

LIFE LESSONS FROM NOAH AND THE ARK**GENESIS 6 – 7**

⁵The Lord saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. ⁶The Lord was grieved that He had made man on the earth, and His heart was filled with pain. ⁷So the Lord said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth – men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air – for I am grieved that I have made them." ⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

Genesis 6:5-8

I. God Will Protect, Provide and Guide for Life's Storms

- ***We will experience storms in our _____*** – 1) Personal storms of stress and problems that come from imperfect and sinful world. This will happen no matter how righteously you live or how good your decision making. 2) God's storms of judgment on a sinful people. No matter if a people acknowledge God or not, they are responsible to Him for their actions – right or wrong.
- ***In life's storms, God will protect, provide and guide His _____*** – 1) God will protect, provide and guide in our personal storms to accomplish His purposes, and secondarily for our benefit. This doesn't mean there will be no negative impact to us, or that the storms will be mild or short. 2) He will protect, provide and guide through the storms of God's judgment on a people or a nation. Again, you will probably be negatively impacted, but God will be in control.
- ***For non-believers, there will be no _____ protection*** – Those who are not God's people will not experience God's protection. They will experience God's judgment and punishment.

This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God.

Genesis 6:9

II. Don't Listen to or Follow the "World" (Gen. 6:9)

- ***Much of the world is corrupt and _____*** – According to God's biblical standards of righteousness, much of the world is corrupt and evil. This happened over time, with the world changing moral standards to accommodate, even advocate, for unrighteous behavior.
- ***Too often, we love the world more than we love _____*** – Loving the world and allowing its influence have the advantages of gaining power, pleasure, success and acceptance. Our true love is where our focus and priorities are. We deceive ourselves into thinking that we love God and are more righteous than we really are. (Jer. 17:9)
- ***Like Noah, we must stand up, stand out and speak out _____ the evil in the world*** – We must not love the "world" (that is the world that is against God) (I John 2:15). Expect non-acceptance and ridicule when you do.

III. When Working for God, Follow God's Plans, Not Man's (Gen. 6:14-22)

- ***Remember – the ark was _____, not Noah's*** – The ark was God's idea, so He chose the worker and gave very specific plans to insure success. Noah didn't say he was unqualified. Neither did he say he would consult the boat experts (who all drowned!) on how to build it. He did it God's way, and it was a success! When we work for God, never forget He is the

builder, and we are merely the workers. Remember, the ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic was built by experts! It was God's ark, not Noah's. Today, it is God's church, not ours.

(Jesus said) "For God so loved the world that He gave His One and Only Son, that whoever believed in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." *John 3:16*

IV. Our Ark Today is Jesus, Not a Boat!

- ***The ark of Noah's day saved from God's _____*** – The rest of the world perished while Noah and his family were saved. Only by trusting God and being obedient to His plan was Noah saved from the wrath of God and death.
- ***Our ark today is _____*** (John 3:16) – It is through Jesus that we will be saved from the wrath of God's judgment. Where Noah was saved from physical death, we are saved from God's final judgment and eternal death and destruction. In the Noah story, scriptures say that Noah did everything as God commanded him. Then God shut the door (Gen. 7:16). After that, it was too late. God is calling us to enter into the ark of Jesus Christ for our salvation. Enter before God shuts the door!

Answers: I. Life; people; divine. II. Evil; God; against. III. God's. IV. Judgment; Jesus.