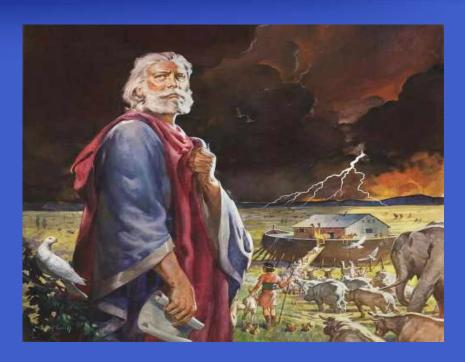
The Old Testament Book of Genesis!

The Historical Account of the Flood!



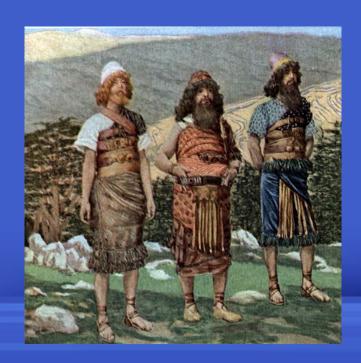
The Text: Genesis 8:1-22!



The Sermon Title:

The Introduction!

This morning we continue our journey through the Old Testament narrative of the book of Genesis. Remember, a narrative is a story that builds on the information already developed in the previous chapters. This morning, we pick up the story in chapter eight!



Let's Review The Context!

Chapter 1: The <u>CREATOR!</u>
Chapter 2: The <u>CONCLUSION!</u>
Chapter 3: The <u>CURSE!</u>
Chapters 4 & 5: The <u>CONTRAST!</u>

Chapters 6 - 9: The <u>CATASTROPHE!</u>

- 1. (6:1-7) The <u>CAUSE</u> of the Flood!
- 2. (6:8-22) The COMPASSION before the Flood!
- 3. (7:1-8:19) The COMMENTARY on the Flood!
- 4. (8:20-9:28) The COMPASSION after the Flood!

Last Week

We focused on the promised STORM or FLOOD:

In between chapters 6 and 7, approximately 120 years had passed by. And God, who had spoken earlier to Noah concerning the flood, would now speak to him again. Between the time of God's first and second contact with Noah, there had been no communication. And while there had been no further word from heaven, Noah proceeded faithfully to finish his unique mission (of building the ark) and unsuccessful ministry (of calling all to repentance). After a century of silence, suddenly, God would interrupt the science and speak to Noah again.

III. (7:1-8:19) The COMMENTARY on the Flood!

Last Week: We Focused on Two Points of Interest:

A. (7:1-9) The <u>DELIVERANCE</u> of the Godly.

Here we found the Ark ready to fulfill its task. The last tree has been cut down. The last timber secured in its place. The last nail driven. And the last brush stroke of pitch slipped on the wall of the Ark.

The provision for the salvation of mankind is now made ready for anyone willing to enter in!

- 1. (7:1) The full **commitment** demanded of Noah.
- 2. (7:2-4) The final **commission** delivered to Noah.
- 3. (7:5-9) The faithful compliance demonstrated by Noah.

III. (7:1-8:19) The COMMENTARY on the Flood!

- B. (7:10-24) The **DESTRUCTION** of the Ungodly.
 - 1. (7:10-16) Its <u>Timing</u>.
 - a. (7:10-11) The **Delay** of the judgment ends.
 - b. (7:12-16) The **Dawning** of the judgment begins.
 - 2. (7:17-24) Its <u>Totality</u>:
 - a. (7:17-20) The *Extent* of the flood.
 - b. (7:21-24) The *Execution* caused by the flood.



III. (7:1-8:22) The <u>COMMENTARY</u> on the Flood!

A. (7:1-9) The <u>DELIVERANCE</u> of the Godly.
B. (7:10-24) The <u>DESTRUCTION</u> of the Ungodly.
C. (8:1-22) The <u>DETAILS</u> of God's Abundant Grace.

Last week I pointed out that from this point on, in the Bible, we will be given insight into the great extent that God is willing to go to establish His holiness on the earth. And I mentioned that holiness, among God's people, is the object for which God will sacrifice everything – even His only Son (John 3:16). And He is willing to make this sacrifice so that those who place their faith in Him, would someday experience the great benefit of living a life that is pleasing before Him – the world offers only a momentary happiness that rejects any form of holiness. But God's offer is an eternal holiness that will lead to a never ending happiness! The choice is left up to each and every individual!

New Testament Examples of Grace!

C. (8:1-22) The <u>DETAILS</u> of God's Abundant Grace! Ephesians 2:8-10 / The Means of Grace

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

New Testament Examples of Grace!

C.(8:1-22) The <u>DETAILS</u> of God's Abundant Grace!

Hebrews 11:6-7 / The Example of Grace

And without faith it is impossible to please God, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is the rewarder of those who seek Him.

By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

- C. (8:1-22) The <u>DETAILS</u> of God's Abundant Grace!
 - 1. (8:1-5) Noah's <u>TARRYING</u>!
 - 2. (8:6-14) Noah's TESTING!
 - 3. (8:15-19) Noah's <u>TRUSTING</u>!
 - 4. (8:20) Noah's TRIBUTE!
 - 5. (8:21-22) Noah's TRUCE!



- C. (8:1-22) The DETAILS of God's Abundant Grace!
 - 1. (8:1-5) Noah's <u>TARRYING!</u>

In these verses there are three points of interest:

- a. (8:1-2) God Remembered!
 - 1.). God (Elohim) the Almighty and powerful Creator.
 - 2.) Gd remembered His covenant with Noah & animals.
 - 3.) God caused the wind (Spirit / 1:2 & 6:3) to pass over the earth and close up the fountains of the deep and blow away the clouds, now empty of water.

Note: Moses is writing from Noah's perspective!
The Bible is clear that God does not forget!

- C. (8:1-22) The <u>DETAILS</u> of God's Abundant Grace!
 - 1. (8:1-5) Noah's TARRYING!

In these verses there are three points of interest:

- a. (8:1-2) God Remembered!
- b. (8:3) The Flood Receded!

Dr. Morris / The Genesis Record:

"The great wind and waves could have quite possibly been the "straw" that "broke the camel's back," producing just the additional force needed to cause the collapse of the emptied caverns below, already on the verge of failure. Once the crust began to move (the previous land surfaces downward to form the ocean basins, the sea bottoms and their new deposits of stratified sediments upward to form the new continents), the waters began to drain off the emerging lands, "returning from off the earth continually."

Summary: Just as the water came, as promised.
So also it left, as promised.

- C. (8:1-22) The DETAILS of God's Abundant Grace!
 - 1. (8:1-5) Noah's <u>TARRYING!</u>
 - In these verses there are three points of interest:
 - a. (8:1-2) God Remembered!
 - b. (8:3) The Flood Receded!
 - c. (8:4-5) The Ark Rested!
 - 1.) (v.4a) The <u>time</u> in the 7th month / 17th day.
 - 2.) (v.4b) The <u>place</u> Mount Ararat / 17,000 ft. high.
 - 3.) (7:20) The <u>depth</u> 15 cubits over the mountains.
 - 4.) (v.5) The <u>reason</u> water receded steadily.

- C. (8:1-22) The <u>DETAILS</u> of God's Abundant Grace!
 - 1. (8:1-5) Noah's **TARRYING!**
 - 2. (8:6-14) Noah's TESTING!
 - a. (8:6-12) What Noah Sought.

Once anchored on the earth again, Noah and his family needed only to wait for the waters to recede enough for them to disembark. But this would take another seven months. Thus they were on the ark slightly over a year – 371 days altogether. We are told that after two and a half months they could begin to see the mountain tops. Excited over this long awaited event, Noah released a bird to see if the water had subsided. His hope was for dry land.

- C. (8:1-22) The DETAILS of God's Abundant Grace!
 - 2. (8:6-14) Noah's TESTING!
 - a. (8:6-12) What Noah Sought.
 - 1.) (8:6-7) A Raven is released! Being a scavenger, it would have no problem finding food and perching on the dead carcasses. Thus, it flew all around but did not return to the ark.
 - 2.) (8:8-9) <u>A Dove is released!</u> Since the dove is a "clean" bird, it would not land on the unclean carcasses. Therefore it returned to the ark to find rest.
 - 3.) (8:10-11) <u>After waiting seven more days</u>, Noah sends the dove out again. This time it returns carrying a "fresh picked" olive leaf. Noah's hope begins to mount.
 - 4.) (8:12) After waiting another week, Noah sends the dove out again.

 This time it would not return. A sign that dry land was available.

- C. (8:1-22) The DETAILS of God's Abundant Grace!
 - 1. (8:6-14) Noah's <u>TESTING</u>!
 - a. (8:6-12) What Noah Sought.
 - b. (8:13-14) What Noah Saw.

In these verses we are given insight into Noah's reasoning. Since the dove did not return, Noah reasoned that somewhere the land was dry and thus available. So he rolled back the tarp that covered them (now living on deck) and saw the dry land. He, however, would decide to wait another 57 days (371 days after the flood first began) before leaving the ark and moving onto the dry land.

C. (8:1-22) The <u>DETAILS</u> of God's Abundant Grace!

3. (8:15-19) Noah's TRUSTING!

One year and seventeen days earlier, God commanded Noah and his family to enter the ark (7:1). Now He commands them to leave the ark. These two commands are NOT to be taken as being contradictory. Rather as complementary. They are a foreshadowing of the Savior's command given to believers today – First Jesus commands us to "come unto Me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28). But He also commands us "to go and make disciples of all nations (Mark 16:15). One of the problems facing the church today is that many of us want to remain on the ark.

- a. (8:15-17) God <u>Commands</u>.
- b. (8:18-19) Noah Complies.

C. (8:1-22) The DETAILS of God's Abundant Grace!

4. (8:20) Noah's TRIBUTE!

- a. Facing the unexpected, Noah begins his new venture by building an altar to the Lord. This is the first place in the Scriptures that the word "altar" appears. Here Noah steps out in faith, and at the same time, thanks God for his deliverance from God's wrath.
- b. Faith is the result of a firm belief of confidence in the honesty, integrity, or reliability of God. This faith was the result of Noah's time in the ark. He witnessed, first hand, that God would fulfill His covenant or promise to him.
 - c. Thus, Noah is externalized in the Scriptures as an example of faith Hebrews 11:6-7!

- C. (8:1-22) The DETAILS of God's Abundant Grace!
 - 5. (8:21-22) Noah's TRUCE!
 - a. (v.21a) As the fragrance of Noah's tribute and thanksgiving ascended into the heavens, we are told that God was pleased.
 - b. (v.21b) As a result of His delight in Noah's offering, we are given insight into the mind of God As the Trinity communicates (God / Elohim plural), God is unable to withhold His abundant grace (Lord / Yahweh)!
 - 1.) God's Response I will never again curse the ground (plants).
 - 2.) God's (Reason) Man is totally corrupt, unable to change.
 - 3.) God's Response I will never again destroy all breath (animals).
 - c. (v.22) As a result of His promise the seasons would come and go without interference from the most High.

Some Physical Changes Caused by the Flood! Presented by Dr. Henry Morris

- 1. As a result of earth's crust being lifted-up by the gushing water and pressed down as a result of the empty caverns, the earth's surface was no longer stable. This would have been reflected by volcanic activity and numerous earthquakes.
- 2. The oceans would have become larger since they now contained all the water which were above the firmament and below.
- 3. The land areas would have become smaller, with a much greater portion of its surface uninhabitable because of the larger oceans.
- 4. Mountain ranges would have formed after the flood which would also cause many regions to become unfit for habitation.

Some Physical Changes Caused by the Flood! Presented by Dr. Henry Morris

- 5. The thermal vapor blanket would have been dissipated, so that strong temperature differentials were inaugurated, leading to a gradual building up of snow and ice in the polar latitudes, rendering much of the extreme northern and southern land surfaces also uninhabitable.
- 6. Wind and storms, rain and snow, were possible now, rendering the total environment less congenial to both man and animals.
- 7. The environment would have also become more hostile towards man once the vapor canopy was removed. This allowed the harmful radiation from space to enter earth's atmosphere and shorten man's life span.
- 8. Today some scientists speculate that the earth's rotation may have been caused to slow down by about 1.5 percent, since, according to the text, before the flood a year was only 360 days long.

Just a Reminder!

Jesus warned His followers that in the days just prior to His second coming men would reject His grace and return to their sinful ways (Matthew 24:37-39), and that the earth would again be shaken up (Matthew 24:7).

