

# CHAPTER 7

## NOAH, HIS FAMILY, AND THE ANIMALS ENTER THE ARK

***Gen 7:1 Then the LORD said to Noah, "Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation.***

Why was Noah righteous? It was by faith, just as later on Abraham was counted righteous because of his faith: "And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness" (Gen\_15:6). Noah believed God, and it was counted to him for righteousness. "By faith Noah ... prepared an ark ..." the writer to the Hebrews said (Heb\_11:7). That is the reason God saved him.

Have you ever noticed how gracious God is to this man in all of this time of judgment? Here in verse 1 He says "Come thou..." This is the same invitation that the Lord Jesus gives today to all mankind: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will you rest" (Mat\_11:28). Then in verse Mat\_11:16 of this chapter, we read, "And the LORD shut him in." Isn't that lovely? And finally, chapter 8 opens, "And God remembered Noah." How wonderful! God could very easily have forgotten all about Noah. Years later He could have said, "Oh my, I forgot all about that fellow down there. I put him in an ark and forgot about him!" That would have been too bad, wouldn't it? But God did not forget. God remembered Noah. God never forgets. He remembers you. The only thing that He does not remember is your sin if you have come to Him for salvation. Your sins He remembers no more. What a beautiful thing this is!

Now Noah and his family enter into the ark. Did you know that this story of Noah, just like the story of creation, has wandered over the face of the earth? I wish that I could give you the Babylonian account. All you have to do is to compare them to see the differences. The other accounts are utterly preposterous and ridiculous. The very fact that most nations and peoples have an account of both creation and the Flood should tell you something, my friend. It ought to tell you that there is a basis of truth for them. All of these peoples would not come up with such a record if they had been making up stories. And if you want to know which one is accurate, just make a comparison. The Babylonian account, for example, is a perfectly ridiculous story of a sort of war going on among the gods, one against the other, and that is what brought the Flood. In contrast, the Bible tells us that the Flood was a judgment of God upon man for his sin—that makes sense, by the way.

***Gen 7:2-4 You shall take with you seven each of every clean animal, a male and his female; two each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female; also seven each of birds of the air, male and female, to keep the species alive on the face of all the earth. For after seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and I will destroy from the face of the earth all living things that I have made.***

No reason is given why Noah was commanded to take seven pairs of clean animals into the ark, but only one pair of unclean. Perhaps it was for food and in anticipation of the clean animals' being needed for sacrifice (see Gen\_8:20). The ark was filled with its inhabitants for seven days before the rain began and the underground reserves of water gushed out. The torrent continued for forty days and forty nights; forty is the number of probation or testing in the Bible. – BBC

***Gen 7:5 And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him.***

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Wow! That's a big statement. All is all! Imagine what we could accomplish if we did all that the Lord commanded.

***Gen 7:6-9 Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth. So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth, two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah.***

Nowhere does Scripture say that Noah went out and drove the animals in. It was not necessary—they came to him. – McGee. This points to the dominion the Lord gave Adam over the animals, and it underscored that where God calls you, He equips you.

***Gen 7:10 And it came to pass after seven days that the waters of the flood were on the earth.***

For seven days the world could have knocked at the door of the ark, and frankly, they could have come in—God would have saved them. All they had to do was to believe God. – McGee

**We are all many times under the faulty assumption that there will always be tomorrow. But although God is long suffering, His patience eventually runs out and His justice/judgement has to come.**

***Gen 7:11-15 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah and Noah's sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark— they and every beast after its kind, all cattle after their kind, every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, every bird of every sort. And they went into the ark to Noah, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life.***

Noah's wife is never mentioned by name nor are the daughter-in-laws that were aboard. Only Noah's righteousness is mentioned in the bible, so did Noah's righteousness save his family?

***Gen 7:16-18 So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in. Now the flood was on the earth forty days. The waters increased and lifted up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth, and the ark moved about on the surface of the waters.***

Notice: The Lord shut the door or sealed Noah in the Ark. This is a clear parallel to the holy spirit sealing us to go through life, and also in Revelation the 144,000 are sealed to go through the tribulation. Likewise, Enoch was raptured out prior to the Flood.

***Gen 7:19-24 And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered. The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered. And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man. All in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, all that was on the dry land, died. So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained***

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*alive. And the waters prevailed on the earth one hundred and fifty days.*

On the other hand, there have recently come from the press several books by men whom I consider to be pseudointellectuals and pseudotheologians. They take the position that the Flood was local; that is, that it was confined to the Tigris–Euphrates Valley. In other words, it was sort of a big swimming pool and that is about all. The Genesis Flood absolutely demolishes that thought altogether, and I am sure that you realize that the Scriptures make it very clear that the Flood covered the whole earth.

But if you say that the Flood was not universal, then you have someone besides Noah starting the human family over again—and that is just not the way the Word of God tells it. You are on the horns of a dilemma, as I see it: you either have to accept the Word of God, or you have to reject what it says. To my judgment, to attempt to make a case for a local flood is actually, in the long run, to reject the Word of God. The Bible makes it very clear that it was a universal flood. “And every living substance was destroyed ... and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.” – McGee

The ark is a picture of Christ. The waters depict God's judgment. The Lord Jesus went under the waters of divine wrath at Calvary. Those who are in Christ are saved. Those who are outside are doomed (see 1Pe\_3:21). - BBC