

- B. The Persuading of the Construction (Genesis 6:17-18) – Noah had much that would have prompted him to build the ark.
1. The prompting from the flood – *“I... do bring a flood of waters upon the earth”* (Genesis 6:17). This declaration from God of the coming flood would be ample information to encourage the speedy construction of the ark.
  2. The prompting from the deaths – *“Destroy all flesh... from under heaven, and every thing that is in the earth shall die.”* (Genesis 6:17). The number of fatalities is staggering. That alone would prompt building the ark.
  3. The prompting of faith – *“By faith Noah... prepared an ark”* (Hebrews 11:7). Noah’s faith was great. It would prompt him to do God’s bidding whatever it was. Faith will assure obedience to the will of God.
  4. The prompting of fear – *“Moved with fear, prepared an ark”* (Hebrews 11:7). This fear is not cowering fear, but it is a holy fear of God. It is the right kind of respect for Almighty God. If God said a flood was coming and all will die, Noah took God’s word for it and was afraid of the consequences. This kind of fear does not mock Divine warnings.
  5. The prompting from favour – *“But with thee will I establish my covenant”* (Genesis 6:18; 8:21-9:17). – The details of the covenant are given later (Genesis 8:21-9:17). A covenant from God is a promise of blessings, of Divine favour. Noah’s work of constructing the ark was encouraged by the promise of blessing from God. Many like the promise of favour but do not want the performance that will bring the promise. But if you want this promise of favour from God, you need to be faithful to God and do God’s bidding.
- C. The Salvation in the Construction (Genesis 6:18-22)
1. The participants in the salvation (Genesis 6:18-20)
    - a. The members of Noah’s family
      - (1) Noah’s family consisted of just eight souls; these were saved from the wrath that would happen outside the ark. (1 Peter 3:20)
      - (2) That only eight souls were saved is a condemnation of the unbelief of the world, but it is also an encouragement for those who labour diligently and faithfully in God’s service but see very few of numbers.
      - (3) God judges based on faithfulness to His word. (Hebrews 11:7)
    - b. The host of animals
      - (1) The attendance in the ark
        - (a) Every living creature was included in this saving.
        - (b) Everything but sea creatures was taken aboard the ark.
        - (c) *“Two of every sort”*— they would be male and female.
          - i. Note: Of every clean beast would require more than two.
          - ii. *“Of every **clean** beast thou shalt take to thee by **sevens**”* – (Genesis 7:2) – We will talk more about this in the next chapter.
        - (d) It was important that they too be in the ark (*“Thou shalt come into the ark” [Genesis 6:18]*).

- i. These animals came in by the bidding of God.
    - ii. Just as some birds migrate south or north every year, these animals moved into the ark for the saving of their life.
  2. The qualifications of the salvation (Genesis 6:18-22)
    - a. To be in the ark (Genesis 6:18)
      - (1) There was no escape from the wrath of God outside the ark.
      - (2) There is no escape from judgment if you are not in Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 1:10).
    - b. The provisions in the ark (Genesis 6:21)
      - (1) All the food that was needed would need to be brought into the ark to sustain life for the time they would be inside.
      - (2) This food would be needed for Noah and his family as well as all of the animals on the ark.
      - (3) While the animals would come to him on their own (with God ordering them to do so), the food had to be harvested, gathered, and brought into the ark by Noah and his family. (John 9:4; Ephesians 5:16; Colossians 4:5; Ecclesiastes 9:10)
      - (4) This would have been an additional task for them.
- D. The Performance of the Construction (Genesis 6:22)
  1. The obedience in the performing (Genesis 6:22)
    - a. Noah did all that God told him to do.
    - b. Noah did not come up with some “better idea”, or “cut corners” in an effort to make it easier on himself.
    - c. The repeating of Noah’s testimony of compliance emphasizes the excellence of his faith and obedience. (Hebrews 11:6-7; cp. Hebrews 11:1; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Hebrews 5:8)
  2. The speed in the performing (Genesis 6:22)
    - a. The fact that Noah had the ark completed in time is a testimony to his obedience.
    - b. He was prompt and punctual in his duties.
    - c. Delay would have been disastrous.
    - d. Delay is disobedience and will always cause trouble.