

Noah, A Man who Stood Out

Genesis 6:7-7:24

'Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.' It is salutary to note that the most important man in the entire world at that time would close out his record with such a testimony—that he was merely a sinner saved by grace!

What a wonderful word is grace, here appearing for the first time in Scripture. In sovereign mercy and by the election of grace, God had prepared the heart of Noah to respond to obedient faith to his will.

Note the consistent Biblical order here. First, Noah 'found grace.' Then Noah was 'a just man' (that is 'justified' or 'declared to be righteous'). Thus he was 'perfect in his generation' (or 'complete,' in so far as God's records are concerned), and therefore he was able to 'walk with God.' Salvation in any era is exactly in this way. By sovereign grace, received through faith, the believer is justified before God and declared to be complete in Him. Only as a result of, and on the basis of, this glorious gift of grace, can one then 'walk' in fellowship with God, showing the genuineness of his faith by his works. Four times it is said later, for example, that Noah 'did all that God commanded him' (6:22; 7:5; 7:9; 7:16)." Morris

- I. Genesis 6 tells us that a worldwide flood was necessary to purge the world of the evil men and women who had become completely violent, corrupt, and immoral. Man's constant attack against God's holiness, and Satan's constant attack against God's power through supernatural means, moved God to wipe all living things from the face of the earth. We see in this both God's grace and God's justice. God's grace in preventing Satan's demonic influence from being more powerful than it is, and God's justice in showing mankind that He is a Just God who will tolerate sin for only so long before He deals with it.

Gen. 6:5-8, 11

Gen. 1:2-4

2 Peter 2:4,5,9

Jude 6-7

"Satan and his angels must have feared that the opportunities for victory in this cosmic conflict were in imminent danger. Desiring reinforcements for the coming battle against the hosts of heaven, and also desiring, if possible, to completely corrupt mankind before the promised Seed could accomplish Satan's defeat, they seem to have decided to utilize the marvelous power of procreation which God had given the human family and to corrupt it to their own ends. Men now were rapidly multiplying on the earth and by implanting their own "seed" in humanity, they might be able to enlist in only one generation a vast multitude as allies against God... Morris

- II. What was it about Noah that kept him from turning his back on God and His holiness? Why did he choose to walk with God, instead of with Satan and his system of deceit and debauchery? What was it that kept him from being influenced by the powerful draw of the sin nature vying for the desires of the flesh? The answer is found in the power of knowing and worshipping Jehovah Elohim, the one and only true God. The Lord God always preserves a remnant who love Him and are willing to do anything He asks. They are the ones chosen by grace to be justified, redeemed, and made righteous through faith. They are the ones who want to walk with God with a strong desire to live His righteousness and do His will. That's what set Noah apart from the rest of the world, and it is what should set us apart from the times we are living in, as we see the Day of God's judgement approaching.

Gen. 6:7-22

Heb. 11:7

Rom. 4:23

2 Peter 2:5

Ps. 29:10

tāmîm - sound, wholesome, unimpaired, innocent, having integrity (blameless)

- III. The ark was the only means of salvation God provided for Noah and his family. *"We close with these three lessons. First, when the Lord shut Noah and his family up in the ark, they were totally secure and thereby become an illustration for us of the believer's perfect security in Christ. Second, there is a lesson of God's grace, ... the door of the ark remained open [up to the last moment], and anyone who wanted to could have gone inside. Finally, there is a lesson in that there is an end to grace. Grace is great, but it is not unending. If it is spurned, the day of reckoning eventually comes. The same God who opens doors is himself the door (John 10:7,9). He also closes doors and refuses to open them—when the time for grace is gone."* Boice

Gen. 7:1-24

Gal. 1:3-4

"Genesis 2:6 says, 'But streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground.' Before the Flood (Genesis chapters 6-9), the earth was possibly surrounded by a 'firmament' or canopy of water, creating a greenhouse effect on the earth's climate. These would have been the waters that God released, causing the Flood. It seems that before the Flood the dew and ample water supply were enough to keep creation watered. The Bible does not specifically tell us whether or not it had rained before the Flood. Noah seemed to understand what rain was when God mentioned it to him (Genesis 7:4-5). Genesis 2:4-6 mentions that God did not send rain on the earth until after He created Adam and Eve. We can speculate that it had rained before the Flood, but, again, the Bible does not specifically say. gotquestions.org