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Prepare For A Flood!
Genesis 6
4/18/2012

Let's open our Bibles tonight to Genesis chapter 6 as we continue our study through this wonderful book. We have seen creation in chapters 1 and 2 the fall of man in chapter 3 the two lineages of Cain and of Seth there in chapter 4 and 5 and we come tonight to the preparation for the flood and what led up to it. In fact we will be with the flood in the consequence of it all the way through chapter 11 or so.

Verse 1 Now it came to pass when men began to multiply on the face of the earth and daughters were born to them that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were beautiful and they took wives for themselves of all whom they have chose. And the Lord said My spirit shall not always strive with men forever for he is indeed flesh. His days shall be 120 years and they were giants on the earth in those days and also afterward when the sons of God came into the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old men renowned and the Lord saw the wickedness of man that it was great in the earth. And every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually and the Lord was sorry that He made man on the earth and He was grieved in His heart. And so the Lord said I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth both man and beast creep thing and bird in the air for I am sorry that I have made them but Noah found grace in the eyes of Lord.

Martin Luther who died in I believe in 1546 I think he was 63 years old but one of the last things that he publicly declared was that he was afraid he said here's his direct quote, "I'm afraid that our universities may prove to be the very gates of hell". It is certainly a place today when godless ideas and postulations and theories are floated along young men's and women's minds. And where Christian kids unfortunately are often challenged for their faith or sometimes even worse mocked openly being schooled if you will in more ways than one.

The concept of uniformitarianism is one of the most important unifying concepts of the geosigns as at least in a worldly sense. It was developed in the late 1700s it was suggested that catastrophic processes like the flood that we are going to be looking at in the next few weeks are not the explanations for the land forms that exist on the earth surfaces but they are instead caused by the consistent and continual and uniform gradual process of decay. So in other words the postulation of the uniformitarian guy is everything just continues as it was nothing has changed and if you want to learn how things are going just measure the rate and go back and you'll be able to see that this was developed. Now in the 1700s when this was first suggested it was absolutely and diametrically opposed to the beliefs of that time that it was a biblical creation, most folks believed that.

250 years later in 1832 a fellow named William Whewell he was a scholar from Cambridge presented this alternative explanation to the origins of the development of the earth at a time there at Cambridge when still the prevailing thought was that the earth was created through super means and it was affected through a series of catastrophic processes like the Bible speaks about. That's of course what we believe that belief is called catastrophism, we believe in a catastrophe. That's what God caused to fall upon in judgment of man it is also that which has changed the earth as we know it.

In 1785 James Hutton who was a Scottish geologist he belonged to the royal society of Edinburgh presented again this uniformitarian theory and said that you can interrupt the history of the earth in terms of processes and so we really didn't need a catastrophic view of the earth to be able to believe that and the weathering of the bedrock and all it just it requires a very older obviously millions of years old. But he said supernatural theories were not needed to explain geologic history. It is that very position in several forms that is still being taught today in most of our colleges. It is the explanation for what we see and what we know it sets aside the Bible. It is rooted in 300 plus years of foolish teachings by science falsely so called.

I think Peter must have been a prophet because he saw it coming. Here's what Peter wrote in 2 Peter chapter 3 knowing this first that scoffers will come in the last days walk according in their own lust and saying where is the promise that is coming since our fathers have fallen asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation. Uniformitarian first century language. For this they willing forget, Peter writes that by the word of God the heavens were of old and the earth standing out of the water and in the water and by which the world that then existed perished being flooded with water but the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by that same word are now preserved for fire until the judgment and the perdition of ungodly men. So in first century phraseology Peter says of uniformitarianism that's the outlook the scoffers will embrace in the last days.

There have been two major cataclysmic events in the history of the earth. The first one was creation. In six 24-hour periods, days, God created the heavens and earth. He created them fully mature. He created them fully functioning, it was very good in His sight. The second cataclysmic event that found the earth was a universal flood. That brought water upon the earth for 371 days and as we will learn in chapter 8 flooded above the highest mountain. Creation gave us the first earth. The flood gave us the 2nd one and it's the one that you and I know and its the one we live in and it's the one that we can record and investigate and look into and observe. But only a world wide flood can account for many of the phenomena that we see in our natural world today and obviously can explain the short time it may have taken to form the rift valleys and the gorgeous like the Grand Canyon that scientist would have you to believe took millions of years or a year of very violent water upheval that covered the earth and broke loose the vaults of waters under the ground.

You might remember most of you if you've been around for a while was it in 1980 that Mt. St. Helen exploded. And it's an interesting picture because there was 3 major eruptions and one of them shot ash at hurricane velocity out the side this mountain. It deposited over 25 feet thick sedimentary layers. Absolutely froze them in time. The 3rd eruption sent a lava flow that became a hot kind of mudflow as it crossed the Tuttle River. It not only diverted the river but it carved a 17 mile series of canyons that today they call the little grand canyon. Some of them 140 feet deep, it took place in 5 minutes, not a million years in 5 minutes you don't need a million years. In fact actually the 3 explosions took the total was almost 6 minutes. 150 square miles of forest was just knocked over.

There are if you look at a map today great inland seas on different continents of the world they didn't just happen to get there. The Caspian sea that borders Azerbaijan and Iran and Casitan and Russia and Turkmenistan it's the largest inland salt sea in the world. There is the Black Sea and others there in India and China and Russia. Even in the states we have that great basin that you can still recognize the shore line if you ever flown into Salt Lake City. And you're able to see the basin where one certainly that has receded the great salt lake the Bonneville Salt Flats. It was the largest inland sea in the western hemisphere and it used to be called Lake Bonneville it was that large. You can't have that without a flood. You can't bring that much volume of salt water inland without something taking place.

So you have to decide for yourself what was, was all of the myth the sedimentary strata that we see laid down by a single world wide deluge, a short amount of time, or you take the uniformitarian position of evolution and say everything you see was subject to slow change acting over eons of T-I-M-E time. And then the associated geological time charts with its millions and billions and quad zillions of years is that more accurate.

One of the strongest evidences of a world wide flood is the existence fossils called polystrates. Polystrate fossils are those who are of a single organism such as a tree trunk that finds itself planted vertically rather than horizontally through more than one geological stratum and sometimes it goes through multiple ones. It goes through sandstone and limestone and shale and even coal bed. Some of the trees they found vertically 80 feet tall, it just messes up the whole idea doesn't help anyone does it. Hard to explain those cross strata trees. And then there's the issue of fossils themselves, if you follow the uniformitarian college view today there is no way that we are forming fossils today. They don't create themselves on the bottom of lakes, they aren't found in the bottom of the sea. They are only formed when a plant or an animal is buried quickly. It not only does it die rapidly but it's buried by tremendous force that presses it into a sediment permanently and sets it. So the fossils themselves the fact that there are any of them suggest that there has to be a catastrophic volcanic eruption a flood that took place in the past.

I don't know if you've ever looked into it there's some really interesting studies about the erratic boulders and these rocks that are found in Europe and North America. Extremely large, transported over miles from who knows where sometimes and ending up in

places where they don't belong, that only a massive flood among the continents might have done. There's a 90 x 40 x 38 foot rock in Conway New Hampshire it weights I think 10,000 tons, it doesn't belong there, not attached to anything, it just showed up, where did that come from? I don't know but it's like a large cargo ship. There's a place called the Mohegan Rock in Montville Connecticut and there's a place in Warren County Ohio that they have these huge quarter of an acre rocks, they're not attached to nothing they just kind of rolled in one day, pretty interesting.

And in our own world history, nearly every civilization that has recorded history tells of a flood. Which is an interesting concept isn't it. The Aztecs have it, the Cherokees have it the aborigines have it the Lolos in China have it the Neueu in Hawaii all the way to the most famous, the Gilgamesh epic which is what the Babylon flood account. All of the tribes and people that have recorded history speak of a flood, I guess they're all made up. Now of all the 35 largest civilizations that recorded the destruction by water 18 of the 35 that we have copies of spoke of God being in it in wrath. 17 of the 35 said that the people who were suffering as a result of the flood had been warned by this God. 24 of them out of the 35 say that animals were spared from the judgment. 32 out of 35 said that there was a vessel used to spare some people. And all 35 said that a human family was set apart and favored by God all 35. Peter says of this they are willing ignorant I agree, I agree.

So it is such an impressive important story that it has been told and retold from its source over time garbled and changed by culture but tonight we get to read about the source. It's recorded in world history, it's in the record of nations but God records this for us a world wide flood brought by almighty God. Now we've read verses 1 thru 8 lets go back and look at them a little bit more carefully. And here's what I'd like to do, you might want to write if you're taking notes Matthew 24 verses 36-42 where Jesus said to those who were sitting before Him of that day an hour no one knows not even the angels of heaven but my Father only but as it was in the days of Noah so also shall it be in the coming of the Son of Man. As in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking marrying and giving in marriage until that day that Noah entered the ark. Didn't know until the flood came to take them all away so also will the coming of the Son of Man, be then two men will be in the field and one will be taken the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill one taken the other left. You watch therefore you don't know what hour your Lord is coming.

There are similarities that we should be able to find between Noah's day and what brought the flood the judgment of God and our day the last days when the taking of the church will again bring the judgment of God upon the whole world. Now notice here's the first point and its in verse 1 there was an increase in population. Now it came to pass when men became to multiply on the face of the earth and daughters were born to them we can not be sure how far back in the history of events these verses went but there was a population explosion.

There have been lots of good research done folks that were very conservative others who are not so much so to look to see how many people might have been alive at the

time of the flood. We mentioned to you a book a couple of weeks ago if you haven't gotten it I think you really should get it it's called the Genesis Flood. It is written by John Whitcomb and Henry Morris, two PhDs one scientist one a theologian. Its 518 pages long its big it isn't casual reading but its great reading. If you're interested in the flood, fossils all that we've been studying, it's one that you should have in your library. Well he, Henry Morris and John Whitcomb took the genealogical records of Genesis 5 and other places and they used a simple formula of averaging life span and childbearing years. And can you imagine living 900 years and having children grand kids, great grandkids, great great great, you'd probably live so long you couldn't afford to have them anymore, there's so many of them. They very conservatively took 18 generations came to 775 I think million people over a billion people on the earth at the time of flood. But that's an extremely conservative view point because they only assigned 4 children to every family. Probably more than that, but they didn't want anybody to go hey you're a bunch of exaggerators.

If you went to what would be normal in those days you could easily come to over 4 billion people upon the earth during 1656 years from Adam the fall of man to the flood. So there was a population explosion. Now how long after the flood did it take for us to come back to a billion people? Let's say there were 4 billion in all of 1656 years. Made simple by the fact that men lived so long they averaged 910 years according to all that we were given. So how long did it take for us to get to a billion? It took us till 1804. 1804 just a couple of hundred years ago; it took 123 years after that 1927 to get to 2 billion; but it only took 33 years after that to get to 3, 1960; and then it only took 14 years to 1974 to get to 4 billion; only 13 years 1987 to get to 5; 11 years 1998 to get to 6; and we hit 7 either in December or January or last year December or this year January depending on who you believe or who's counting or what formula they're using, but we're at 7 billion now. In just a matter of 200 years we've added 6 billion, there was a population explosion as it was in the days of Noah. And the estimate is if the Lord will carry until 2093 the earth will have 11 ½ billion people upon it. So lots of people living on this little globe of dust floating in space. How significant will we realize that in Noah's days so many folks and he walked with God and was sent to them to speak of God's mercy and grace and judgment to come. Sounds a lot like the church doesn't it, out numbered by comparison for sure.

Second of all there was tremendous demonic activity and sexual perversion in those days. Notice in verse 2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men they were beautiful they took wives for themselves of all that they chose and the Lord said my spirit shall not strive with man forever he's an indeed flesh. It should be 120 years and there were giants on earth in those days and afterwards when the sons of God came into the daughters of men and bore children to them mighty men who are of old men of renowned. An event took place during this time that warranted the destruction of all but a few the great apostasy the sexual liaison was found between demons and men. Creating a race of giants or the word is Nephilim it means fallen ones and God declared here that he would not allow this go on much longer.

In fact 120 years from this point the flood would come and man's lifespan would change because of the change of the climate. It hadn't rained we talked about that water envelope we'll talk more about that next week. His average lifespan went from 910 years to a little less than 120. By the time that David comes around in 1000 B.C. the average lifespan is 70 to 80. It hasn't changed much since in developed countries it's about 70 to 80 sometimes its 82 sometimes its 75 but in that same kind of category.

Now granted this verse is a difficult verse to unravel. Let me tell you the two teachings that are prevalent when it comes to interrupting this verse. The first one I've told you, fallen angels cohabiting with men creating this freakish race of giants or Nephilim. The second is that the Godly line of Seth we have studied that. Somehow married with the ungodly line of Cain the sons of God with the daughters of men. I don't find any support for that, I find tremendous support for the first. Every time that the term sons of God is found in the Old Testament, Ben Elohim it speaks of angels, every time that that little phrase is used. In further support of that understanding when the Septuagint came out the Septuagint is the Old Testament Greek translation of the Hebrew, it came out in about 250 B.C. or so. It took the term sons of God and it replaced it with the word angels. That's the way they understood it. Twice here in Genesis chapter 6; 3 times there in Job chapter 1, chapter 2, and I think chapter 38. All of them speak of angels every time you read. And the New Testament writers were apparently aware of it as well.

Here's what Jude wrote in his little letter since there's only one chapter verse 6 and 7 and the angels who did not keep their proper domain but left their own abode He has reserved an everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of that great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrah in the cities around them in a similar matter to these had given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh and are set forth an example suffering the vengeance of eternal fires. So Jude writes of angels leaving their proper place comparing them to going after strange flesh much like the sexual perversion that was found in Sodom and Gomorrah and then saying of them they are locked away they are in everlasting chains. The word there is traitorous it's the only place that's used in the Bible. Some other place where God took these angels who left their first domain cohabited with men creating a race of Nephilim and God places them under chains to be held.

Peter writes this by coventessness they will exploit you with deceptive words for a long time. Their judgment has not been idol and their destruction does not slumber for if God did not spare the angels who sinned and cast them down to hell and deliver them into chains of darkness reserved for judgment and He did not spare the ancient world but saved Noah one of 8 people a preacher of righteousness bringing a flood on the world of the ungodly. And Peter places the judgment of these angels in the time of the flood of Noah, compares the 2 as 1.

One extra biblical support is found in the pseudepigraphal, it's a big word, it literally means a book that it is not written by the person whose name is on it. But there's a pseudepigraphal book called the book of Enoch you can get it at the library if you'd like.

But it tells that in the days of Noah the angels the children of heaven saw human women and lusted after them married them had children with them. Now that's a very old book, not biblical so you don't have to put that kind of biblical stamp on it but it supports that which clearly the Bible teaches.

The perversion brought God's impending judgment repent now for the flood is coming. God will not always strive with man and he would be given 120 years and that was really the amount of time from this time forward until we get to chapter 7 verse 1. And we begin to read about the flood that is to come when the Lord takes Noah into the ark says in a week it's going rain, so 120 years. The idea of the mixture of the two lines the sons of God and the Cain's descendents, Seth's descendents creating giants hardly fits the fact but demonic activity warranted drastic measures. Look Satan's attempt to frustrate the promise of God to have the seed of a woman bruising His head started there in the garden at the fall and has continued ever since. The days of Noah are characterized by this increase of demonic activity and perversion that is contrary to everything that God had given to Adam and Eve. Noah will preach he will build he'll be the last call, turn and repent come to the Lord or else the flood.

Notice in verse 4 that these Nephilim or giants gained a reputation as being mighty men of renowned. Powerful mighty opposed to God and His ways. And the enemy has always sought to stop his impending doom by rebellion. And we mentioned last week to you that book *The Invisible War* written by Barnhouse but he tracks through the Bible how Satan took a threat from God but it was a sure promise to us it's going to bruise your head, you're going to be wiped out. This Messiah that's coming how Satan went all right if that's a threat I'm going to fight back. And how we began through the scriptures to fight back when it was revealed that the Messiah would come through Abraham's seed there in Genesis 12:3. It wasn't long before Pharaoh sought to destroy all of the male descendants there in Egypt in Exodus chapter 1. When the Messiah was found out to come from the tribe of Judah 10 tribes almost immediately stood against her; when there was attack on Israel during the time of Esther the plan was to exterminate all of the Jews; when Harrod heard that the days of Jesus was at hand he sought to destroy all of the newborn. Satan just at every turn seeks to oppose and here as men and women began to increase as the population began to increase the enemy began to work as well. So not only an increase in population but a definite increase in sexual perversion and demonic activity would take place.

And thirdly there was a tremendous increase in wickedness among men. Verse 5 says then the Lord saw the wickedness of man that it was great in the earth had every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. So polluted were they that God could not find a good thought. Can you imagine a world filled with people thinking only things that God would not be pleased with. And here's the Lord's insight to us of the antediluvian mind the one before the flood. Here's what God saw in men's thoughts this is what drilled men's heart.

The word wickedness, raw in Hebrew means malignant. It's a word that speaks of something going from bad to worse. The word intent, the intent of his heart is the Greek

word for pottery, sorry the Hebrew word for pottery. So it speaks of fashioning your thoughts in such a way and your philosophy of life you create in your own mind how bad could it possibly go and that man in that condition upon the earth was just loving sin. And then there was all that demonic activity and then the population began to grow. That the wickedness was headed in the wrong the direction and God's love was scorned.

Notice in verse 6 that the Lord was sorry that He made man. It grieved His heart it's a precious verse isn't it. I mean God doesn't have to tell you this He could just say I've had enough and we'd go alright He had enough but what He says is it broke My heart, it broke My heart. And grieving is a word of love it reveals the love of God. And most men were taking the wrong choice and they were headed for destruction and it broke God's heart wasn't His intention, not His intention for you either that you would be lost. God is not some aloof God who wound up the universe and walked away. He made us to have fellowship with us He's actively involved with us He loves us and wants to know that we love Him. He wants to find those who would seek Him but not now not here. And so verse 7 is that fatal line drawn between the mercy of God and the righteousness of God or is indignation the line is crossed. The race is doomed the flood will come and all would be lost. I'm sorry that I made them, and then there is that one but. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. This seems to be a perfect place to break your English teacher's heart start a sentence with a negative conjunction but not supposed to that you get points taken off. But in the midst of this population explosion this demonic activity this sexual perversion and this increase in wickedness there stood a man. And there stood a family who loved God and found grace in His sight.

What a contrast and if you read through the Bible God always seems to have His people, doesn't He? He has Noah, He finds Moses, He has Joseph, He takes Samuel, He raises up Elijah, He's got His hand on Daniel. And while the world is crumbling there are always those who stand in faith. So there's Noah and by the way there's a great law of hermeneutics biblical exposition that says whenever you find a word used for the first time in the Bible let that be the primary definition and make all of your definitions follow that first usage. This is the first time you find the word grace in the Bible. That unmerited favor from God. This is forgiveness from God and mercy from God. Noah was a sinner mind you so was his family but he was not touched by, moved by, or drawn in with that which he finds in the world, he stood apart, he stood in faith, he stood alone.

Verse 9 says this is a genealogy of Noah who was a just man. Perfect in his generation Noah walked with God. The word just or righteous man the word tamin is perfect it means he was overflowing with moral integrity or complete in, his faith translated if you will into behavior and in his generation he walked with God. He walked with God, don't you love it? Doesn't that give you hope? I mean the church is pretty meline all around the world not so much in the west although you're pretty much discounted these days. But you know when you get to 2 Chronicles 16 and you say the eyes of the Lord run to and forth throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose hearts are loyal to Him. He found Noah. Isn't it good that He finds you? I mean you have a work to do you got to cry the Lord's coming.

It was pretty foolish or it looked foolish in Noah's day looks foolish today but God will do what God says. And Hebrews tells us in Chapter 11 verse 7 that by faith Noah being divinely warned of things not seen as yet because it had never rained he moved with fear, Godly fear, he prepared an ark to the saving of his house by which he condemned the world. He became an era of righteousness which comes by faith. So in the midst of that kind of world was a man who evidenced his faith by his works. He built an ark at God's commands; Abel showed his faith in worship he worshipped in the way God prescribed; Enoch showed his faith in daily living and preaching he preached about the coming of the Lord; Noah by his words and his works. You got to answer that, there is a difference, it's alright don't worry I've done or actually I haven't done it but I will one day.

There is a difference between reputation and character. Reputation is what people think you are, what they see of you on the outside, character is what you really are. Noah was the same, his character and his reputation were on the same line. I heard a story a while back of a preacher who was asked to do a funeral for a fellow he didn't know and when he got up on the pulpit he began to speak real kindly of this man and he kind of went overboard and complementing him and in the front row sat his wife who began to look more and more chagrin and she finally said to her son, Honey get up and look in that casket and make sure that's your father. Not with Noah. Noah walked with God in grace and would save his own.

Now the word generation you see it here, the word generation means walking in a circle. It literally means completing the circle if you will and the life of Noah was centered upon the Lord and the world was not. He walked with God like Enoch's his grandfather. He was fruitful, verse 10 he had 3 children, Shem, Ham, Japheth. Those are probably not names you need to put in your possible names for your children book there's better ones in the scriptures. Three sons doesn't sound like much in those days but by them the world would continue as would the plan of God. And we're going to see these boys especially in chapter 10 when we spend a whole week looking at how did all of our nations come to be and who started them and who belongs to whom. And there's some interesting things to learn if you like that kind of stuff man it will fill in a lot of the blanks for you, chapter 10 this book of beginnings.

Verse 11 the earth was also corrupt before God the earth was filled with violence and God looked upon the earth and indeed it was corrupt and all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. Here's another characteristic as it was in the days of Noah violence filled the earth. Now we've seen little of it so far in our reading. We've seen that Cain killed Abel the first human murder. We had recorded that Lamech who killed a young man for injuring him there I think in chapter 4 of the line of Cain. By this time murder is an epidemic it is survival of the fittest it is violence everywhere. Last year there were in the United States roughly 20,000 murders or 1 about every 25 minutes and that's the good news. The bad news is that's as good as its been in a long time, we're making progress. So rampant and unending as it was in the days of Noah violence everywhere and God saw the corruption.

Verse 13 and God said to Noah the end of all flesh has come before Me for the earth is filled with violence through them and behold I will destroy them with the earth. Now the Lord speaks to His servant Noah and He speaks to Him of the end. Notice I'm going to make an end of all flesh. The word comes from a root Hebrew word that means to cut off. God had reached the limit of His patience. Go back to verse 3 but reveal to Noah a way of escape that He would provide even in His wrath for the Lord is merciful. So I'm going to make a judgment but here's how I'm going to deliver you.

Verse 14 make yourself an ark of gopher wood, make rooms in the ark and cover it inside and outside with pitch. And this is how you shall make it: the length of the ark shall be 300 cubits, it's width 50 cubits, its height 30 cubits. You shall make a window for the ark. You shall finish it a cubit from above and set the door of the ark on its side and you shall make it with a lower and a second and a third deck. Make rooms in the ark. The word by the way rooms is literally the word in Hebrew for nests. So God begins now to give Noah, and I'm never going to say Moses again I've got this all worked out now in my head, directions on how to build this boat that would save him and his family from the world wide flood that would come upon the earth for a year. So he's to make this wooden boat. He's to cover it inside and out with pitch that would make it water resistance and seal the wood. By the way pitch in the Old Testament is the same word for atonement, interesting word, cofar.

The ark had a window in fact it had a large window all the way around 18 inches long at the top which would have been needed for the smell I would think; and the air and maybe for the rain water for fresh water and then it had a door in it as well. Noah was in charge of the window God was in charge of the door apparently. He gives to Noah this blueprint for building and I want you to put yourself in Noah's shoes for a minute. Noah had never done one of these things. In fact no one had built a boat so he needed all of the council certainly that he could get. This was a huge undertaking Noah knew nothing about buoyancy. He hadn't gone to school to learn Archimedes principle about any object wholly or partially emerged in fluid as buoyed or floated up by the force by the weight of the fluid is placed, you can make it float better if you hollow out, he didn't know anything about that, he's Noah. He didn't like where he's living keeping his family close. He doesn't understand any of that stuff but God sends the plans to Noah.

A cubit is roughly 18 inches or so it is the distance from your elbow to the end of your fingers. A span in the Bible is usually that what crosses over your hand from the little finger to the tip of the thumb. So a cubit is roughly a foot and a half so the ark was going to be 450 feet long or about 1-1/2 football fields long, 75 feet wide, 45 feet high, 3 stories according to what the Lord tells him. So that if you just write those things down and take a look at them the volume of the ark would have been 1.4 million cubit feet. Well that maybe means nothing to you lets put it this way you could put 522 cattle cars of a train in there 522, and each of these cattle cars could hold 240 sheep. So if you were just bringing sheep and you loaded the thing up you could have 125,000 sheep in there. Now it is estimated and again minds greater than mine that they were roughly 17-1/2 thousand different species of animals that would have needed to be there to survey many of which could have surveyed in the floods of the water.

Two times for the unclean 7 of the clean animals some for sacrifice to survey and all and than all of the food that would feed all of these animals for 371 days. It would have been the largest vessel ever built until the late 1800s just by comparison. We didn't build anything this big until we started building metal ships. And the ratios that you find in God's direction to Noah, were the most stable platforms to this day for rough seas. It would have been nearly impossible to flip this thing upside down. It is that stable, would it have been a good ride oh I don't think so. Would Noah have to get sea legs oh I hope so cause I don't do well on boats and if you're sick on a boat you'll make God any kind of promise in the world, please God I swear...right. So I don't know what this poor man went through with all that noise and smell oh my goodness I could only imagine, but he's safe, he's in.

Many military ships show similar size in ratio. That whole dreadnought line of battle ships that were built in England during the war closely resemble this size and this shape and this proportion. And so Noah was to build this ark as an offer of escape and then offer it as a way of escape to a violent world that the wrath of God was coming, sound like you and I still, in many ways. And the ark was made of gopher wood, gopher wood is cypress wood. From which most ancient folks built if they could get a hold of it they made coffins out of cypress wood. If you got St. Peters in Rome yeah the gates of St. Peters in Rome they show signs of decay but they've been there for a long time. Cypress wood goes very well.

So Noah carries 7 pairs of clean animals on one pair of unclean, and like I said he wouldn't have to take any birds or fish. It is my personal option the dinosaurs died in the flood. I think they would have been too destructive to carry on but that they existed with man the fossil records absolutely verify. I don't care what the American Museum of Natural History tells you, they died 10 billion years before man no they didn't, not according to science if they want to be scientific. And verse 20 tells us that they will come to you to keep them alive so God would bring these animals to Noah. Noah would have to get the food together, God would bring the animals. The window, verse 16 was like I said 18 inches tall all around the top of the third deck and it would be good for ventilation and for I think for getting water I suspect.

Verse 17 and behold the Lord said I myself am bringing flood waters on the earth to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life and everything that is on the earth will die. But I will establish my covenant with you and you shall go into the ark. You and your sons your wife and your sons wives with you and with everything living thing of all flesh. Bring 2 of the every sort into the ark. To keep them alive they shall be male and female; of the birds after their kind; of animals after their kind; of every creepy thing of earth after its kind. Two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive. We'll read a little bit later on of the 7 and all of the clean.

And you shall take for yourself of all the food that is to be eaten and you shall gather it for yourself and there shall be food for you and for them. And thus did Noah according to all that God commanded him, so he did. So survival of the species, they come in twos

they come in male and female, how about that, they survived. They came after their kind, Noah wouldn't have to go catch them but he would have to gather food.

Hebrews 11:7 tells us that once Noah got these instructions he acted in faith. He believed what God said. He was moved with a Godly fear. He went to work on something that he didn't understand, that he had never built. He had no experience, his action came by faith. He began to do what God says and he builds this wilderness in the Mesopotamia Valley or that place between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers miles away from any ocean, miles away from any river, absurd, or is, or is it? It brought great curiosity no doubt from his generation. He would build for a 120 years searching for wood yelling at his kids come on get to work. He had to build while he was mocked by his peers while one year rolled into 5 rolled into 25 rolled into 50. Ever stick with something that long I don't think I could, but he did. And there wasn't any like rain drops keep falling on my head there's nothing. God hadn't upset the environment it was still the same as it always was.

He was I'm sure discouraged from time to time I don't know if he looked for a few clouds to be encouraged by but the people of his generation had a preacher to listen to and an ark to watch and God's long suffering to be able to repent, that's what they were given 120 years. There is not one record in our scripture recount of anyone joining Noah, not one. Not even that when the rains began to fall that there was anyone knocking on the door that had changed his mind. Which brings me to one final point about the days of Noah. In the days of Noah there was unheeded preaching. No one was listening. The fruit didn't fall off the vine.

I remember when I got saved that it wouldn't be unusual to see 200 people get saved at the service. We would show the movie "A Thief in the Night", it's not exactly a good movie, production wise. Did you get saved there? It was good for you. But we used to show it. I did the movies at Downey Calvary for years when we were really small. Calvary Downey when I was there we started when there was 25 people there. So we would have movies on Friday night and the Thief in the Night, God just put His hand on this whole series of end time movies, poorly acted, just, you just go I'm sorry. And God would...whoosh, the message came across and I remember showing the movie and getting up and saying well the movie ran late and look I just want to give you a chance to get saved. Without hardly preaching anything I had 250 people come forward. You don't see that as much any more. You don't see those kind of, oh you see them at crusades but you're also bringing 50 or 60 thousand people to sit down together, and you're bringing 5 or 6 thousand counselors forward with them. You're having to separate the sheep from the goats.

But on a percentage basis salvations comes much slower now than they did 30 years ago, 50 years ago. There's something about the warfare that's gone on. Now we see honestly 500 to 1000 people get saved here every year but that's not many by comparison. There's billions, billions that God wants to reach. So interesting picture that in the days of Noah, Noah preached everyday. He preached with his actions, he preached with his words, he preached with his behavior, he preached with his boat. He

had the word of God he and the hand of God and the authority of God and he was unheeded. And unfortunately even as it was in the days of Jeremiah before the judgment people just, there comes a time when they stop listening and the judgment falls and they stop hearing. So we live in a great and exciting time, we live on a time when the Lord could come back now but one of the characteristics of that day is there tends to be that hardness of heart where folks are not as readily or willing to come forward as they might have been, unheeded preaching.

Let me leave you with this before we close for tonight, the ark is a picture certainly in the Bible of our salvation. It's a symbol of salvation it was invented by God. It was the only way to be saved from judgment. No other way would have worked. If you would have said I don't believe in the ark, I believe I can tread water, I'm a good swimmer, in high school they called me Tarzan, it wouldn't have worked. Enoch is a picture in the Bible of the church. Saved from the judgment to come by the rapture, Enoch lived with God and then the Lord took him because he walked with God. Noah is really a picture of the remnant of Israel whom God will keep through the great tribulation. His hand upon them protecting them from His judgment and from the enemy who will seek to destroy Him and one day a third cataclysm event is coming. We've had creation, we have the flood and then after all is said and done we'll have a New Heaven and a New Earth.

But God has a way out and if you don't know Jesus He has a way out for you. Now you can mock, oh the Lord is coming, you Christians. I tell you so far God's hit 1000, every time He's up to bat it's out of the park man. He hasn't missed one word of His good word He has not failed. Things written a 1000 years earlier absolutely come to pass with absolute finite precision. In the days of Noah, population explosion, demonic activity, sexual perversion, increase in wickedness. Violence that was uncontrollable and a world that would not heed the preaching of the gospel, so shall it be in the days of the Son of Man. So look you have a great opportunity if you're not a Christian tonight to get saved. And you may be the exception often times, you may be the one guy that's going to come and say yeah I want to get right with God. But God's still patiently waiting. My spirit will not always strive with man. You only have a certain amount of chance to live. They had 120 years they lived 900 years, you have 70 or 80 years if you live to be 70 or 80 if the Lord so determines that that's going to be your life.

Tonight you have an opportunity to say yes to Christ who was sent by the Father to crush the head of the serpent. To redeem man from the sinfulness that he entered into when he decided to step away from God's ways. He brings us back what sin looks to destroy Jesus comes to fix. He's the Saviour, He's the one that's promised, He's the Messiah. In fact I think I've told you if you've been with us at all the Bible is not written to give you all of the answers but just the only answers. God writes with prejudice He's got an agenda. We will go through the flood and as soon as man begins to populate and repopulate the earth the Lord will say well here's Japheth's children and here's Ham's children and there they go and here Shem. We want to talk about him because through him Jesus is going to come. And he's quickly wants to get us to Shem to get us to Nahor so he can get to Tara so we can get to Abraham so we can get to David so we can get to Jesus. Because God's only interested in one thing. It's good for you to know

stories in the Bible it's good to know origins and beginnings and thank the Lord He gives us lots to know but it doesn't help us unless we get to Jesus for whom the book was written that's the prejudice that's the slam. God has an agenda He wants to get you saved.

If you can confess your sins and say Lord I'm a sinner thank you for letting Jesus die on the cross thank you that He gave his life for me thank you that He stood in my place and because I get to go to heaven, not because I'm any good but because He is; not because I'm worth it but He is; not because I've earned it; but He has, and God so loved you He sent Jesus. So tonight you get a chance to get saved. Tonight you can repent and get on the ark so to speak because the ark for you is Jesus. He's the Savior of the world, He's the atonement, He's your covering. Or you could just walk away and shake your head I'll try it on my own and unfortunately one day you're going to find out that God is right and you are not. But don't blame Him. He wants to set you free. He wants to save you in the worst way. I suspect that's why He brought you to church tonight the middle of the week of all things you're not even here on a Sunday, you're here on Wednesday must be a miracle.