

Lessons from Noah (revisited)

Look Familiar?

- From April, 2018
 - Briefly acknowledged some humorous aspects and concentrated on serious lessons
- Today we'll swap that emphasis (sort of)

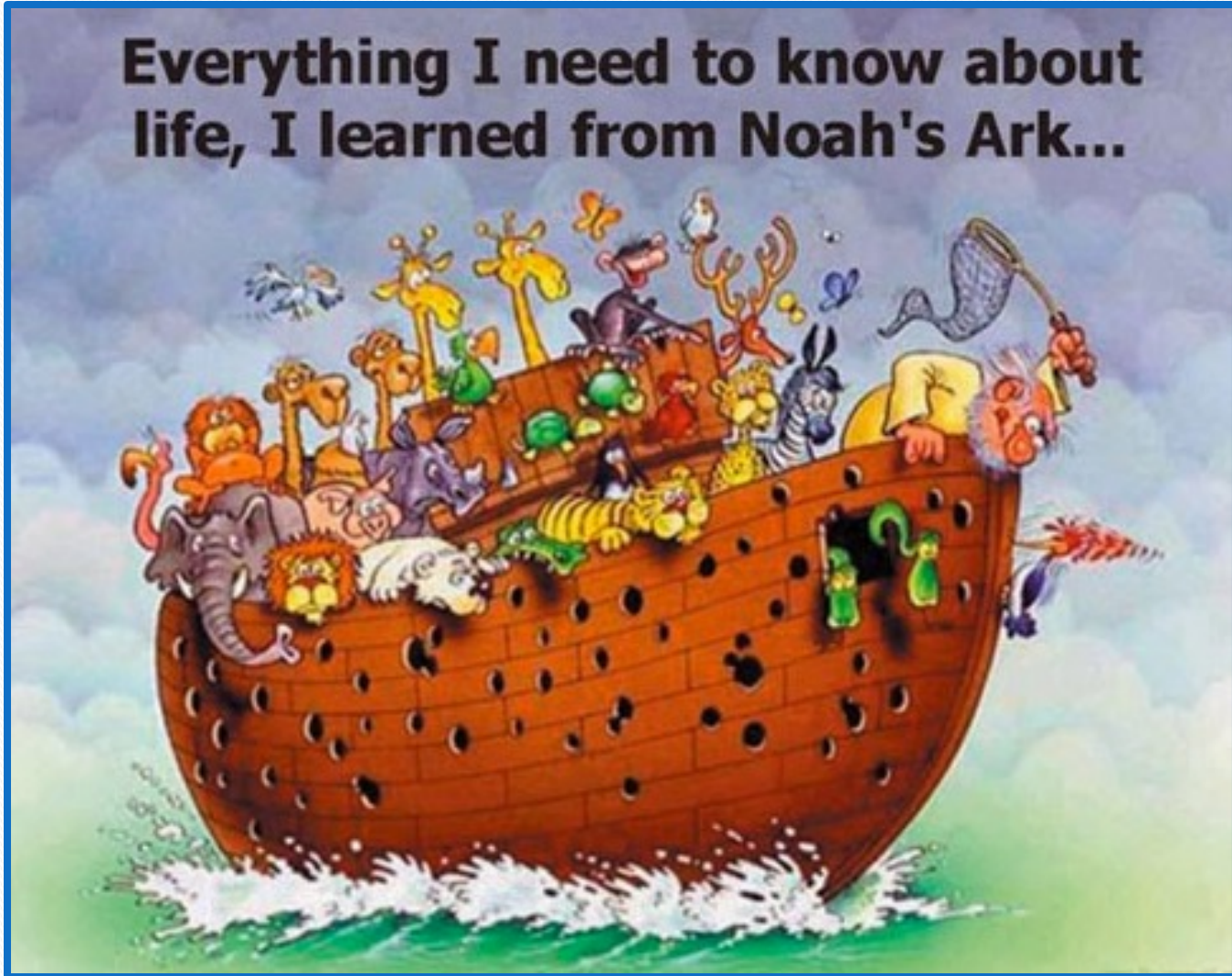


A Popular Children's Bible Story



And The Subject of Modern Humor

Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark...



But Many Serious Lessons Can Be Learned

- Character of
 - The Ancient World, Noah, and God
- Nature of
 - God's Instruction
 - Man's Faith
 - God's Grace and Severity
- Type of
 - Salvation, Apostasy
 - Final Judgment



Primary Scriptures

- Genesis 6-9
 - 6:1-12 Corrupt
 - 6:8-10 Noah introduced
 - 6:13-22 Ark built
 - 7:1-24 Entering the ark & the Flood
 - 8:1-12 The Flood subsides
 - 8:13-19 Leaving the ark
 - 8:20-9:17 Sacrifices and promises (rainbow)
 - 9:18-29 Noah and Ham
- Matt. 24:36-38; Luke 17
 - 2nd coming
- Heb. 11:7
 - Noah's faith
- 1 Pet. 3:18-20
 - Baptism
- 2 Pet. 2:1-10
 - False prophets
- 2 Pet. 3:3-10
 - 2nd coming

Behold the Kindness and Severity of God

- God is real and the global flood was real – no myth
 - Moses, Jesus, Hebrew writer, Peter
- Showing the “duality” of God
 - Not the “angry God” of the OT and the “loving God” of the NT
 - *Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.* - Rom. 11:22

“Lessons from Noah’s Ark”

- Seen on Facebook, Google, posters, etc.
- From “Thoughts for Today to Brighten Your Day”
 - By Glenn, Mercedes, and Lauren Hitchcock
 - Traced to a church of Christ in Hampton, VA
- 11 lessons
 - Somewhat humorous, but with an underlying serious scriptural application (usually)

- 1 Don't miss the boat.
- 2 Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- 3 Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- 4 Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
- 5 Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- 6 Build your future on high ground.
- 7 For safety sake, travel in pairs.
- 8 Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- 9 When you're stressed, float a while.
- 10 Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- 11 No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting..

#1 Don't miss the boat."

- Psa. 39:6
 - 6 ... *Surely all people, even those who seem secure, are nothing but vapor.*
- Matt. 11:28ff
 - 28 *"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*
- 2 Cor. 6:2b
 - *...behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*
- Eph. 5:16
 - *16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*



#2 “Remember we are all in the same boat.”

- Except when we're not, from denominational divisions
- Eph. 1:3
 - *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,*
- John 15:12
 - *12 “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”*
- Eph. 4:32
 - *And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.*



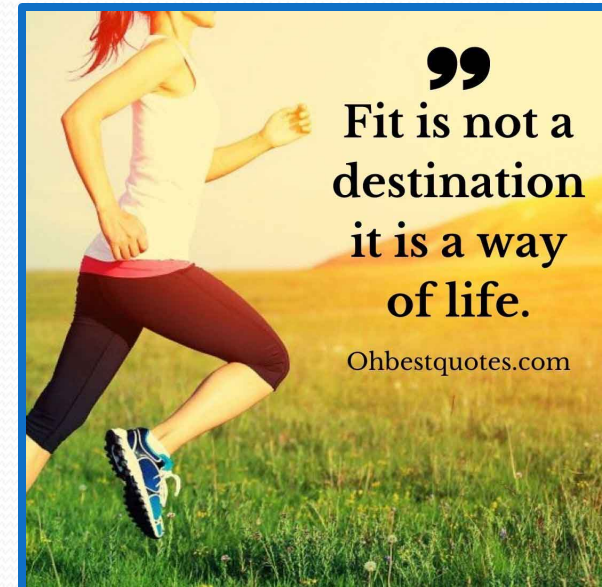
#3 “Plan Ahead...”

- “... It wasn’t raining when Noah built the ark.”
- James 4:13ff
 - *13 Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”; 14 whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. 15 Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.” 16 But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.*
- Eph. 5:16
 - *15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*

PLAN AHEAD

#4 “Stay fit...”

- “... When you’re really old, someone may ask you to do something really big.”
- 1 Tim. 4:8
 - *8 For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.*
- 1 Cor. 9:26-27
 - *26 Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. 27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.*



#5 “Don’t listen to the critics...”

- “... Just get on with the job that needs to be done.”
- 1 Cor. 15:58
 - *58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.*
- And yet Prov. 27:17
 - *17 As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.*
- Prov. 1:5
 - *A wise man will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel,*



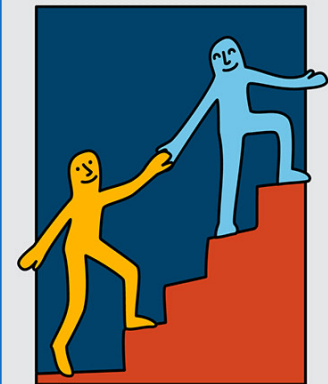
#6 “Build your future on high ground.”

- Matt. 7:24ff
 - 24 *“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: 25 and the rain ... floods ... winds and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.*
- 1 Cor. 3:11
 - 10 *According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*
- Phil. 3:14
 - *I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*



#7 “For safety sake, travel in pairs.”

- Rom. 8:35-37
 - 35 *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... 37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us*
- Secondary = “buddy system”, close friend, marriage
- Eccl. 4:9-10
 - 9 *Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. 10 For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up.*



The
Buddy
System

#8 “Speed isn’t always an advantage...”

- “... The snails were on board with the cheetahs.”
- James 1:19
 - *19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;*
- Gal. 6:9
 - *9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.*
- 2 Thes. 3:13
 - *But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.*
- Heb. 12:1
 - *let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,*



#9 “When you’re stressed, float a while.”

- Matt. 6:25ff
 - 25 *“Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?”*
- James 1:2-4
 - 2 *My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.*



Do not be anxious about anything, but by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
Philippians 4:6

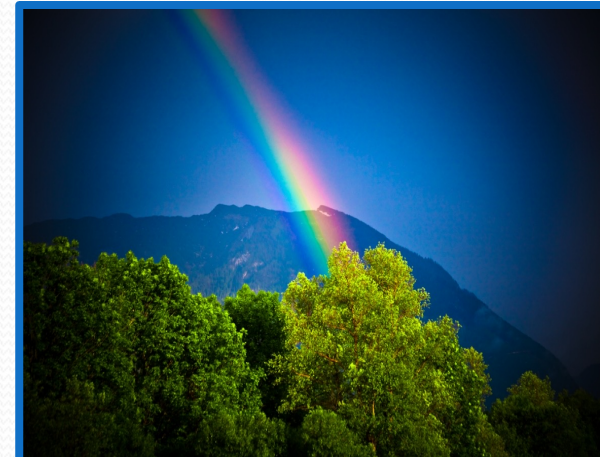
#10 “Remember ...”

- “... the Ark was build by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals.”
- 1 Cor. 1:20-21
 - 20 *Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? ... it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.*
- Prov. 16:18
 - 18 *Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.*
- 1 Pet. 5:5
 - 5 *Clothe yourselves ... with humility toward one another, ...*



#11 “No matter the storm, ...”

- “... with God there is always a rainbow.”
- Phil. 4:11ff
 - *11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: ... 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me*
- 2 Tim. 4:8
 - *8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*



In Summary

- 1** Don't miss the boat.
- 2** Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- 3** Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
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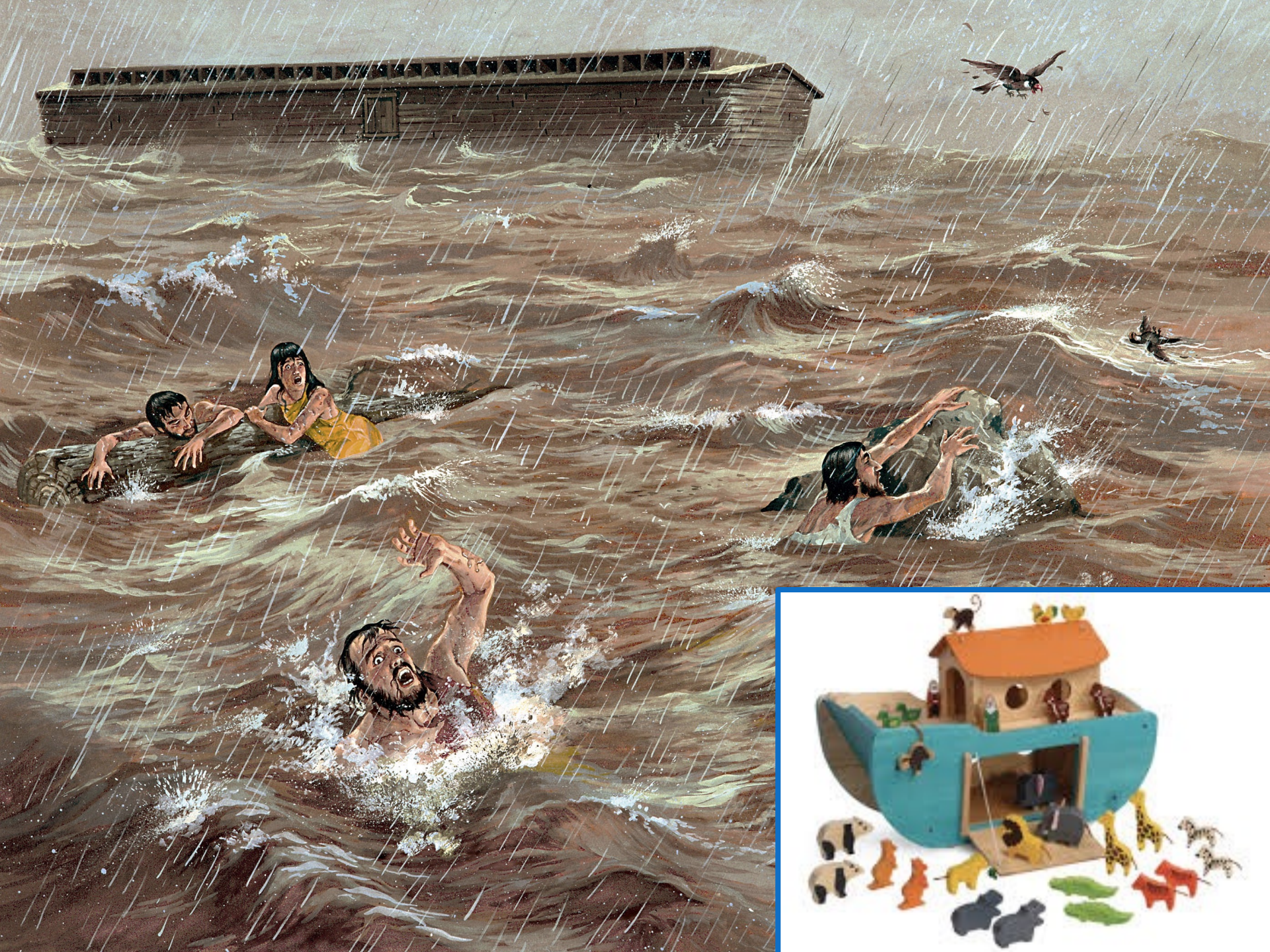
Type of Final Judgment

- Sudden and unexpected
 - Matt. 24:37-39 *“Heaven and earth will pass away ... But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”*



Type of Final Judgment

- God's justice
 - 2 Pet. 2:4-9 *For if God did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; ... then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment*
 - 2 Pet. 3:5-7 *... by the word of God ... the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.*



Conclusion

- God's grace and instructions provide a means of salvation
- Noah's faith and obedience was exemplary
 - Despite his environment
- But there is a limit to God's patience & long suffering
 - The "door" is open, but will be shut.
- What about you?
 - Are you outside the ark of salvation?
 - Were you once inside and have stepped back out into the world? 2 Pet. 3:11-12
 - Are you tempted to live the confines of the ark for "freedom" outside?

