

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE 10.23.22

The Flood and the Ark | Genesis 7

from the series, Worldview Matters: Studies in Genesis 1-11

MAIN IDEA: The ark of Christ is the sole place of safety.

Five Christ-centered observations:

1. The Lord instructs his people toward spiritual success (v. 1)

God has provided mankind with a window of opportunity to repent before facing the judgement. Noah is simultaneously building the ark and preaching repentance. There comes a time, however, when the window closes and God instructs his people to enter the ark. He who builds the ark also has to board the ark. Similarly, we must not just go to church, but put our faith in Christ. We do not just read the Bible; we also obey it. God directs his people toward spiritual success and provides for them. The instructions for the inclusion of various numbers and kinds of animals indicates that God was directing Noah in proper worship—there would be animals for sacrifice. This would be a boat that is ready to worship.

2. Families follow their fathers (v. 7, 13)

If Noah had not first boarded the ark, no one else would have either. The ark was built for a purpose—to board it—and Hebrews 11:7 further indicates that Noah built it for the saving of his household. Noah lived an exemplary life of leadership, but we don't stop with him. We follow Dad because we know who Dad's following—the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. True salvation is secure salvation (v. 16)

The world was going to be sandwiched by water. There had never been rain on the earth, but the canopy of water was going to open from above and the streams and fountains below the earth were going to burst forth and overflow. Noah was facing a deluge. But a way of salvation had been made: a huge boat with an open door and open invitation. This was a door no one could shut—but God. Once shut, it was entirely secure. The flood could not get in, and Noah and his family were in no danger of falling out. They may have stumbled in the ark, but they never stumbled off the ark. The same is true of our secure salvation (Eph. 1:13).

4. Death is defeated in Christ (v. 18)

The ark floated. Did Noah wonder if it was actually going to work? We also are facing a flood of judgement, and Jesus is the only way to safely float above the waters. Only Christ can walk on the waters of judgement in victory. He has defeated death. We just need to board the boat.

5. Only Christians go to heaven (v. 23)

Noah is a picture of those gathered around the throne. The church is afloat on the top of the waters—all of saved humanity in one ark. We see this imaged in the story of the apostles in the boat during the storm on the Sea of Galilee (Mark 4). Jesus is their captain, as he is ours. And we are safe.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what ways are Christ and the ark similar? How are both God's means of deliverance from judgement? (cf. 1 Peter 3:20-21).

2. How have you seen the fact that families follow fathers played out in your life or those around you?

3. How does the story of Noah and the ark reinforce the assurance of the security of our salvation?



COATS BAPTIST
C H U R C H