

LESSON 7

JUDGMENT, REMEMBRANCE, AND A NEW BEGINNING

The Flood and God's Preservation of Creation

Primary Text: Genesis 7:1–8:22

MAIN IDEA God judges pervasive sin, remembers and preserves His people by grace, and sustains creation while directing our hope toward the final renewal accomplished in Christ.

Lesson Objectives

- Trace the movement from judgment to remembrance to new creation in Genesis 7–8.
- Explain how the Flood reverses and then echoes the creation account.
- Understand biblical “remembrance” as God’s faithful action.
- Recognize the limits of external judgment to change the human heart.
- Connect Noah’s deliverance to Christ, final judgment, and new creation.

Teaching Overview

Genesis 7–8 shows the holy Creator judging a violent world while graciously preserving Noah, his household, and the living creatures in the ark. The waters undo the order of creation; God’s wind and word bring a renewed world. Yet Genesis 8:21 makes clear that the sinful heart remains. The central hope of the passage is therefore God’s covenant faithfulness, not human moral improvement.

Key Scripture Passages

- Genesis 7:1–10 — God commands Noah to enter the ark.
- Genesis 7:11–24 — The waters rise and creation is undone.
- Genesis 8:1 — “But God remembered Noah.”
- Genesis 8:6–19 — Dry land emerges and Noah waits for God’s command.
- Genesis 8:20–22 — Noah worships and God promises creation’s continuing rhythms.
- Hebrews 11:7; Matthew 24:37–39; 1 Peter 3:18–22; 2 Peter 3:5–7 — New Testament interpretation and application.

1. ENTERING THE ARK BY FAITH | GENESIS 7:1–10

KEY STATEMENT Salvation comes through trusting and obeying God’s word, while the ark is God’s provision.

- Noah is righteous as a recipient of grace who walks with God and obeys.
- Clean animals anticipate worship after deliverance.
- Faith acts before visible confirmation.

Key questions

- What does Noah’s obedience reveal about genuine faith?
- Where am I delaying obedience until circumstances make it easy?

Notes

2. THE UNDOING OF CREATION | GENESIS 7:11–24

KEY STATEMENT The Flood returns the ordered world to watery disorder because sin has corrupted the earth.

- Waters above and below break through their boundaries.
- The same waters judge the world and lift the ark.
- The LORD shuts Noah in: preservation finally belongs to God.

Key questions

- What does this passage teach about God’s holiness?
- How can judgment and grace be taught together?

Notes

3. GOD REMEMBERED NOAH | GENESIS 8:1–5

KEY STATEMENT God’s remembrance means covenant faithfulness moving into action.

- “Remembered” does not imply that God had forgotten.
- The wind over the waters echoes Genesis 1:2.
- The movement of the story turns from increasing water to renewed habitation.

Key questions

- Where do I need confidence in God’s remembrance?
- How does the creation echo shape my reading of the Flood?

Notes

4. WAITING FOR GOD’S WORD | GENESIS 8:6–19

KEY STATEMENT Faith observes providence but remains governed by God’s word.

- The raven and dove help Noah discern the earth’s condition.

- Noah sees dry ground but waits for the command to leave.
- Noah emerges as a new-Adam figure into a renewed, but still fallen, world.

Key questions

- When does wise observation become presumption?
- What makes faithful waiting difficult?

Notes

5. WORSHIP AND THE PRESERVING PROMISE | GENESIS 8:20–22

KEY STATEMENT Grace received produces worship; creation continues because God is faithful, not because humanity has improved.

- Noah's first recorded act on dry land is sacrifice.
- The human heart remains evil from youth after the Flood.
- Seedtime and harvest continue under God's preserving mercy.

Key questions

- Why can judgment alone not regenerate the heart?
- How should ordinary seasons and daily provision lead to worship?

Notes

6. THE FLOOD, CHRIST, AND NEW CREATION

KEY STATEMENT The New Testament treats the Flood as a pattern of judgment, faith, salvation, and final renewal.

- Jesus uses Noah's day to call for watchfulness.
- Hebrews presents Noah as acting by faith concerning unseen things.
- Peter connects the Flood with rescue through judgment and the resurrection of Christ.
- Noah enters a renewed world; Christ secures the final new creation.

Key questions

- Why is Noah a faithful pattern but not the final Savior?
- How does this passage deepen the gospel?

Notes

Theological Connections

Theme	Truth to Remember
Judgment	God's judgment is holy, purposeful, and directed against real human corruption.
Grace	God provides and preserves; salvation is not Noah's invention.
Remembrance	God remembers by acting faithfully toward His covenant purpose.
Creation	The Flood is de-creation followed by gracious recreation.
Human Nature	New circumstances do not create a new heart.
Christ	The greater hope is rescue through judgment and entrance into final new creation.

Key Takeaways

- God's warnings are trustworthy even before judgment is visible.
- The ark represents divine provision received by obedient faith.
- "God remembered Noah" announces covenant faithfulness in action.
- The recreated world still contains fallen hearts and therefore still needs redemption.
- Creation's regular rhythms are gifts of preserving grace.
- The Flood directs Christians toward Christ, final judgment, and the promised new creation.

FINAL SUMMARY The Judge of the world is also the faithful Preserver who brings His people through judgment and keeps creation moving toward the redemption accomplished in Christ.

Personal Takeaways and Application

A truth about God I need to remember:

A warning I need to take seriously:

An area where I need to wait faithfully:

A reason for worship and gratitude:

A gospel connection I want to explain clearly:

Resources Used in This Lesson

- Victor P. Hamilton, The Book of Genesis, Chapters 1–17, New International Commentary on the Old Testament.
- Kenneth A. Mathews, Genesis 1–11:26, vol. 1A, New American Commentary.
- Genesis Practical Theology, Lesson 5 teaching manuscript, used as the document and teaching framework.