

PRINCIPLES OF GOD'S KINGDOM - Part 66 By Terri Hill

The Principle Of "The Days Of Noah" - Jesus said that "as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be"; Matthew 24:37-44; Genesis chapters 6-8; Hebrews 11:7; 1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 2:5.

Facts Concerning Noah and The Ark:

A. The name "Noah" means "rest, peace". The one who built the Ark brought others rest and peace in God's (Yahweh's) Provision: Jesus Christ. Noah was the 10th from Adam; 10 is the number which is symbolic of trial and testing: The Flood speaks of Tribulation.

B. Characteristics of Noah (who was also a type Of Christ):

1. He found grace in the eyes of the Lord.
2. He was a just and righteous man.
3. He walked with God and was perfect (without blemish) in his generation.
4. He performed the work which was given to him; he built the Ark according to God's specifications, and made provisions for all within it; Gen. 6:21.

C. Noah was the only righteous man upon the earth, which was corrupt and filled with violence. "The wickedness of man was great in the earth, and every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually"; Gen. 6:5.

D. Noah was a preacher of righteousness; HE BUILT THE MESSAGE; 2 Peter 2:5. The details and the dimensions of the Ark are significant:

1. It was made of gopher wood (wood is symbolic of humanity); trees had to "die" to provide this place of refuge.
2. It was covered (within and without) with "pitch", Heb. word means "to conceal, to cover, to make atonement"; it speaks of a day of "covering"; Gen. 6:14.
3. Note the dimensions given by God; the numbers are symbolic:
 - a. It was 300 cubits (450 feet) long. The number 300 denotes a faithful remnant, complete deliverance, victory in conflict; Judg. 7:7; 1 Kings 10:17; Mk. 14:3-6.
 - b. It was 50 cubits (75 feet) wide. The number 50 points to Pentecost (the anointing of the Holy Spirit), also Jubilee; Lev. 25:10-12; Acts 2:1-47.
 - c. It was 30 cubits (45 feet) high. The number 30 denotes full stature, maturity and authority to rule; Gen. 41:46; 2 Sam. 5:4; Luke 3:23.
4. The Ark had only "one door". There is only one way of deliverance from the wrath to come; there is only one Savior; John 10:9; 14:6.
5. There were 3 stories (3 levels) in Noah's Ark, which points to full salvation for man's body, soul and spirit; 1 Thess. 5:23.
6. There was a window (the only source of light) in the top level, where Noah and his family lived. (Keep looking UP toward heaven, not down on the destruction around you).
7. There were many "rooms": Heb. word means "nest, chamber, dwelling". Jesus said "In My Father's House are many "mansions": resting places; John 14:2.
8. Noah brought his family members, the animal creation, food and provisions into the Ark, and "the Lord shut him in"; Gen. 7:16; Rom. 8:19-22.

Scriptural Truths Which Apply To God's Covenant People:

A. To be in the Ark, is to be in Christ: Jesus is the Head, His Body is the Church. Man is invited to come into the Ark. Like Noah, we are hidden with Christ in God; Col. 3:3.

B. The Ark is a place of Refuge and Preservation. Three Arks are mentioned in the Bible:

1. Noah's Ark; Gen. 6:14-17
2. The Ark in the Bullrushes; Exod. 2:3
3. The Ark of the Covenant; Exod. 25:10

C. God speaks to His covenant people about His intentions long before the events actually occur. He also warns the wicked well in advance, and gives specific instructions for them to follow; Gen. 18:17; Amos 3:7.

D. Scripture gives several examples of God's blessings coming on those who exercised no faith themselves, on account of the faith of others; Josh. 6:17; Matt. 8:2; Acts 16:31.

E. The Ark was built before the flood came. God makes provisions in advance for His people, prior to an outpouring of divine judgments; Heb. 11:7, 16; Psalm 91; Rev. 12:6.

F. Both Noah and the Israelites were not removed from the earth during divine judgments, but were kept by God during the hour of trial; Exod.12:12-13; John 17:15.

G. Noah sent forth a dove (symbolic of the Spirit of Christ) and a raven (symbolic of the spirit of antichrist). They are both loosed during a time of Tribulation. The dove is found where the Ark is present; Gen. 8:8-11; Luke 3:21-22.

H. A consistent principle throughout Scripture is that the wicked are taken in divine judgment, and the righteous are left to inherit the earth (the land); Numb. 16:30-33; Gen. 7:23; Matthew 10:22; Luke 17:34-36.

I. The wrath of God abides upon the disobedient and the wicked, not upon those who are in Christ; 1 Thess. 1:10; 5:9.

J. The glory of the Lord is seen in the Cloud, the Storm, The Rain and the Wind. When all of these come together, a rainbow (sign of the covenant) appears. His light is seen in consecutive bands after the heavens rain upon the earth; Gen. 9:12-13.

There Are Seven Aspects Of Noah's Faith Which Speak To Us Today - Hebrews 11:7:

1. His faith was grounded in what God had said, His Word: "being warned of God..."
2. His faith laid hold of things "not seen as yet"; he moved in the realm of the unseen.
3. He "moved with fear"; he believed both the promise and the warning God gave.
4. The evidence of his faith is that "he prepared an ark"; his works proved his faith.
5. The result of his faithful action was seen: "...to the saving of his house".
6. The witness of his faith was seen "...by which he condemned the world".
7. The reward of his faith: he "BECAME HEIR of the righteousness which is by faith."

