

Genesis 6:9-22 – Judgment on the Godless, Rescue of the Godly

TSK, Henry, Pulpit, Whyttock, Poole, Gill, HebrewLexicon, Geneva, Calvin, Delitzsch, Sailhamer, Barnes, Clarke, Handfuls, Eclectic Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: I heard recently a famous actor named Morgan Freeman saying in a movie that the story of Noah was **a love story about believing in each other**. And he defended his statement by saying the animals willingly showed up in pairs and stood side by side. **Morgan Freeman is spreading lies**. In truth, there were **7 of the clean animals** and some had to **be sacrificed**. More, the **whole world died in judgment**. Even **all land and air animals died as collateral damage**. So this was definitely not a love story about how humans love each other or how animals love each other. So what was this story really about? Hear about this today.

Our headings are:

The Godless are judged

The Godly are justified

Our goals are: **That you will see how God preserves his covenant children for his glory and how punishes the wicked who stand in the way of his glory.**

The Godless are judged

8 But **Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD**. 9 This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, **perfect in his generations**. **Noah walked with God**. 10 And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

1. Noah, whose name means “rest,” rested in the Lord and remained faithful to God throughout his life – for more than 900 years.

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Noah did not have a generic belief in generic god...**but he had real faith in a real Jesus, the only Redeemer.**

One man said Noah was one beautiful flower living on the top of a manure pile. He stood out for the world to see!

Noah had a pattern of obedience, according to our text: Noah was just. Noah was perfect. Noah walked with God. (“Perfect” does not mean “to be without sin.” It means to have faithful obedience.) He didn’t stray to the left or right.

Noah had a very long pattern of perfect obedience: “Perfect throughout his “generations” – many generations!

Noah didn’t argue: “Everyone is living for the flesh, why can’t I?” He stayed on the “straight and narrow.”

2. Noah also had 3 sons and they were faithful, mostly.

Noah and his sons each had one wife, in a time of polygamy.

Noah’s family stood by his side for 120 years while he accomplished nothing of “earthly value,” and they helped him.

(There was no rain, but he was making a boat.) Can you imagine a wife today seeing her husband spending so much time on something that was seemingly so useless? **They were mocked, but they remained faithful to their God-given task.**

3. Noah was not just a fine example for others to follow, he was also a type of the Savior Jesus Christ.

He was **mocked and hated without cause**. Many **thought his work was useless**. He **went to his own but his own did not receive him**. But Noah continued to work for the **deliverance of the godly from the coming judgment!**

11**The earth also was corrupt before God**, and the earth was **filled with violence**. 12 So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; **for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth**. 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**.

4. The other people on earth (apart from Noah’s family) were corrupt.

This corruption is clearly seen when you looked through the eyes of God.

a. There was no worship of the true God. This was the worst corruption of all. Law 1-4. This always leads to great troubles.

b. There was violence toward their fellow men. They were violent robbers.

c. There was living for the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

5. And yet, even to a wicked world, God provided Noah to preach...and God showed patience to the wicked (1Peter 3:20).

Judgment was not immediate. There was time to repent.

6. Lessons:

a. Expect mocking from the world when you are faithful to the Lord. Mocking might come from your wife, husband, children, friends, parents, or in-laws. Yes, mocking hurts, but it is normal. They might mock how you submit to your husband. They may mock how you raise and teach your children. They might mock you for living a pure life.

b. Keep faithful when you are mocked, and even when there is no sympathetic ear. Keep preaching. Keep praying for hearts to be changed. **Don’t act as a Roman when in Rome. Remain a Christian in Rome.** Don’t complain.

c. You are able to remain faithful because you have found grace in Jesus. He makes you strong to face opposition.

d. There are many in the world who have concluded the way the world is going is fine. They don't see moral problems in society. They feel free to change God's laws – like our politicians redefining what marriage is, for instance. **God will judge.**

e. There are members in some churches who think the world is going fine also. These don't change God's laws, but they simply reinterpret them. (One study shows up to 70% of women killing their babies in the US say they are Protestant Christians.) Others argue the Sabbath is fulfilled, so they don't have to obey it today. Others say murder is wrong, but argue capital punishment for murder is wrong. Others admit theft is wrong, but they want the government to take more from the rich and give to them. Others say honoring fathers is correct, but they oppose parental discipline of children. **God will judge.**

f. Expect more severe judgment to come on the world because now the world has less excuse for sinning than in the days of Noah...with more knowledge of what is wrong...and more knowledge of the consequences of sins.

Godly are justified

14 "**Make yourself an ark of gopherwood**; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch. 15 "**And this is how you shall make it:** The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. 16 "You shall make a window for the ark, and you shall finish it to a cubit from above; and set the door of the ark in its side. You shall make it with lower, second, and third decks.

1. God directed Noah to build a very large ark – the largest boat in the world till 1858- so Noah and his family could be safe and continue to worship him.

God even gave Noah the details of the project. **The ark had to be made from gopher wood** – probably cypress. It had to be **covered with pitch for water protection.** It was **probably flat bottomed.** It was large. **There was a high window**...a door...and 3 decks. It was well-covered.

19 "And of every living thing of all flesh you shall bring **two of every sort into the ark**, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. 20 "Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive. 21 "**And you shall take for yourself of all food that is eaten**, and you shall gather it to yourself; and it shall be food for you and for them."

2. God then directed 2 of each unclean specie of land and air animals (It wasn't their natural love.), and 7 of each clean land and air animals into the ark.

Noah had to store up enough food for his family and all the animals there.

Could there have been enough food there for animals there...even for large land animals as elephants?

Absolutely. Noah could certainly have had **baby dinosaurs and baby elephants.** God could have caused some of the **animals to go into hibernation.** (Some animals can **drop their heart beat from 175bpm to 5bpm** and need little food.) **Also, Noah did not take in every single type of dog...just a pair of wolves, for instance.** **Moreover, if God could make wild animals tame so they did not eat other animals in the ark, he certainly could have kept them alive by a miracle.**

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

3. God then described the flood waters he was going to bring on the earth to destroy every living thing– of men or of animals.

(The Flood is verified by almost every culture.) But those animals and people who entered the ark would be safe. They had a covering, while the great warriors mentioned in verses 1-6 drowned!

4. God revealed that after floods destroyed the world and he was going to re-establish his covenant with man.

This was not a new covenant. It was simply officially established with Noah.

22 Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

5. Noah did everything as God said, showing his faith was joined to obedience -bringing glory to God.

How hard it is to tell someone his relative died! How much harder it is to personally tell someone he is going to die. **But Noah did so for 120 years with none believing him, even while keeping his day job.**

2Peter 2:5 and did not spare the ancient world, **but saved Noah**, one of eight people, **a preacher of righteousness**, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;

Can you imagine how much this cost Noah? Imagine the thought in Noah's mind when God told him the size of the ark! Imagine how many trees had to be cut down and sawn! Did he argue: "My children's education is first?" No. He built the ark. He preached. Talk alone is relatively cheap. It takes action to do God's work.

6. Lessons:

a. God was going to reverse his creation and bury the earth with water, but at the same time, provide a covering for the faithful so they weren't drowned and destroyed.

b. Be thankful no matter what situation God brings you into. The smell of the pitch or of the animals in confined places might not have been great...but it sure was better than being a dead body floating in the flood and being eaten by scavenger animals of the sea.

c. Obeying God is the basis of rewards in heaven. Obey even when you can't understand why God commanded something to be done.

d. There are 2 beautiful pictures here:

i. The ark is a picture of Christ's work. Remember the Ark of the Covenant in the holiest place of the tabernacle? The high priest would go before the Ark of the Covenant (where God dwelt) and sprinkle the blood of a clean animal and plead for the lives of the Jews and they would be saved.

ii. The ark provided a covering from death. This not accidental. Christ's righteousness is also described as a covering. God could have used disease to kill the wicked, but he chose this symbol instead. You see this picture of protection in the ordinary skins covering the tabernacle – the place where peace was made. Those ordinary skins pictured the humanity of Christ who brought an eternal covering for God's people.

e. Just like women like to have a marriage vow renewal ceremony, let this lesson be a reminder of Christ's love for you. See how this is a story about God's love!

Conclusion:

The world lived to please itself and not pursue God's glory, so God's heavy hand of judgment came on them. They earned their judgment. Yet, God justified Noah and protected him from the coming destruction, picturing the beautiful work of the Savior.

Brothers and sisters:

1. Ask God for the strength to swim against the tide so you can go to heaven. And notice I said: Ask God! You can't do this in your own strength. Christ saved you by his Word and Spirit and now he strengthens you by his Word and Spirit – as he did to Noah. Yes, you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. You are more than conquerors through him who loved you.

2. It is true the church is in hard times and there is much anti-Christian sentiment in the world, but you must keep fighting though the task is hard, fighting your own sin...and fighting sin in the world. If Noah could hold on to his faith, obey the covenant, and preach to the unrepentant for 120 years with so little knowledge, so can you. This will cause the church to thrive. Don't just survive.

Finally: Noah was a temporary source of rest for his family. Christ is the permanent source of rest. He provides food – the Word – as Prophet. He died to pay the price of freedom – as Priest. He lives to protect as King. Is Christ your Prophet, Priest, and King? If not, ask him to be today.