

Genesis – Noah and the Ark Gen. 6:5-8:22

Thesis: To learn from the life of Noah and follow his example of faithfulness.

Introduction:

Rom. 15:4 - For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

Today we will notice some valuable lessons from the live of Noah and the flood.

I. It is possible to live a righteous life in the midst of an unrighteous world.

A. Noah was a righteous man.

1. The world that Noah lived in was wicked (6:5-7).
 - a. Man was so evil that “every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually” (6:5).
 - b. In fact, God was sorry that He had created man (6:6).
 - c. He decided that he was going to destroy man because of his wickedness (6:7).
2. However, in the midst of this wicked world, Noah was a righteous man (6:8).
 - a. Because of his righteousness, God had determined to save Noah.
 - b. Heb. 11:7 - By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

B. Today, we need to live a righteous life in the midst of a wicked world.

1. This world is full of wickedness.
 - a. Rom. 12:2 - And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
 - b. I Jn. 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. {16} For all that is in the world-- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-- is not of the Father but is of the world. {17} And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.
2. It is possible to live a righteous life in a wicked world.
 - a. I Cor. 5:9-10 - I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people. {10} Yet I certainly did not mean with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world.
 - b. While it is impossible to go out of the world, it is possible to live a righteous life in the midst of a wicked world.

- c. By looking at the life of Noah, we can see that we can live a righteous life, even in the midst of a wicked world.

II. When God gives specific instructions, He expects those instructions to be followed.

A. God gave Noah specific instructions concerning several different things.

1. Measurements of the ark (6:14-16).
 - a. Notice the requirements of the ark.
 - 1) Three hundred cubits long (450 feet long)
 - 2) Fifty cubits wide (75 feet wide)
 - 3) Thirty cubits tall (45 feet tall)
 - b. The point is that God was very specific as to the dimensions of the ark.
2. Those allowed in the ark
 - a. God was specific as to the people who were allowed on the ark (6:18).
 - 1) It was only Noah, his wife, his sons and their wives were allowed on the ark.
 - 2) There were only eight people in all allowed on the ark.
 - b. There were also requirements as to what animals to take (7:2-3).
 - 1) They were to take seven of every clean animal, a male and his female.
 - 2) They were to take two of every unclean animal, a male and his female.
3. The point is that God was very specific as to who and what He allowed on the ark; and He expected His commands to be followed.

B. Today, when God gives us specific instructions, He expects us to keep them.

1. When it comes to our lives, God has told us exactly how He wants us to live through His word.
2. God expects us to keep His commands.
 - a. Jn. 14:15 - If you love Me, keep My commandments.
 - b. I Jn. 2:3-4 - Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. {4} He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
 - c. I Jn. 5:2-3 - By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. {3} For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

III. When God makes promises, He keeps them.

A. God had made numerous promises to Noah.

1. God promised Noah that He would deliver him if he built the ark according to the command that God had given him.
 - a. Gen. 6:13-18 - The promise of deliverance made
 - b. Gen. 8:1-19 - The promise fulfilled (esp. 8:15-19).
2. God promised Noah that He would not destroy the world with a flood again.

- a. **Gen. 8:20-22** – The promise that this world would continue as it always has, especially the fact that God would not destroy the earth by fire again.
- b. This promise is fulfilled by the fact that this world has not been destroyed by a flood again.
 - 1) It is also fulfilled by the fact that God tells us how this world will be destroyed.
 - 2) **II Pet. 3:10-12** - But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. {11} Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, {12} looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

B. Today, God makes us certain promises.

1. God promises us that He will give us the things that we need for this life.
 - a. **Mt. 6:33** - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
 - b. **II Pet. 1:3** - as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,
 - c. It is doubtful that anyone in this room has ever gone hungry for too long against their will.
2. More importantly, God promises us a home with him in heaven.
 - a. **Jn. 14:2-3** - In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. {3} And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.
 - b. **II Tim. 4:8** - Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.
 - c. **I Pet. 1:3-5** - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, {4} to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, {5} who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
3. It is through the life of Noah that we learn that God does fulfill His promises to His people.

IV. Throughout the New Testament, we read of the things which are foreshadowed by the life of Noah.

A. Through the life of Noah, we learn that God can deliver us from temptation.

1. **II Pet. 2:4-5, 9** - For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; {5} and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; {9} then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,
2. If God can deliver Noah by way of the flood, then God can deliver us out of temptation.
3. **I Cor. 10:13** - No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

B. Through the life of Noah, we learn of baptism.

1. The story of Noah is a type of baptism.
2. **I Pet. 3:18-22** - For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, {19} by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, {20} who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. {21} There is also an antitype which now saves us-- baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, {22} who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

C. Through the life of Noah, we learn of the second coming of Christ.

1. Just as the flood came unexpectedly, Christ will come unexpectedly.
2. **Mt. 24:36-39** - But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. {37} But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. {38} For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, {39} and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Conclusion: