

In The Beginning: Session 12: Filling The Ark

בְּרֵאשִׁית

Get audio files and notes at: www.htchurch.com/genesis.

Review

- We looked at what type of person Noah was, and his generations.
- The Earth was filled with violence, and God said Man's time was up.
- God then commissioned Noah to build an ark.
- Dimensions and making of the ark.

Judgment From God Himself (Genesis 6:17)

17 And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die.

This judgment is from God Himself.

- Because the world has offended His holiness.
- Noah was preaching that we should be righteous, and that there would be consequences if we were not.
- And Moses wants us to know here that when God brings judgment, is not a violation of "karma."
- The Flood was not a random convulsion of nature.

All flesh? Was the Flood was a local event, or was it a global flood?

- Look at God's intentions concerning the Flood
- Look at the descriptions of the Flood as well
- His clear statement is that everything will die

A Covenant Promised (Genesis 6:18)

18 But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives with you.

- This is the first place in the Bible that we see the word “covenant” used.
- Basically, a covenant is an agreement between two or more parties.
 - The word *covenant* in Hebrew is *b’rith* or *b’rit*, and it is a word that is related to the idea of cutting.
 - The people who were making the covenant would walk between the pieces of an animal.
 - Covenants were powerfully binding on people. Your covenant partner was obligated to help you according to the agreement.
 - In the Bible and elsewhere, making covenant relationships turned bitter enemies into friends. Most amazing of all, of course, is the fact that we see God making covenants with people.
- Notice that it was God who was making the covenant. This is a matter of God’s grace. God was under no obligation to do this. This is the pattern of grace in the Word of God. This was meant to give assurance to Noah. The kindness of God!

Filling The Ark (Genesis 6:19-22)

19 And of every living thing of all flesh you shall bring two of every sort into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. 20 Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive. 21 And you shall take for yourself of all food that is eaten, and you shall gather it to yourself; and it shall be food for you and for them.” 22 Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

- God re-emphasizes the priorities of male and female identity, and that procreation is His design.
- And here again we see the biblical idea of kinds. So it was not necessary that the Ark be as big as a city in order to preserve life.
- Noah’s job was not to get the animals, it was just to build the Ark.
- Moses tells us here how God says, “they will come to you.” The gathering of animals, like many thing in this story, is completely supernatural.
- We notice also that Noah did everything that God had commanded him. There was no half-obedience here. To disobey God would have meant an irrecoverable loss to the world.
- We need such a heart.

Come Into The Ark (Genesis 7:1-9)

1 Then the Lord said to Noah, “Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation. 2 You shall take with you seven each of every clean animal, a male and his female; two each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female; 3 also seven each of birds of the air, male and female, to keep the species alive on the face of all the earth. 4 For after seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and I will destroy from the face of the earth all living things that I have made.” 5 And Noah did according to all that the Lord commanded him. 6 Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth.

7 So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons’ wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. 8 Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth, 9 two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah.

- There came a definite day in which God said it was time to enter.
- God saved Noah, because He saw that Noah was righteous. The Bible tells us that God reserves or stores up wrath for His enemies. (Nahum 1:2) In other words, God does not pour out His wrath upon His friends.
- This is an important pattern in the Word of God. We see this in the Exodus story, and will see it again at the end of the age.
- Noah was actually bringing seven pairs of certain animals.
- God says that in seven days, He would send 40 days and nights of rain, and destroy every living thing He had made.
- Again we have a notation that Noah obeyed God completely in all these things.
- Noah was 600 when this happened. This is a picture of Man's sin coming to the fullness of its harvest!
- This segment of the story concludes with the family entering into the Ark, because in seven more days the Flood would begin.



*All quotes NKJV except as noted. New King James Version®
Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*