

THE FAMILY IS SAFE

Genesis 7:17-24

Open: Moms seldom get a day off ... they learn to fit “special events” in their regular demands of life.

- In their honor, we continue our study in Genesis.
- Today, we will see how Mrs. Noah and the family did on their memorable boat ride.
- But first, a mother’s wish: **3 John Vs. 4** I could have no greater joy than to hear that my children are following the truth.

➤ We will save some time at the end of the message to hear from some children and moms:

- Something my mom does I appreciate.
- The greatest joy about being a mom is ...
- The greatest challenges that moms face are ...
- What can the family do to help mom out?

* The crust of the earth is broken up, the canopy in Heaven is punctured ... literally, the windows of Heaven are torn open.

- The massive boat 1 ½ times the size of a football field lifts off the ground.
- The day of judgment on earth has begun.

Genesis 7:17-20 NKJV ¹⁷ Now the flood was on the earth forty days. The waters increased and lifted up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. ¹⁸ 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.

(1) The waters came down and the ark went up.

- God says what He means and means what He says. Judgment has come.

- Notice the words: **Vs. 17b NKJV** The waters increased and lifted up the ark. **NLT** The floodwaters grew deeper, covering the ground and lifting the boat high above the earth.

√ The waters of judgment came forth showing us how God feels about sin. (PP Slide)

- **6:3** God's Spirit cannot excuse the sins of mankind.

√ Just as the boat was lifted high ... so was Jesus to take our punishment.

John 3:14-15 NLT ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

- And so it was, Jesus was nailed to a cross suspended above the earth.
- He suffered the wrath of God for our sins so we would not have to.

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10 NLT ⁹ For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us. ¹⁰ Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever.

- The same waters of judgment that fell on the earth carried Noah and family to safety ...

√ Since Jesus absorbed the wrath of God for sin, He can carry us safely into Heaven.

* As to the magnitude of the flood, the power of the storm ... we are told:

Vs. 18 The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth ...

Vs. 19 The waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth ...

Vs. 20 The waters prevailed fifteen cubits (22.5 ft. ...cubit = 18 in.) upward.

- Prevailed = overwhelmingly mighty.

- ✓ We are not talking local flood but universal.
- ✓ The entire earth was submerged beneath the judgment waters.
- ✓ We don't know how far men would have spread out on the earth, but we do know the flood would have reached them all.

Vs. 19 All the hills under the entire heavens were covered.

- As to whether the water was 22 feet above the highest mountains or it rose 22 feet on the ark ... matters not ...
 - ✓ Some see it as the depth of water that a ship draws when loaded ... we are told the ark was 30 cubits high (**Genesis 6:15**). Thus the ark settled in the water to a depth of 15 cubits or half its total height.
 - ✓ Had the flood not covered the mountains, the ark could not have floated over them.
 - ✓ Later, we read in **Genesis 8:4** that the ark came to rest on Mt. Ararat ... this mountain is 16,916 feet above sea level.
 - Thus the flood waters were more than 3 miles deep.

**** PowerPoint picture of Mt. Ararat.**

(2) All that lived on earth died, but those in the ark survived.

Genesis 7:21-24 NKJV 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. ²² All in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, all that was on the dry land, died. 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. ²⁴ And the waters prevailed on the earth one hundred and fifty days.

- What a tragic scene (like the Twin Towers falling, the tsunami in Japan ... only universal).

Vs. 21 All flesh died that moved on the earth ...

Vs. 22 Everything that breathed and lived on dry land died.

Vs. 23 God wiped out every living thing on earth ...

- √ Some may accuse God of being “unfair” but as the Creator, He watched man grow more wicked by the day and thumb their nose at Him ... yet He gave man a choice ... repent, but man refused.
- Fast forward the clock of time ...
- √ The gift of intimacy (sex) that a married couple is to enjoy has been perverted ...
- √ Same sex, multiple sex partners are now celebrated.
- √ An unwanted baby in the womb is disposed of ...
- √ God’s Word and praying in Jesus’ name cannot be allowed.
- √ We are on the slippery slope, and we seem to be sliding into the abyss.

Luke 17:26-30 NLT ²⁶ “When the Son of Man returns, it will be like it was in Noah’s day. ²⁷ In those days, the people enjoyed banquets and parties and weddings right up to the time Noah entered his boat and the flood came and destroyed them all.

²⁸ “And the world will be as it was in the days of Lot. People went about their daily business—eating and drinking, buying and selling, farming and building— ²⁹ until the morning Lot left Sodom. Then fire and burning sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all. ³⁰ Yes, it will be ‘business as usual’ right up to the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

- Our culture will continue down the slippery slope ... the challenge will be to follow God in spite of the wickedness around us.

→ **When you refuse to listen to the instructions of God, you will be confronted with the judgment of God. (PP Slide)**

* All was not lost ... Noah, Mrs. Noah and family are safe.

- Teach your children who God is, how to know Him and please Him.

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 NLT ⁴ “Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. ⁵ And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. ⁶ And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. ⁷ Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.

(My Paraphrase) Write them on cards and stick them in their lunch boxes, play Christian CDs in your car and plaster Scripture on the fridge. Read God’s Word and pray as a family, and some of this will stick.

** Tribute to Mom: Video Clip: “Unnoticed Moms”

* Open mic:

- Kids: – Things my mom does I appreciate ...
- Moms: – The greatest joy about being a mom is ...
- The greatest challenge that moms face is ...
- What the family can do to help mom out.

Close:

- The waters came down, the ark went up ... get your family to Jesus!
- All on earth died, those in the ark survived ... make it your prayer that all will arrive safely in Heaven.
- Special prayer for moms.

Message Notes
First Baptist Church of Lexington
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