

The Great Flood Continued

Genesis 8:1-22

- I. THE DRYING OF THE EARTH (Genesis 8:1-14)
 - A. The Remembrance in the Drying (Genesis 8:1)
 1. “God remembered Noah”
 - a. The word “*remembered*” doesn’t mean that God can forget, rather it indicates the compassion that God had for Noah.
 - b. This “remembering” by God toward man is found elsewhere in scripture.
 - (1) Abraham (Genesis 19:29)
 - (2) Rachel (Genesis 30:22)
 - (3) The Children of Israel (Exodus 2:24)
 - (4) Hannah (1 Samuel 1:19)
 - (5) Nehemiah requested God to “remember” him (Nehemiah 13:14, 22, 29, 31)
 - (6) The Psalmist’s request of God’s remembrance (Psalm 106:4; 132:1; 137:7)
 - (7) God remembering the evil of a place or group (Revelation 16:19; 18:5)
 - c. From the above passages it would seem that the remembrance was either for God to remember a promise made to a person or a group of people, as well as the request for God to remember the evil that a group of people had done upon Israel.
 - d. God remembers Noah’s commitment as well as his condition and begins to “cut off” the water so that the earth might begin to dry and become hospitable to live on once again.
 2. God remembered Noah and the others with him
 - a. The fact that God remembered Noah, Noah’s family and the animals is a reminder to us that God is tender and loving God.
 - b. So, if God cares so tenderly for the animal kingdom, how much more will God care for mankind, which are “*of more value*” than the animals (Matthew 10:29, 31; cp. Psalm 36:6; John 4:11; Romans 8:20-22)
 - B. The Process of the Drying (Genesis 8:1, 2-5)
 1. Evaporation in the process
 - a. “God made a wind to pass over the earth”
 - b. “The waters asswaged”
 - (1) “*Asswaged*” – “*to abate, or subside*” (*recede*).
 - (2) While we know that God used many miracles in flooding the earth and afterward drying it...

- (3) One sees that God also used several very natural methods to clear the earth of the water that had engulfed it.
2. Restraining in the process
- C. The Perception of the Drying (Genesis 8:6-14)
 1. The perception of Noah (Genesis 8:6, 13-14)
 - a. At the end of the 40 days Noah opened the window in the ark.
 - b. Noah would know when the ark had grounded and he would have been able to see the mountain tops, but as for the surrounding area being dry enough and uncovered enough to go out into would have been hard for him to ascertain. He would certainly need to know the condition of the land before debarking the ark.
 - c. Therefore, he sent out a “scout”. The first being the raven and later a dove.
 2. The wandering of the raven (Genesis 8:7)
 - a. The fact that the raven did not return but instead went wandering to and fro said that the waters had declined somewhat.
 - b. It is of interest to note that birds are a type of spirits in the Bible.
 - (1) In the New Testament you have the sower of the seed (Mark 3:3-4; Luke 8:5).
 - (2) In Revelation birds are loosely associated with spirits (Revelation 18:2)
 - c. Also of interest is that the raven is an unclean bird according to the Law (Leviticus 11:15, cp. Leviticus 11:13)
 3. The returning of the dove (Genesis 8:8-12)
 - a. The dove is a bird that is in the “clean” list in the Law for making sacrifice (Genesis 15:9; Leviticus 12:6).
 - b. Also, of interest is that the dove is used to picture the Holy Spirit in scripture (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22; John 1:32).
 - c. It is also used in making descriptions the love of Song of Solomon (Song of Solomon 2:14; 5:2; 6:9).
 - d. The performance of the dove (Genesis 8:8-12)
 - (1) The first time (Genesis 8:8-9)
 - (a) The dove went forth
 - (b) The dove found no rest for the sole of her foot
 - (c) The dove returned unto Noah in the ark
 - (2) The second time (Genesis 8:10-11)
 - (a) After seven days, Noah sent forth the dove again
 - (b) The dove returned with an olive leaf
 - (c) Noah knew the waters were abated off the earth
 - (3) The third time (Genesis 8:12)
 - (a) Noah waited seven days and sent forth the dove again.
 - (b) The dove did not return.
 4. The final drying of the earth (Genesis 8:13-14)
 - a. The time frame.

- (1) In the 601st year
- (2) The 1st month, of the 1st day of the month.
- b. The survey completed
 - (1) Noah removes the covering of the ark
 - (2) After nearly two months the ground was dry.

II. THE DEBARKATION FROM THE ARK (Genesis 8:15-19)

A. The Call from the Ark (Genesis 8:15-16)

1. “God spake unto Noah”
 - a. A call from God (Genesis 8:15) – **“God spake unto Noah”**
 - b. A call after salvation (Genesis 7:1, 7, 13; 2 Peter 2:5; 1 Peter 3:20) – The call of Christ (Matthew 11:28; Mark 5:19; cp. John 10:9)
 - c. A call to action – **“Go”** (Genesis 8:16) – “go work today” (Matthew 21:28-29)
 - d. A call to the world – **“forth”** (Genesis 8:16) – A renewed commission (Genesis 9:1) – “ambassadors for Christ” (2 Corinthians 5:20; 2 Timothy 4:2)
 - e. A call from safety – **“of the ark”** (Genesis 8:16) – (2 Corinthians 11:23-33)
 - f. A personal call – **“thou”** (Genesis 8:16) – “what wilt thou have me to do?” (Acts 9:6); “For by grace are ye saved” (Ephesians 2:8-10)
 - g. A universal call – **“thy wife...sons... son’s wives”** (Genesis 8:16) – “Till we all come in the unity of the faith” (Ephesians 4:13-16; 1 Corinthians 12:18-22)
 - h. A collective call – **“with thee”** (Genesis 8:16) – “Go ye therefore” (Matthew 28:19-20)

B. The Leaving of the Ark (Genesis 8:17-19)

1. The commandment to leave (Genesis 8:17)
 - a. Noah and his family had been on the ark for a year and ten days now.
 - b. This was a long time to be cooped up in one place, not to mention with all the animals.
 - c. The ark was a place of protection and provision; however, it was necessary a place of pleasure.
 - d. Being in God’s will does not guarantee exemption from suffering, but it does guarantee His blessing.
2. The obedience in leaving (Genesis 8:18-19)
 - a. Because the *“earth dried”*
 - b. *“That they might breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful and multiply upon the earth”* (Genesis 8:17)
 - c. The leaving of the ark was not without purpose.
 - d. Both the animals and Noah and his family were to repopulate the earth now.

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- III. THE DEVOTION OF NOAH (Genesis 8:20-22)
- A. The Offering of a Sacrifice (Genesis 8:20)
1. Noah built an altar unto the LORD
 - a. This took some effort on the part of Noah.
 - b. To provide a place of worship.
 - (1) Note: If you would worship, you will need to find a place of worship (Hebrews 10:25).
 - (2) If you do, it only shows your lack of devotion to the Lord.
 2. Noah offered burnt offerings of every clean beast and clean fowl.
 - a. The Lord had made provision for Noah to make sacrifice back in chapter 7 (Genesis 7:2, 8).
 - b. It was now up to Noah to take what had been given him and worship God in the correct manner.
 - c. So, it is up to us to worship and live for God in how He would have us to do. We've been given everything we need to do so.
 - (1) Scripture (The word of God) (Proverbs 30:5; Luke 4:4; Hebrews 4:12)
 - (2) Salvation (Romans 10:9)
 - (3) The Spirit (Holy Spirit) (Romans 8:9; Ephesians 4:30)
- B. The Promise from the Lord (Genesis 8:21-22)
1. The personal nature of God (Genesis 8:21)
 - a. The Lord smelled a sweet savour
 - b. The Lord said in His heart
 2. The Lord will not again (Genesis 8:21)
 - a. Curse the ground for man's sake
 - b. Smite every living thing
 3. While the earth remains (Genesis 8:22)
 - a. Seedtime and harvest shall not cease.
 - b. Cold and heat shall not cease.
 - c. Summer and winter shall not cease.
 - d. Day and night shall not cease.