



In the Beginning ... Why a Worldwide Flood?

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

March 21, 2021

The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. The Lord regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. – Genesis 6:5-6

This is the story of Noah and the flood. As we begin, I'd like to focus our attention on a very crucial point: If this story is true, if there once was a great flood that covered the entire earth, then what the Bible is describing in Genesis 6-9 is the single greatest natural disaster in the history of the world. It is so great, so vast, so enormous, that no other event in earth's history comes close to it. Yet, the question keeps floating to the surface. Why would God do such a thing?

- The Bible is clear; _____ always results in Judgment.
- Yet this judgment was so severe that it was as if God hit the _____ on all He had Created.

The Great Flood of Noah ... Genesis 6:1-8

- _____ from Jesus ... (Matthew 24:37-39)
- A Glimpse at the People/World of the Flood ... (Gen 6)
 - _____ at a Primitive Level (1-2)
 - God's _____ came to an End (3)
 - _____ at the Highest Levels (4)
 - _____ was the Primary Focus of Mankind (5)
 - An Alarming _____ from God (6-7)
 - _____ in time of Divine Judgment (8)

What Should We Learn?

- _____ is available even in the Worst of Times.
- _____ was and is the only _____.

Truth for Life

For the week of March 21, 2021

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

- This week our focus is on God dealing with sin. As you hear the story, what is your initial reaction to what God did? Allow some time to think through the scene and our responses. Be careful that we don't judge other's responses.

The world of the Pre-Flood was trapped in idolizing ungodly people and not realizing the influence of an ungodly culture. Do you see either of these as relevant in our current experience? Can you think of any cultural influences you need to be aware of influencing your life?

- As we live in a world that is increasingly influenced by ungodliness, we must learn to walk in the Spirit and in truth. In large part, that was the catalyst that gave Noah the edge. Learning to allow the Spirit to lead you can be confusing at times. Read Romans 8:5-13. What is our responsibility in this passage to enable the Holy Spirit to work in our life?

Read Romans 12:1-2. How does this passage give further insight to our responsibility?

If the Spirit was indeed in control of our lives, how would we live, possibly differently than we do today? Does it matter how we live in order for the Spirit to remain in control of our lives?

- One key factor in choosing to walk with God is seeking advice and approval from the right people. Read 1 Kings 11:42-12:19, why do you think Rehoboam listened to the counsel of the wrong people?

None of us plan on ignoring wise counsel like Rehoboam did, but unfortunately it still happens. Can you think of any indicators to help you know if you're open or closed to considering advice and counsel from the right people? Who are the people that you know can be trusted to give you wise counsel?

- Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
 - Discuss: Are the Bible and science at odds? Must we abandon reason and go by blind faith to believe in the Bible?
 - Why is the doctrine of creation by God's word so foundational to the Christian faith? Which views of creation are permissible within the boundaries of biblical interpretation?
 - Why is the doctrine of Christ's bodily return in power and glory to judge the world essential to the gospel?



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- The Bible is clear; **Sin** always results in Judgment.
- Yet this judgment was so severe that it was as if God hit the **Delete Button** on all He had Created.

The Great Flood of Noah ... Genesis 6:1-8

- I. **Insight** from Jesus ... (Matthew 24:37-39)
- II. A Glimpse at the People/World of the Flood ... (Gen 6)
 - **Marriage** at a Primitive Level (1-2)
 - God's **Longsuffering** came to an End (3)
 - **Corruption** at the Highest Levels (4)
 - **Evil** was the Primary Focus of Mankind (5)
 - An Alarming **Response** from God (6-7)
 - **God's Grace** in time of Divine Judgment (8)

What Should We Learn?

1. **Grace** is available even in the Worst of Times.
2. **Grace** was and is the only **Out**.

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 - b. Why is the doctrine of creation by God's word so foundational to the Christian faith? Which views of creation are permissible within the boundaries of biblical interpretation?
 - c. Why is the doctrine of Christ's bodily return in power and glory to judge the world essential to the gospel?