



11/28/25

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving! And now it's time to get ready for Christmas! Tim and I broke tradition this year. We usually put up our Christmas tree the day after Thanksgiving. But this year, we did it ON Thanksgiving. I don't know... things are getting crazy around here! Hahaha

*Merry Blessings,
Jonna*

Genesis 6:9-7:10

This is the story of Noah and the Ark. Some people say it's a made up fairy tale. Some people say the first 11 chapters of Genesis are fairy tales. But I know that if I rip out this truth from the pages of the Bible, I have to throw out the whole Bible. Jesus Himself spoke of this as a true story in Matthew 24:36-39 when He spoke of His second coming (which is yet to come). He said, "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man." He was not speaking about this as a fable, but as truth. If it's not true, Jesus is a liar.

1 Peter 3:20 also speaks of "the days of Noah" as fact, not fiction... "when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water." 2 Peter 2:5 refers to the story of the ark when speaking of the judgment to come for those who deny Jesus as Lord when Peter says, "He did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly." This IS a true story.

Why did God choose Noah? Genesis 6:8 says he found favor in the eyes of God. Why? Vs. 9 says he was "a righteous man, blameless in his generation... he walked with God." Noah trusted God. His faith in God was followed by obedience. When God told him to build the ark, he did.

Genesis 6:22 and 7:5 both say that Noah did ALL that God commanded him. He didn't question God or try to convince God that he knew better than God in any way. If God said it, Noah did it.

I can only imagine how hard that must have been. Rain had never fallen on the earth. They didn't even know what a flood was. Noah was building a huge boat where there was no water. People surrounding him were corrupt. I'm sure they weren't being quiet about it. They were probably taunting Noah and his family.

If God had told any one of those corrupt people to repent and help build the ark, they would have laughed in God's face. In fact, they basically WERE laughing in His face because they had the prophecies. They saw what Noah was doing in obedience to God. God gave them time to repent. But... what is true about the cross today was true about the ark back then... "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Corinthians 1:18). People who are walking in darkness are not just apathetic to God's word, they are antagonistic to His word. In the midst of the antagonism, Noah remained faithful to the Lord. O Lord, please help me to do the same!

How did Noah remain faithful in obedience for all the years he was building the ark? It's no small task! God provided what he needed, but Noah still had to do the work. Well, Noah was 600 years old when God did what He said He was going to do... and it didn't take 600 years to build. Noah had been "walking with God" his whole life. He had time to be taught by his dad and his grandfather. He believed God and he stayed close to God. So when God spoke, he obeyed God.

Also, Noah wholeheartedly put his hope and trust in God. God was specific in how He told Noah to build the ark. He was specific in His plan to bring an end to all the corruption of the people whose "wickedness was great in the earth" and whose "every intention of even their thoughts were only evil all the time" (Genesis 6:5). God was also specific in the hope He was giving to Noah.

In vs. 18-21, God gave Noah hope, and Noah believed Him. God said, "But I will establish My covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you." A covenant with God cannot be broken. God made a promise that Noah's voyage on the ark would not end in death, but in life. God also let Noah bring his family with him. He would not be alone. This meant that mankind would continue. God also said that He would send animals and creeping things and flying things into the ark, so that there would be animal life after the flood. And God told Noah to bring all kinds of food and store it up to eat while they were on the ark. All of this points to the promise of life! Noah's work for the Lord would not be in vain. Noah believed God... and Noah obeyed God.

Then, when the time came, God said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation." Once again, God reminded Noah, "I see you. You have My favor. It's time to go." He told Noah to take seven pairs of the

clean animals, male and female... and one pair of the unclean animals, male and female. God was going to keep them alive. He told Noah what to expect in 7 days... 40 days and 40 nights of rain while He blots out everyone and everything not on the ark.

What happened? On the 7th day, exactly what God said would happen happened. "The waters of the flood came upon the earth." When God speaks, it is. God has authority over nature, authority over all. He has all the wisdom to know HOW to accomplish His purpose and all the power to DO exactly what He declares will be done. Isaiah 46:8-10 says, "Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all My purpose.'" People can decide that they don't like God's purpose, but no human or celestial being can stop God's plan.

O Lord, You proved through the flood that You have all authority, power, and wisdom. You proved Your patience in giving man time to repent. You proved Your love and provision in keeping Your promises to Noah. I pray that I will respond to You as Noah did... that I will walk with You faithfully and obey You, not just out of a sense duty, but with a heart of delight... putting all my confidence in You even when my circumstances don't make sense. Just because I don't know Your plan, it doesn't mean You don't have a plan... and Your plan is always good. I pray that You will be able to say of me, "Jonna found favor in the eyes of God. She didn't let the evil of her generation stop her from walking in obedience to the One who gave her His righteousness. Jonna walked with God." O Lord, may it be so.