

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How had the creator and His creation become so separated?
2. Do we find here any consolation for the Christian regarding the coming judgment of the earth?
3. Does God always provide a way of escape for His children? (2 Peter 2:9)
4. How can we, like Noah, find grace in God's sight?

SUMMARY:

In the days of Noah it grieved God when He saw that the wickedness of man was so great that every imagination of his thoughts were evil. God's holiness demanded that evil must be punished, but Noah found grace in the eyes of God and did according to all that God commanded him. So God established His Covenant with him that he should not perish. God's holiness still demands that all evil must be brought to judgment, but we also can find grace in the eyes of God and be spared eternal destruction by accepting the invitation to enter into the "ark" of the New Covenant. (Hebrews 8:7-10)

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #4

January 28, 2007

First Quarter

JUDGMENT BY FLOOD

LESSON TEXT: *Genesis 6:1 through 7:24; Matthew 24:38-39*

LESSON SETTING: Ark settled on Ararat Mountain Range, near Turkey-Russian boarder.

TIME: Approximately 1650 years after Adam.

- I. PURPOSE OF JUDGMENT.** Genesis 6:1-7
 - A. Sent for Correction. (vs. 5-7) Jeremiah 30:11
 - B. Warning to Others. Leviticus 26:14-20; 2 Chronicles 7:19-20; Luke 13:3-5
- II. PRESERVATION OF LIFE.** Genesis 6:8 through 7:24
 - A. Saved by Grace. (6:8) Roman 3:24; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Titus 3:7
 - B. Saved by Faith. Hebrews 11:7; 1 Peter 1:4, 5, 9
 - C. Saved by Obedience. (6:22) John 14:23
 - C. Saved by Water. (7:17) 1 Peter 3:20-21
- III. PATTERN OF LAST DAYS.** Matthew 24:38-39
 - A. Enemies of the Truth. (vs. 38) 1 Timothy 4:1-2; 2 Timothy 3:1-5; 4:3
 - B. Unprepared. (vs. 39) Matthew 24:48-51; 25:6-10; Luke 21:34-35

GOLDEN TEXT: *AND THE LORD SAID, MY SPIRIT WILL NOT ALWAYS STRIVE WITH MAN, FOR THAT HE ALSO IS FLESH: . . .*

Genesis 6:3

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Genesis 8:1 through 9:17

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Isaiah 54:1-10; 2 Peter 2:5; 3:4-7

QUARTERLY THEME: The Beginning

TOPIC: GOD'S COVENANT WITH NOAH

INTRODUCTION:

One day while traveling in the later afternoon from Homer, Alaska to Anchorage a beautiful rainbow was seen to the right of the highway. It was a complete bow of distinct, clear colors of brilliant hue. It remained in the sky for a long period of time in the evening sunlight as the miles rolled by. The sun at this season sets at 10:00 P.M. Seldom is a rainbow of such intensity of colors and of such a long period of time seen in the other states.

Perhaps there was a rainbow of this kind when Noah offered his sacrifice and God made His covenant with him. A rainbow brings hope anew to the heart each time one is seen, whether it is dim or bright, fleeting or lasting, the promise holds true. God can not go back on His promise. So it is in our trials and suffering, He sometimes sends us just a flickering ray of hope, but we know He keeps us in His covenant, even as He has promised.

In Isaiah 49:6, He gives His promise of His great mercies to the Gentiles, which until Christ's time had not been included. His promises in the Old Testament were mainly to Israel, but in Isaiah He promises to send a Redeemer which would also be a Savior to the Gentiles. This covenant has been kept and our Savior was sent to us. We know His covenant will be kept even as the one to Noah has been kept until now.

CENTRAL TRUTH: God is true to His word and faithful in His promises.

GOLDEN TEXT: *I DO SET MY BOW IN THE CLOUD, AND IT SHALL BE FOR A TOKEN OF A COVENANT BETWEEN ME AND THE EARTH.*

Genesis 9:13

Perhaps one of God's purposes in setting His bow of promise in the clouds was so that men must look up to see it, for we must ever look up to see and find the promises of God. The Psalmist realized this when he wrote, "*I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.*" (Psalm 121:1) Jesus told His disciples, "*And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.*" (Luke 21:28)

God knew that after the flood, sin would again appear on the earth, because Satan had been able to plant it in the hearts of men. But God also knew that in every place would be some who would long to be free from sin and able to overcome evil. He had a plan to help all.

To those who had faith to look up to Him, and a desire for righteousness, God promised he would not again destroy the earth by flood but would provide a way to overcome. Those of the Old Covenant were trusting in the Redeemer who was to come. "*The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come.*" (Genesis 49:10)

We today, can also rely on God's promise concerning the flood, and should avail ourselves of the flood of His mercy. "And sinners plunged beneath **that** flood lose all their guilty stains."

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Jan. 29 – Feb. 4

M. *God Delivers Noah. Genesis 8:1-22

T. *The Sacredness of Life. Genesis 9:1-7

W. *God's Covenant Sign. Genesis 9:8-17

T. New Heavens, New Earth. Isaiah 65:17-25

F. The Second Coming and Things New. 2 Peter 3:8-13

S. The Walk of a New Creature. 2 Peter 3:14-18

S. All Things New. Revelation 21:1-8