

I. INIQUITY INCREASES TO THE POINT WHERE JUDGMENT BECOMES IMMINENT

- A. Culture continues to develop, but unfortunately, sin is at the heart of it. Lawlessness continues to increase on the earth. Mankind, if left unrestrained, would consume themselves with their own depravity. In Gen. 1, God saw all that He had made and pronounced that it was good. It was only 10 generations down, but now, God was grieved at what He was seeing (Gen. 6:5-7)
- B. God is forced to intervene so that sin does not overtake the entire earth. God steps in at the last possible moment to preserve Noah and his family to advance His plan of redemption.

II. GOD CALLS NOAH, A PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, TO WARN THE WORLD OF THE JUDGMENT TO COME

Genesis 6:8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. ⁹ This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God.

- A. God instructs Noah to build an ark (6:13ff). The ark is a 450 ft. long x 75 ft. high, 45 ft. wide. It took 100 years to build. He built it in public. The volume of space in the ark was 1.4 million cubic feet, equal to the capacity of 522 standard railroad box cars, which could carry 125,000 sheep. It had 3 stories, each 15 ft. high. *Gen 6:22 Noah did everything just as God commanded him.*
- B. During this time, Noah probably faced resistance and perhaps ridicule from the people as he preached of the coming judgments of God. Peter describes him (2 Pet. 2:5) as a “preacher of righteousness.” Heb. 11:7 says that he “condemned the world.” It had never rained before. Mist that rose from the earth watered the plants (Gen 2:5)
- C. The ark is a picture of the mercy of God. The ark was an expression of God’s Mercy to Noah. It was also an extension of mercy to anyone who would repent and turn to God. Yet, no one did. In Gen 7:4, God allows one more week for sinners to repent.
- D. The subterranean waters sprang up from inside the earth to form seas and rivers and the celestial waters in the canopy encircling the globe was dumped on the earth (Gen. 7:11-12). The rain lasted for 40 days and nights and the flood lasted for 150 days (Gen. 7:24).

III. GOD MAKES A COVENANT WITH NOAH AND ALL LIFE ON EARTH

- A. God vows never to again destroy the world in a flood (Gen 9:9-17). God sets a rainbow in the sky as a reminder, a sign of the covenant between God and the earth (Rev. 4:3). God calls Noah to fulfill Adam’s mandate.
- B. Shem honored his father and became the one whom God continues the godly line to bless the nations of the earth through (Gen. 9:18-29). Noah prophesied to Shem that Canaan would be his servant and that he would be a blessing to Japheth as Japheth would dwell in Shem’s tents.

This was fulfilled literally through the possessing of Canaanite land by Israel and the birth of the Messiah from this lineage, which blessed the Gentile nations, the descendents of Japheth.

IV. THE END OF THE AGE - AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

- A. There will be an increase of iniquity at the end of the age (2 Tim 3:1-7). E.g. Nearly 50 million abortions worldwide each or ¼ of all pregnancies (over 100,000 per day). Over 1.5 million babies are aborted per year (4,000 per day) in the US (2 Tim. 3:1-7).
- B. God calls us to prepare for a great storm that is about to come upon on the earth (Matt 7:29). Jesus says His Second Coming will be as it was in the Days of Noah (Luke 17:26-27; Matt 24:37-39)

Matt 24:37-39 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

- 1. Noah knew when the flood would come. In Noah's day, it was 100 years of building the ark (1 Thes. 5:1-9).
1 Thes. 5:4 But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.
- 2. Jesus warns of the great falling away, apostasy, at the end of the age (Matt. 24:12; 2 Thes. 2:3; 1 Tim. 4:1)
- 3. We need to hear like Noah heard, and prepare like he did. God warns us ahead of time.
- C. **The Principle of God's Patience Before judgment.** The Lord is patient so that people have time to come to repentance. He wants the maximum number of people to repent so that judgment will not come upon them – that they may be saved. This delay is a demonstration of God's great mercy (2 Pet. 3:9; Ezekiel 33:11)
- D. How do we prepare? Matt. 7:24; 1 John 2:15. By living the Sermon on the Mount lifestyle (Matt. 5-7). This is Christianity 101 (Matt. 7:24)

V. 3 REASONS WE WILL SEE JESUS RETURN IN OUR LIFETIME

- A. PROOF #1: Matthew 23:37-39. Jewish revival and repentance in Jerusalem.
- B. PROOF #2: Matthew 24:14. Preaching of the gospel to the whole earth. Many leaders are saying that the "task will be complete" in our lifetime.
- C. PROOF #3: Luke 18:7-8. Jesus knits night and day prayer to the in-breaking of speedy justice and His return to the earth.