop and human B.O. Get used to it. This class you're in today lasts for 40 days and 40 nights. By the way, I hope you're one of the elect because we're also Calvinists. (Pause) Enjoy your day at church! =) I'll see you in ... August. Late ... August.

No this is such a serious story I had to make it light for a minute just to poke fun at us Christians. We do alot of silly things, don't we? It's good to laugh at ourselves every once and a while. Lol

**But really, people. Don't get the story wrong! God is very, very patient in waiting for us to trust in Him.**

God makes the human race NEW when Christ enters the life of the lost person.

We are regenerated. We are BORN again. We are a completely new person when we accept this gift from God in the person of Jesus Christ and the revelation that He died in our place.

We are made to be His brothers and sister - our DNA is changed if you will. We are a NEW HUMAN! WOW! It's like we walk out of the ark with Noah and the kids!

2 Co 5:17-21

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

<sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

When you accept Christ, you become a new creation, almost like you're walking out of the ark into the new world.

*STORY >*

It's remarkable that God gives us a second chance, third chance, etc.

The Big Idea for the whole month of July, in all of these stories, is this...

**Trust in God's ability to miraculously save you - not your ability to save yourself.**

Last week, we saw this pride in the life of Samson - Samson who thought he could consistently save himself. He took the gift of God for granted and did not restrain himself from sin therefore he was restrained by sin and ultimately killed by sin. Sin ... when it's full grown, always leads to death.

**Death, by definition is separation from God for GOD, by definition, is LIFE!**

Let's look at a few lines in this passage and really flesh them out.

**Noah ... just ... and perfect**—not absolutely perfect hat's for sure; for since the fall of Adam no man has been free from sin except Jesus Christ. But as living by faith he was just (Ga 3:2; Heb 11:7) and perfect—that is, sincere in his desire to do God's will.

**the earth was filled with violence**—In the absence of any well-regulated government it is easy to imagine what evils would arise. Men did what was right in their own eyes, and, having no fear of God, destruction and misery were in



their ways. What we see today is that even in the presence of a well established government, we find that men will simply make laws that don't even protect life but destroy it.

We have laws now that will kill a baby even up until it's born in some states. We have laws that not only allow same sex marriage but a culture that celebrates it and punishes anyone who doesn't celebrate it. So we know that answer is not more laws or better politicians. That's like having a sinking ship with holes everywhere and asking for more toilet paper. It doesn't work bro! Look at that next line in the text.

**And God said unto Noah**—How startling must have been the announcement of the threatened world-wide destruction! There was no outward indication of it. This was a SHOCKING announcement to Noah. The course of nature and experience seemed against the probability of its occurrence. The public opinion of mankind would ridicule it. The whole world would be ranged against him. Yet, persuaded the communication was from God, through faith (Heb 11:7), he set about preparing the means for preserving himself and his family from the impending calamity.

By the way, **The public opinion of mankind will likely also ridicule you when you choose to serve Jesus Christ and live your life in holiness. When you put your faith in God (Heb. 11:7) you too will likely be mocked. Jesus even said "If they hate Me the will also hate you!"**

So, one thing I'm trying to say in this sermon series this month is - It's not always easy to please God.

YES, God empowers you for right living. YES, it truly is a joy to please God. But let's be honest, sometimes it's hard to do what God is asking you to do. You know you're growing when you start to enjoy something - a sacrifice of your time or energy - that you wouldn't have done a few years ago.

I told Danielle this week "I must be growing in my Christian maturity because I actually wanted to go help someone instead of be in the studio this last Friday". Before I might have been like "really? This is my music time. DOn't you know Ive got to make worship music for Jesus. I don't have time to help you with your problem" lol

I'm exaggerating to make a point. I don't think I've ever actually thought that. I'm just saying .. this week, I was just as filled with joy to leave the house on my day off to go help someone in need as I would've been in making a song in the studio. Why? God is still renewing my mind and teaching me to love His ways. So YES God does mature you and make it a JOY to serve Him. **Yes God empowers you with joy for right living, but let's be honest, there are times when it's just plain tempting to sin or ignore God's voice. But don't do it!**

## **Heed the warning given by the messenger (Holy Spirit) and look to the ark (the cross) and ask God to save you and He will!**

But if you will let God restrain you from sin, you will be rewarded by Jesus at the Judgement Seat of Christ! Turn to 1 Peter 2:4-10

<sup>4</sup> 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; <sup>5</sup> if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; <sup>6</sup> if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; <sup>7</sup> and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked <sup>8</sup> (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); <sup>9</sup> then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, <sup>10</sup> and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority.

[\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (2 Pe 2:4–10). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

### **3. God empowers us to invite others into His Family**

**When we look at the story of Noah with fresh eyes, we see that like Noah, we are given the chance to tell people about salvation** - knowing that not everyone will receive it.

I mentioned earlier that God is very specific with the details and timing of things. I was reading a commentary by Wiersbe, the one I use the most, on Noah's story and check this out!

The chronology of the Flood is closely related to our Lord's day of resurrection. Noah's ark rested on Mt Ararat on the seventeenth day of the seventh month (Gen. 8:4). The Jewish *civil* year started with October; the religious year started with the Passover in April (Ex. 12:1–2), but that was not instituted until Moses' time. The seventh month from October is April. Our Lord was crucified on the fourteenth day, Passover (Ex. 12:6), and resurrected after three days. This takes us to the seventeenth day of the month, the date on which the ark rested on Mt. Ararat. So, the illustration of Noah relates closely to Peter's emphasis on the resurrection of the Saviour.

There is a sense in which our Lord's experience on the cross was a baptism of death and resurrection. In the same way the earth was baptized in water, Jesus was baptized in the earth and resurrected to new life.

We too are baptized - even commanded by God to be water baptized - to symbolize our new life found in Christ. We just had baptism on Tue and it was awesome! (PICS UP)

God empowers us to live a new life. His RESURRECTION life becomes OURS!

God empowers us to invite others into His Family.

2 Peter 3:1-14

“This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, 2 that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, 3 knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires.

4 They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.” 5 For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, 6 and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished.

7 But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. 8 But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. 11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, 12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! 13 But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth

in which righteousness dwells. 14 Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

We are given the power to reconcile people to God! We are given not only given salvation personally but we're given the keys to set other people free as well! Let's read that last 3 verses again. Vs 18

<sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

<sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

God is so patient with us! God reunited us with Himself by sending Jesus and not only that, He empowers us to tell others and invite them in too!

To those of you that are not yet serving God, for those of you that have not yet asked Jesus to forgive you of your sins, this is Good News not just for me but for you! You see...

#### **4. God Has A Family & He Wants You In It**

I want to close with that same chapter from 2 Co 6, starting in vs 14  
**2 Co 6:14-18**

<sup>14</sup> Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? <sup>15</sup> What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? <sup>16</sup> What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

**“I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>17</sup> Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, <sup>18</sup> and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me, says the Lord Almighty.”**

## Did you know that God's number one priority for your life is that you would simply receive His love, letting Him adopt you as His very own child?

God has a family and He wants you in it!

Even the prophet Isaiah made the Lord's compassion clear!  
but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you,"  
says the Lord, your Redeemer.

- <sup>9</sup> "This is like the days of Noah to me:  
as I swore that the waters of Noah  
should no more go over the earth,  
so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you,  
and will not rebuke you.
- <sup>10</sup> For the mountains may depart  
and the hills be removed,  
**but my steadfast love shall not depart from you,  
and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,"**  
**says the Lord, who has compassion on you.**

[\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Is 54:8–10). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

The Lord is SO compassionate and slow to anger. He said "though mountains move, my LOVE WILL NOT DEPART FROM YOU! MY promise of PEACE will never leave you!"

WOW!

HIS LOVE is so amazing!

It's just like the Days of Noah TODAY.

Just like Noah used a wooden ark to save His family, Jesus used a wooden cross to save His family.

Just like all sinful people, including nephilium (crazy super-human destructive creatures) were ruining societies worldwide, ALL of them were wiped out, God destroyed ALL your sins and ALL your enemies on the cross of Jesus Christ. All you must do is confess that you are a sinner.

1 JN 1:7-10 "...the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."

I used this passage because if you pretend that you don't sin - that you're naturally just one of the "good people" then you're just as deceived as everyone in Noah's day. They all thought they were good without God. They all felt they didn't need God. And that was their greatest mistake. They needed God. You need God. I need God. We are sinners on our way to death without Jesus would makes us children on our way to life.

I want to close with a passage in the NT from Jesus that references Noah. Turn to Mt 24:36.

Jesus is teaching about what it will be like when He returns and what will happen - how He will separate those who were sincere in their faith and those who weren't. How the angels will help Him in this tasks and He says in vs 36...

**But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. <sup>37</sup> For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.**

**<sup>40</sup> Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. <sup>42</sup> Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.**

***The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (Mt 24:36–42).* Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.**

I personally believe that we are "in the days of Noah"

That's why I titled this message "Days of Noah"

Think about it.

Just like in Noah's day, most people are doing whatever they want, causing hurt and anger and violence and even death in small towns and big cities across the world.

Just like in Noah's day, we have people calling evil "good" and good "evil" There was sexual perversion that was rampant - ignoring God's design. In bookstores across the US, there are transgender men, dressed as women, reading to little kids, sometimes they're reading to the kids the benefit of a sexual non-binary life! Most people even non-religious people know that we live in a society that is broken and lost.

Just like in Noah's day, we have people who believe they are moral but only by their own standard. They've put their hope in politics and put their faith in the man in the mirror. They're unwilling to admit when they're wrong bc they simply don't feel they could be wrong - why - they're one of the "good people" all the democrats are the "bad people". Don't get me wrong. There are many beliefs in the democratic that *are* immoral and wrong. But that doesn't mean my hope lies in the republican party OR a republican president. My hope is in JESUS! Only God can change a heart, no law and no president can do that. Just like in Noah's day they were looking to *themselves* to define what should be normal or accepted instead of looking to God.

Just like in Noah's day, he preached for 120 years - begging people to repent and yet they didn't, the same is true today. Preachers like me will stand in pulpits like this, week after week, in thousands, maybe even millions of pulpits around the world and preach and yet only a few will repent and turn to God - heeding the warning of the coming judgment.

Just like in Noah's day, it seems almost foolish to trust the message - to get on the wooden ark to avoid a coming worldwide flood - to trust in a wooden cross for salvation?! But the fact that many don't repent doesn't change the truth of the message!

Judgement is coming and the only way to avoid it is to admit you need saved and receive the cross as your salvation!

Just like in Noah's day, God wrapped it all up - the whole earth - with water and started over, God will one day, wrap it all up - next time with fire - and start all over. It's called The New Heavens and the New Earth. We learn about it in Daniel 7, Revelation and other places like Matt 22-24  
And who will be saved? Who will go live in that new earth? Those who trusted the messenger and got on the ark!

Those who put their hope and faith in JESUS and HIS ability to make them "good people" Those who admitted their sin and their need for God.

Is that you today?

## **SALVATION CALL**

### IF THERE'S TIME

Last thought before I dismiss you.

I'm trying to read these stories very slowly and hopefully learn something new - we can always be learning from the Holy Spirit =)

I noticed in reading it this week that Noah and the family had been in the ark 7 days before it started raining. 7 days. I think that was intentional. The longer I've been a Christ-follower I see that God has His fingerprint on every little detail.

7 days. Why 7? 7 means completion. It was the Sabbath day maybe. Maybe it was the Sabbath where GOD does His work and we do nothing.

Maybe God was saying "This is MY work at hand". Yeah You made the ark. But this rain I'm bringing - the earth submersion is not a "Natural Disaster" It's ME at work.

I wonder how many of us would've walked out of that boat on day 5.

I wonder how many of us on day 3 would've been like "Look there is no deodorant on this thing and I think Shem ate some curry or something but it STINKS up in here! I AM OUT!"

For those of you that are Christians and Spirit-led which I know is most of you listening right now - are you being patient with God's promises?

Are you willing to WAIT and let GOD be GOD? Achieving faith achieves two things: (1) accomplishments here below; (2) a reward—inheritance—at the judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10). Living by faith can be scary, but the results are gratifying. How would you like to be in Noah's shoes at the Judgement Seat of Christ? Yet we can all be like Noah by being faithful to God in our day as Noah was in his.