

FINAL STUDY NOTES - THIS WEEK'S STUDY – GENESIS CHAPS. 7 & 8 - 5/6-7/24

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Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 www.ptwente.com - Audio & notes - previous studies
PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!
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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).
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OPENING PRAYER

Review: :

- **God saw that the wickedness of the earth was great; the imaginations of man's heart was wicked continuously.** Men were involved in Satanism, unnatural sex, violence, and corruption, *"every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."* So God decided to bring an end to that scene of iniquity. God destroyed the earth then with a flood of waters.
- **We need to understand that God's purpose of the worldwide Flood. It was not just because there was sin and wickedness abounding, which there was, but that evil, as described in chapter six, was abounding and prevalent throughout the world. (Gen 6:4-7,17) There were giants on the earth in those**

days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown. [5] Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was **only evil continually**. [6] And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. [7] So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." [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.

- **God saw Noah, a righteous man. So God commanded Noah to build an ark**, about 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, about one-half that of the Titanic or the Queen Mary ships. Noah was to bring into the ark the various animals, two of each species, with the exception of those animals which were considered clean; there were to be seven pairs of each of those animals. (*Gen 6:22*) Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

The Great Flood

Gen 7:1 Then the LORD said to Noah, "Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous (justified by his faith) before Me in this generation.

- Notice the LORD didn't say, "Go into the ark." He said, "Come into the ark." So God, it would seem, was in the ark, inviting Noah to come on in. The Lord is with us, and how glorious it is to have the Lord with us, especially in the storms of life. "Come into the ark!" the Lord said, inviting him into that place of protection, the place of surviving that great holocaust, that flood of judgment, that is going to come against evil.
- ***Because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation.*** God saw him as righteous, even as God sees us as righteous. That doesn't mean that I don't do any unrighteous deeds; would to God I didn't, but I do sin. I am a sinner. I am not righteous in and of myself, but God sees me as righteous in Jesus Christ, and that is what really counts.
- ***I have seen that you are righteous.*** This is the first mention of the doctrine of justification in the Bible—that is, of being "seen as righteous" by God. The same word is translated "just" in (*Gen 6:9*) *Noah was a just man*. The reason why Noah could be seen as "justified" was that he had (*Gen 6:8*) *found grace in the eyes of the Lord*.

Gen 7:2 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;

Gen 7:3 also seven each of birds of the air, male and female, to keep the species alive on the face of all the earth.

- ***Seven pairs of every clean....two pairs of every unclean, a male and his female.*** The "clean" kinds of beasts and birds were those suitable for domestication and a form of fellowship with man, as well as for sacrificial offerings. Apparently three pairs of each of these were preserved in order to allow for wider variation in breeding after the Flood. The seventh was offered by Noah in sacrifice when they left the ark (*Gen 8:20*).
- ***To keep the species alive on the face of all the earth.*** God's purpose for the ark, a statement which is meaningful only in the context of a universal flood. The ark was far too large to accommodate merely a local or regional fauna. If the Flood were only local, the ark would not have been needed at all. Noah's family, as well as the birds and beasts, could far more easily have simply migrated away from the region to be flooded.

*Gen 7:4 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."*

- ***Seven more days.*** We get one of these many sevens (55X in Gen; 6X in chapters 7&8) that we'll be coming across. Seven, of course, is a number that is symbolic and meaningful in scripture. It is the number of completeness. Forty is a number of judgment.
- ***Seven days.*** This seven-day period of final warning and preparation marks the first of many references to seven-day intervals during the Flood year. This fact makes it obvious that the practice of measuring time in seven-day weeks had been in effect throughout the period between the Creation week and the Flood.
- ***Forty days.*** A worldwide rain lasting forty days would be impossible under present meteorologic conditions. The condensation of the antediluvian vapor canopy, the "waters which were above the

firmament" (Gen 1:6-8) is the only adequate explanation.

- **All living things, includes the plant life on the land.** The lush vegetation of the pre-Flood world was all to be uprooted, transported and buried in great sedimentary beds, many of which would eventually become the world's coal beds.

Gen 7:5 And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him.

- **Here was the final test, the final break with the world, Noah had known, thrusting himself completely on God's mercy.** Again, Noah obeyed without a shadow of hesitation!

Gen 7:6 Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth.

Gen 7:7 So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood.

Gen 7:8 Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth,

Gen 7:9 two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah.

Gen 7:10 And it came to pass after seven days that the waters of the flood were on the earth.

Gen 7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

- **Seventeenth day.** The exact date of the Flood's onset must have been noted for the greater certainty of the account of the Flood. The ark landed on the mountains of Ararat exactly 150 days or five months later! The implication is that the primeval year contained twelve months of thirty days each. See also (Rev 11:2,3) *forty-two months...one thousand two hundred and sixty days.*
- **Fountains of the great deep.** The physical cause of the Flood is clearly identified as the eruption of the waters in the great deep and the opening of the windows of heaven. These are quite sufficient in themselves to cause and explain all the phenomena of the Flood. The antediluvian hydrologic cycle was apparently controlled by a system of subterranean pressurized reservoirs and conduits, but these fountains were all cleaved open in one day, releasing tremendous quantities of water and magma to the earth's surface and dust and gas into the atmosphere. The resulting combination of atmospheric turbulence and dust nuclei of condensation was probably the immediate cause of the precipitation of the vapor canopy. The cataclysmic restoration of the primeval deep that resulted, left the antediluvian world completely devastated and inundated.
- **Now in one verse he describes the method by which God brought the flood upon the earth, and notice it wasn't just the rain, but the great fountains of the deep were opened up.** These vast reservoirs of water that God had placed under the earth, fountains of the deep, were broken up, as well as that canopy of water that God had suspended in space in Genesis 1, where He divided the waters above the firmament from the waters below the firmament. That vast ocean of water that God had suspended in space that was a canopy to protect the earth from much of the cosmic radiation, shielded the earth, caused the earth to be all over like a green garden. Without the poles being iced, with this water suspended in the atmosphere, you would not have had any violent storms or winds. There would only be a slow movement of air and with the tremendous humidity, moisture, and the warmth, it would have been universally warm, an ideal climate to grow verdant plants.
- **Interestingly, great charcoal beds have been discovered under the ice at the South Pole region, which means there had, at one time, been vast forests down there.** Mammoths with sub-tropical vegetation have been found in Siberia there in the frozen tundra area (amazingly, they must have been quick-frozen, which indicates a very cold temperature, as low as minus 175 degrees! They also died from suffocation), which indicates again that was once a tropical paradise. But with the emptying of the canopy of water, this is the only way you could explain rain for forty days. No matter how full the clouds may be of water, and we have had times when maybe it would rain for two weeks or something, but for forty days for the deluge to continue on a world-wide basis means there was that emptying of that vast canopy of water that God had suspended in space.
- **There is also the very great possibility that at this time there was a dramatic polar axis shift of the earth.** It is possible that prior to the flood there were no large mountains, but only rolling hills. We don't know anything about the geology of the earth prior to the flood. It was indicated in the scripture that the landmass was all together, and that the seas were all together. There was just the one landmass and the one ocean of water. It could be that there were tremendous cataclysmic catastrophes that took place at the time of the flood, besides just the breaking up of the deep and the emptying of the canopy of water that had been suspended in the atmosphere. It could be at this time the earth was even moved slightly out of its orbit around the sun. There are indications in our text that at this time before the flood there was only a 360-day

year. We know that after the flood there were 365 and a quarter days to a year. There are also possibilities and there is some evidence that it was at this point that the earth became tilted on its axis. That tilt of twenty-three and one third degrees which gives us the seasons, did not take place until the time of the flood. The combined polar axis shift, the tilt of the earth, and the changing of its orbit could have been produced by the close paths of a huge asteroid or even the impact of the earth by a huge asteroid upsetting the whole balance of the system.

- **Now as the waters began to cover the earth, and the pressure of the water began to come over the landmass, the weight of the water probably broke through the earth's crust** in many areas, causing it to collapse. At this time great canyons were formed and the water, of course, would go into the canyons, and through the downward pressure there came the up-thrust, and so you find the coastal range of mountains, our high Sierras here in California, thrusting upward from the weight of the water that was pushing down there in our shoreline here; Tremendous geological upheavals as the result of the waters changing their base, its bed. There is much evidence around the earth from the fossils and all, even up in the Himalayas, nineteen to twenty thousand feet high, there are fossils of sea life. So the upward thrusting up of these mountains as the weight of the water was moved around. You can imagine the whole upheaval that took place upon the earth at this time and the geological changes. All this was going on during this period of one year. There were forty days when the rain was descending, but the activity continued long after the rain had descended as the weight of the waters began to push down and break the earth's crust and all of these changes were going on!

Gen 7:12 And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights (exactly as predicted in verse 4).

Gen 7:13 On the very same day Noah and Noah's sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark—

Gen 7:14 they and every beast after its kind, all cattle after their kind, every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, every bird of every sort.

- **There must have been a lot of problems, sanitary and otherwise, within the ark with all the animals** that were there. However, it is possible, now we're dealing with a God who can do anything. We do know that bears have the capacity of hibernating. It could be that God gave that same capacity to these animals for this special occasion. That they all may have gone into a hibernation process like the bear does, where he goes in and lies down, just waiting out the winter, not eating, but just sleeping during this process, so that there was little activity. It could be that the ark wasn't nearly as noisy as you imagined it to be, with all of the animals, the bears and everyone that were in it.

Gen 7:15 And they went into the ark to Noah, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life.

- **Two of all flesh. The animals likely were all young animals,** since they would have to spend the year in the ark without reproducing and then emerge to repopulate the earth after the Flood. The animals entering the ark were those individuals possessing genes for the remarkable physiologic abilities of migration and hibernation. These were not needed in the equable climates of the primeval world, but would be vital for survival in the post-Flood world. After being installed in their respective "rooms" in the ark, and after a good meal, most of them probably spent most of the Flood year in a state of hibernation.

Gen 7:16 So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.

- **God said, "Come into the ark," and they went in** and then **the Lord shut them in!** This provided a final assurance to the occupants that they were in the will of God and under His protection. Notice Noah is the object of God's special protection! God's absolute protection! The old world was forever dead to them from that moment on.

Gen 7:17 Now the flood (universal, world-destroying) **was on the earth forty days. The waters increased and lifted up the ark, and it rose high above the earth.**

- **The ark was thirty cubits high and, when loaded, probably had a draft of almost fifteen cubits.** As soon as the water level rose to a level of fifteen cubits above the platform on which it had been constructed, it would begin to float.

Gen 7:18 The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth, and the ark moved about on the surface of the waters.

- **Prevailed, in the original, conveys the meaning "were overwhelmingly mighty!"** Not only would all land animals eventually drown, but the plant covering would be uprooted and rafted away, the soils eroded and finally even the mountains and hills washed away. In the sea depths, the eruption of the fountains of the great deep would also profoundly affect marine life. Great quantities of magma, metals and other materials were extruded from the earth's mantle. The sediments from the lands were transported down to be deposited

in the encroaching sea basins. Complex hydrodynamic phenomena—tsunamis, vortices, turbidity flows, cyclic erosion and deposition, and a variety of geomorphologic activity—took place throughout the year. Earth movements of great magnitude, and tremendous volcanic explosions shook the earth again and again, until finally, (2Pe 3:6) by which *the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.*

- **On the surface of the waters.** The occupants of the ark, unaware of the convulsions in the depths below, rode safely and in comparative comfort, steered by God's unseen hand away from the zones of hydrodynamic violence.

Gen 7:19 And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered.

- **On the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered.** The double superlative precludes the use of "all" in a relative sense here. The obvious intent of the writer was to describe a universal inundation. In fact, if The Flood were only a local flood, then God hasn't kept His promises!
- **The high hills, probably, weren't that high at that time.** Actually, if the earth were completely flat and if we didn't have these great canyons in the oceans, it would be covered by 6,000 feet of water! The mountains didn't have to be that high. God just lifted up a landmass on the first day of creation, and lifted the landmass out of the waters. But He didn't have to lift it that high. It was only after the flood that we find these huge mountain ranges; the Andes, the Himalayas, the High Sierras even, geologically they all testify of not having existed very long. In fact, in the Andes, high up into the Andes we have the terraces of the farms that go far beyond the timberline. They go right on up to the glacier ice. It is impossible that the Indians could have farmed that area if it were at that altitude that it is today. There is evidence that the upward thrusting has occurred in the last five thousand years or so.

Gen 7:20 The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward (at least 15 cubits to prevent the ark from touching the ground), **and the mountains were covered.**

- **mountains.** The words "high hills" and "mountains" are the same in the original Hebrew. The waters were 15 cubits (22.5 feet) above the highest mountains, patently including Mount Ararat, which is now thought to be nearly 17,000 feet high. In the "local-flood" theory, Mt. Ararat would have had the same elevation before and after the Flood, but it should be obvious that a 17,000-foot flood is not a *local* flood! This is probably fifteen cubits above the highest point of the landmass at that time.
- **Greater Ararat is the highest peak in Turkey** and the Armenian Highland with an elevation of **5,137 m** (16,854 ft); Little Ararat's elevation is 3,896 m (12,782 ft). The Ararat massif is about 22 miles wide at ground base.



Gen 7:21 And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man.

- **"All, every" that moved upon the earth.** "All flesh" died that moved on land. In a local flood, at least *most* of the animals (certainly all the birds!) would escape to higher ground.

Gen 7:22 All in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, all that was on the dry land, died.

- **The breath of life.** The "breath (Hebrew *neshamah*) of life" is clearly stated here to be a component of animal life as well as human life. Thus animals possess "spirit," but not the "image of God."

Gen 7:23 So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: both man (the very purpose of the flood) and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive.

- **So He destroyed all living things.** The rocks of the earth's crust now contain the fossil remains of unnumbered billions of plants and animals, buried in water-transported sediments which quickly became lithified. This "geologic column" has been grossly distorted by evolutionists into the record of an imagined three-billion-year history of evolution during the geological ages. Actually it represents the deposits of the cataclysmic Flood, with the fossil order primarily depicting the relative elevations of the habitats—and therefore the usual order of sedimentary burial in the Flood—of the organisms of the pre-Flood world. Many modern geologists are again admitting the necessity of catastrophic formation and burial to explain the

fossiliferous rocks in the geologic column. The reason why very few fossil men (also few fossilized flying birds) are found in the rocks is their high mobility and ability to escape burial in sediments. When eventually drowned, their bodies would remain on the surface until they decayed.

Gen 7:24 And the waters prevailed on the earth one hundred and fifty days.

- **The third emphasis is on the waters “prevailing.”** This highest intensity of flood action continued for five months. *(Gen 7:18,19,20,24) The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth, and the ark moved about on the surface of the waters. [19] And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered. [20] The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered. [24] And the waters prevailed on the earth one hundred and fifty days.* It was not until after this period that the “foundations of the deep” and the “windows of heaven” were shut.
- **The earth was covered with water for one hundred and fifty days.** During this time now, you’ve got all of this water on the earth. Now how do you get rid of the water? So again, you see it took the up thrust of these mountains and all to get rid of the water off the face of the earth. The water is still here. It didn’t just evaporate. It doesn’t just run off like it does now into the ocean. We may have a localized flood situation and it may get water everywhere, it ultimately runs off into the ocean, where again it evaporates and is carried by the clouds over the landmass, and we get the water cycle. Here with all of this extra water, everything being covered, there had to then be these upward thrusts of mountains. So the geological changes were taking place during the *one hundred and fifty days*, and probably even longer!

Noah’s Deliverance - The Flood Subsides

Gen 8:1 Then God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the animals that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters subsided.

- **Then God remembered Noah.** That isn’t to say that God forgot Noah and suddenly remembered, but that direct activity of God began again with him to directly intervene and guide him in his activities at this point.
- **God made a wind.** The uniform temperatures of the pre-Flood would have prevented the great atmospheric circulations that now prevail, so that significant wind movements were impossible. With the almost complete precipitation of the waters in the primeval canopy after 150 days, the present latitudinal temperature differentials were soon functioning to initiate tremendous winds over all the earth. These winds, blowing on a shoreless ocean, would certainly generate gigantic surface waves and tidal surges. The latter, superimposed on all the other hydrodynamic and geophysical forces at work, evidently served as the critical factor to trigger great tectonic forces that would eventually restore at least partial equilibrium to the disturbed surface of the earth. The earth’s crust was in a highly unstable condition, with the tremendous subterranean reservoirs now emptied of their pressurized waters and with vast depths of light sediments piling up in the antediluvian sea basins.
- **The waters subsided.** As a result of the water subsiding, the phenomena began to take place as described in *(Psa 104:6-9) You covered it with the deep as with a garment; The waters stood above the mountains. [7] At Your rebuke they fled; At the voice of Your thunder they hastened away. [8] They went up over the mountains; They went down into the valleys, To the place which You founded for them. [9] You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, That they may not return to cover the earth.* The earth’s crust collapsed deep into the previous subterranean reservoir chambers, forming the present ocean basins, and causing further extrusions of magmas around their peripheries and through openings in their floors. The light sediments in the sea troughs were forced upward by equal pressure readjustment to form mountain ranges and plateaus. Thus the waters originally stored in the vapor canopy and the subterranean chambers are now stored mainly in the present ocean basins (these waters would be sufficient to cover a “smoothed” earth to a depth of almost two miles) after the vast topographic adjustments, that terminated and followed the Flood.

Gen 8:2 The fountains of the deep and the windows of heaven were also stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained.

Gen 8:3 And the waters receded continually from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters decreased.

- **Waters receded continually.** This expression, to some degree, suggests a cyclic tidal action, but especially connotes rapid subsidence and drainage. It is significant that all the world’s oceans bear evidence (e.g., sea mounts, submarine canyons, etc.) of former lower levels and that all the world’s continental drainage systems (rivers, lakes) bear evidence of former higher water levels and quantities of

flow (e.g., old raised river terraces and lake beaches, vast alluvial valleys and “underfit” streams). These worldwide evidences clearly picture a world in the process of emerging from a recent global inundation.

Gen 8:4 Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat.

- **Why did the Holy Spirit want us to know this very date? In the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month!** This “resting” of the ark, after its labor of protecting its precious cargo against the terrible cataclysm for five long months, occurred exactly 150 days after the Flood began. How significant that is, **that on the anniversary of this date many years later, Jesus Christ rose from the dead!**
- **Noah’s new beginning occurred on the anniversary, in advance, of our new beginning from the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!** That is, the seventh month of the civil year used by the Jews (almost certainly the civil calendar used in the Flood narrative) was later set as the first month of their religious year (Exo 12:2) “This month shall be your beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you. The Passover was on the fourteenth day of the first month and Christ rose three days after the Passover! Thus, He “rested” in Joseph’s tomb and then rose from the dead on the seventeenth day of the seventh month of the civil calendar, **on the Feast of Firstfruits, the new beginning, that of resurrection and new life!** Wow!
- **On the mountains of Ararat.** “Ararat” in the Bible is the same as “Armenia.” The “mountains of Ararat” could apply to the entire region; however, the present Mount Ararat, 17,000 (some sources say 15,000) feet high, is the only logical site for the ark to rest. The ark landed the very day the waters began to subside. It was another 2½ months until the tops of nearby mountains could even be seen.
- **Furthermore, there have been many reported sightings of the ark, seemingly still preserved on an almost inaccessible ledge,** most of the time encased in the stationary ice cap near its summit. Though none of these reports are sufficiently documented to constitute proof, the very number and variety of them is at least intriguing evidence that the ark has been divinely preserved, awaiting God’s timing for its confirmed discovery and manifestation.
- **Mount Ararat is a volcanic mountain, formed evidently during the early months of the Flood year** (there were no volcanoes before the Flood). There is also considerable geological evidence that it was further uplifted sometime after the Flood, so that it may well have been much lower and easier of access during the years immediately following the Flood. That even the summit of Ararat was at one time under water, however, is evident both from the marine fossils that have been found there and the extensive pillow lavas (lavas formed under high hydrostatic pressure) which exist there.

Gen 8:5 And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month. In the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen.

- That is probably some of the lower hills.

Gen 8:6 So it came to pass, at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made.

Gen 8:7 Then he sent out a raven, which kept going to and fro until the waters had dried up from the earth.

Gen 8:8 He also sent out from himself a dove, to see if the waters had receded from the face of the ground. .

- A raven, a hardy flier and carrion eater, could survive indefinitely even before there was much dry land. The dove, however, required fresh plant material and dry ground.

Gen 8:9 But the dove found no resting place for the sole of her foot, and she returned into the ark to him, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her, and drew her into the ark to himself.

Gen 8:10 And he waited yet another seven days, and again he sent the dove out from the ark.

- The frequent references to “seven days” in the Flood account, indicates they were following a calendar based on seven-day weeks. Confined in the ark, the crew could not use the moon or stars for navigation or chronology, but could, of course, count days

Gen 8:11 Then the dove came to him in the evening, and behold, a freshly plucked olive leaf was in her mouth; and Noah knew that the waters had receded from the earth.

- We see the picture of the dove with the olive leaf, and it has become a symbol of peace.
- A freshly plucked olive leaf. The olive tree is extremely hardy and can grow and thrive on almost barren rocky slopes. The fresh olive leaf plucked by the dove proved the land was beginning to produce a vegetal cover and so would soon be ready to support its human and animal residents again. Both seeds and cuttings from pre-Flood plants were abundant in the sediments of the Flood and could grow again as soon as adequate sunlight and dry land were available. Experiments have shown that seeds of a wide variety of

plants will sprout even after many months of submergence in salt water. Actually the waters of the earth changed only gradually and slightly in salinity during the Flood, certainly not so much as to prevent the survival and multiplication of all kinds of plants and marine animals after the Flood.

Gen 8:12 *So he waited yet another seven days and sent out the dove, which did not return again to him anymore.*

Gen 8:13 *And it came to pass in the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, that the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and indeed the surface of the ground was dry.*

Gen 8:14 *And in the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dried.*

- So the extra ten days, from the seventeenth to the twenty-seventh. Though Noah saw the ground dry the first day of the first month, yet God would not allow him to go out of the ark till the twenty-seventh day of the second month. Perhaps Noah, being somewhat weary of his restraint, would have left the ark at first; but God, in kindness to him, ordered him to stay longer. God's timing is always perfect.
- We note that out of His love, God consults our benefit rather than our desires; for he knows what is good for us better than we do for ourselves, and how long our restraints should continue and desired mercies should be delayed. We would go out of the ark before the ground is dried: and perhaps, if the door be shut, are ready to remove the covering, and to climb up some other way; but we should be satisfied that God's time of showing mercy is certainly the best time, when the mercy is ripe for us and we are ready for it! **How am I in waiting for the Lord's perfect timing?**

Gen 8:15 *Then God spoke to Noah, saying,*

Gen 8:16 *"Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you.*

Gen 8:17 *Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you: birds and cattle and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth."*

- Noah was in the ark for 377 (some say 371 days) days (7 days before rain; 5 months rain, floating; 7 ½ months on the mountain, from second month, day 17 – (**Gen 7:11**); to second year, second month, day 27 (**Gen 8:14**) = (7+360+10) = 377days. Now they come out and God commands them to be fruitful and multiply upon the earth! This is a repetition of the Edenic command to the created animal kinds (**Gen 1:20,22**) Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens." [22] And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."
- In order to do this, they must migrate from Ararat, each finding its proper ecological niche in the drastically changed and widely varied environments of the post-diluvian world. During the Ice Age following the Flood, land bridges existed across the Bering Strait from Siberia to Alaska and down the Malaysian Strait into New Guinea, facilitating such migrations. Also, Noah's descendants certainly knew how to build and use boats, and some of the animals may well have been transported in this way, as well as on rafts of vegetation transported out to sea during river floods

Gen 8:18 *So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him.*

Gen 8:19 *Every animal, every creeping thing, every bird, and whatever creeps on the earth, according to their families, went out of the ark.*

- Every....Here it is again asserted, as clearly as could be expressed, that all the present land animals in the earth have descended from those on the ark!
- How different the world must have looked to Noah! The lands that once had teemed with animals and people and lush vegetation had been replaced by a desolate wilderness. The air which formerly was warm and gentle, now moved in stiff and sometimes violent winds. There was a chill on the mountain slope. Dark clouds rolling about the sky, which has once been perpetually and pleasantly bright, seemed to threaten more rains and a recurrence of flood conditions. At the same time, however, the earth had been purged of the wicked hordes that had made the physical beauty only a mockery, and God had granted a gracious opportunity for a new beginning for the children of Adam!

God's Covenant with Noah

Gen 8:20 *Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.*

- The first thing Noah did when he exited the ark! *He offered burnt offerings.* Noah thus sacrificed

what amounted to one-seventh of his flocks and herds of domestic animals, a real act of thanksgiving and faith on his part! The world was far more forbidding in aspect than when they had entered the ark: now rugged and desolate, cold and stormy, barren and silent. It had been purged and cleansed of its wicked and violent inhabitants, however, and God had preserved His remnant through the awful cataclysm, so this was a service of both great praise and earnest petition!

Gen 8:21 *And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma (consider the existence of the probable stench from the flood). Then the LORD said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.*

- **Noah, having descended from Adam, had a sinful nature. God recognizes and acknowledges** now the sinful nature of man. But even though man does have the sinful nature, God is going to make a way of redemption for sinful man! Recognizing that man's nature is sinful, that he has this tendency towards evil, that sinful nature, yet God declared that He will not destroy every living thing again, with a flood, as He had done!
- **That is, by the waters of a flood...the judgment that has come during the time of Jesus Christ will not be a total judgment and extermination of all that are upon the earth.** There is an indication in scripture that the judgment during the Great Tribulation, that will take place just prior to the return of Jesus will destroy at least two-thirds of the earth's inhabitants. He will bring the remaining remnant through. So, it won't be a total extermination as it was in Noah's day of those outside of the ark. There will be a slim possibility that a person could survive through the Great Tribulation period. It's not a possibility that I would want to gamble on.
- ***I will never again curse.*** The promise of God, given in response to Noah's sacrificial prayer of thanksgiving and intercession, is tremendous in scope! He would never again "curse the ground" with a worldwide curse as He had done following Adam's sin. The Edenic curse is still in effect, of course, but there would be no other. Noah had, indeed, brought "comfort" to the world concerning "the ground which the Lord had cursed" (**Gen 5:29**) *And he called his name Noah, saying, "This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD has cursed."*
- ***As I have done*** (with the Flood). Neither would God ever again bring a worldwide cataclysm to the earth as He had with the Flood.

Gen 8:22 *"While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night _."*

- **It is likely that they didn't have winter and summer prior to the flood.** That there was just a uniform temperature around the earth annually. It was just a beautiful, tropical climate everywhere, all year long. But now the earth is tilted at the 23 1/3 degrees giving us longer and shorter exposures to the direct rays of the sun, which gives us the summer and winter, also causing the polar ice caps from whence come the winds, storms, and the violent movement of the air currents. The vast areas of the north Arctic Circle, areas that are for the most part uninhabitable by man. These began to exist only after the flood. This is one of those subtle indications that more than just the breaking up of the fountains of the deep, and more than just the emptying of the canopy of water. There were probably other great catastrophes that were associated with this time of the flood of Noah, creating the elongated year of 365 days and creating the various seasons of winter and summer, *Seedtime, and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night shall not cease!*
- **This was God's covenant with Noah, God promised this was going to be! God always will, and must, keep His promises! As long as the earth remains.** Now the earth isn't going to remain forever. Heaven and earth is going to pass away Jesus said. But so long as the earth does remain, we're going to have our seasons. We're going to have our orbit around the sun. We're going to have *day and night; seedtime and harvest.* We're going to *have heat and cold.* Those things are going to exist as long as *the earth remains!*
- **Now a lot of interesting speculation can be entered into it at this point. I believe that when Jesus comes again to establish His kingdom,** that in the Great Tribulation period when a lot of the cataclysmic judgments of God are taking place, they are twofold. One, to judge the people upon the earth; but they are also to bring the earth back into its pre-flood, pre-judgment, condition! I believe that in the Kingdom Age you'll have conditions existing much as they did before the flood. There will be geographical and geological changes. Islands and mountains are going to disappear during the great judgment of God that is coming upon the earth. There will be new ocean floors, and I think God is going to sort of restore things back to the way they were before the flood, where the earth will just provide an ideal environment for man. Everywhere you go, will just be beautiful, lush paradise with the waterfalls. Remember, the Bible talks about the deserts will break forth and blossom like a rose and there will be streams in the deserts, rivers in dry places. God

speaks of a whole process that is going to take change during the Kingdom Age when Jesus is reigning upon the earth. So it will be an earth that is restored to the glory and the beauty of Eden! The glory and the beauty of the earth prior to its destruction by the flood during this Kingdom Age!

- **If you're interested in a scientific kind of a treatment of the flood**, I highly recommend the book by Henry Morrison and John Whitcomb, *The Genesis Flood*. It is a scientific treatment of this whole cataclysm that took place.

SUMMARY:

- **The Great Flood – It was a universal, world-wide flood!** (*Gen 7:4*) *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.*"
- **Noah's Deliverance –** (*Gen 7:1,16,19,23*) *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. [16] So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in. [19] And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered. [23] So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive.*
- **The Flood Subsides -** (*Gen 8:1,4,5,17-19*) *Then God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the animals that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters subsided. [4] Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat. [5] And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him. [17] Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you: birds and cattle and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." [18] So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him. [19] Every animal, every creeping thing, every bird, and whatever creeps on the earth, according to their families, went out of the ark.*
- **God's Covenant with Creation –** (*Gen 8:20-22*) *Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. [21] And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done (with the flood). [22] "While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease."*
- **Oh, let us praise the name of the LORD!**

CLOSING SONG:

O PRAISE THE NAME (ANÁSTASIS -RESURRECTION) Hillsong (3:46/3:49)

*I cast my mind to Calvary Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet, My Saviour on that cursed tree
His body bound and drenched in tears, They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone, Messiah still and all alone
(Refrain) O praise the name of the Lord our God O praise His name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise Oh Lord, oh Lord our God
And then on the third at break of dawn, The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting? The angels roar for Christ the King (Refrain)
He shall return in robes of white The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints, My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face (Refrain)
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God, Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

CLOSING PRAYER:

NEXT WEEK: Read and study Genesis Chapters 9 & 10!