

Lesson 6 Genesis 6 - 7

Noah & The Flood

1. What were the moral causes for the judgment of the flood?

A. Gen. 6:1-12

1 When human beings began to grow numerous on the earth and daughters were born to them,

2 the sons of God* saw how beautiful the daughters of human beings were, and so they took for their wives whomever they pleased.

3 Then the LORD said: My spirit shall not remain in human beings forever, because they are only flesh. Their days shall comprise one hundred and twenty years.

4 The Nephilim appeared on earth in those days, as well as later,* after the sons of God had intercourse with the daughters of human beings, who bore them sons. They were the heroes of old, the men of renown.

5 When the LORD saw how great the wickedness of human beings was on earth, and how every desire that their heart conceived was always nothing but evil,

6 the LORD regretted making human beings on the earth, and his heart was grieved.

7 So the LORD said: I will wipe out from the earth the human beings I have created, and not only the human beings, but also the animals and the crawling things and the birds of the air, for I regret that I made them.

8 But Noah found favor with the LORD.

9 These are the descendants of Noah. Noah was a righteous man and blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God.

10 Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

11 But the earth was corrupt* in the view of God and full of lawlessness.

12 When God saw how corrupt the earth had become, since all mortals had corrupted their ways on earth,

B. 2 Peter 2:4-6

4 For if God did not spare the angels when they sinned, but condemned them to the chains of Tartarus and handed them over to be kept for judgment;

5 and if he did not spare the ancient world, even though he preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, together with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the godless world;

6 and if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah [to destruction], reducing them to ashes, making them an example for the godless [people] of what is coming;

C. Jude vs. 5-6

5 I wish to remind you, although you know all things, that [the] Lord who once saved a people from the land of Egypt later destroyed those who did not believe.*

6 The angels too, who did not keep to their own domain but deserted their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains, in gloom, for the judgment of the great day.*

2. Why did God wait so long before judgment? (See Romans 2:4 & 2 Peter 3:9) Give two reasons.

Romans 2:4

4 Or do you hold his priceless kindness, forbearance, and patience in low esteem, unaware that the kindness of God would lead you to repentance?

2 Peter 3:9

9 The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard “delay,” but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

3. *Challenge Question:* Hebrews 11:7 says Noah’s faith was what pleased God. List every practical evidence of this trait from Genesis 6:9-7:16.

Genesis 6:9-7:16

9 These are the descendants of Noah. Noah was a righteous man and blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God.

10 Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

11 But the earth was corrupt* in the view of God and full of lawlessness.

12 When God saw how corrupt the earth had become, since all mortals had corrupted their ways on earth,

13 God said to Noah: I see that the end of all mortals has come, for the earth is full of lawlessness because of them. So I am going to destroy them with the earth.

14 Make yourself an ark of gopherwood,* equip the ark with various compartments, and cover it inside and out with pitch.

15 This is how you shall build it: the length of the ark will be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits.

16 Make an opening for daylight* and finish the ark a cubit above it. Put the ark’s entrance on its side; you will make it with bottom, second and third decks.

17 I, on my part, am about to bring the flood waters on the earth, to destroy all creatures under the sky in which there is the breath of life; everything on earth shall perish.

18 I will establish my covenant with you. You shall go into the ark, you and your sons, your wife and your sons’ wives with you.

19 Of all living creatures you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, one male and one female*, to keep them alive along with you.

20 Of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal, and of every kind of thing that crawls on the ground, two of each will come to you, that you may keep them alive.

21 Moreover, you are to provide yourself with all the food that is to be eaten, and store it away, that it may serve as provisions for you and for them.

22 Noah complied; he did just as God had commanded him.

Genesis 7:1-16

1 Then the LORD said to Noah: Go into the ark, you and all your household, for you alone in this generation have I found to be righteous before me.

2 Of every clean animal, take with you seven pairs, a male and its mate; and of the unclean animals, one pair, a male and its mate;

3 likewise, of every bird of the air, seven pairs, a male and a female, to keep their progeny alive over all the earth.

4 For seven days from now I will bring rain down on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and so I will wipe out from the face of the earth every being that I have made.

5 Noah complied, just as the LORD had commanded.

6 Noah was six hundred years old when the flood came upon the earth.

7 Together with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, Noah went into the ark because of the waters of the flood.

8 Of the clean animals and the unclean, of the birds, and of everything that crawls on the ground,

9 two by two, male and female came to Noah into the ark, just as God had commanded him.

10 When the seven days were over, the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month: on that day All the fountains of the great abyss* burst forth, and the floodgates of the sky were opened.

12 For forty days and forty nights heavy rain poured down on the earth.

13 On the very same day, Noah and his sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of Noah's sons had entered the ark,

14 together with every kind of wild animal, every kind of tame animal, every kind of crawling thing that crawls on the earth, and every kind of bird.

15 Pairs of all creatures in which there was the breath of life came to Noah into the ark.

16 Those that entered were male and female; of all creatures they came, as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut him in.

Hebrews 11:7

7 By faith Noah, warned about what was not yet seen, with reverence built an ark for the salvation of his household. Through this he condemned the world and inherited the righteousness that comes through faith.

4. Who were the eight people in the ark?

5. How many instances can you find in chapters 6 & 7 where God showed his love and care for Noah?
(Six possible)

6. Given the violence, pervasive corruption and heavy peer pressure surrounding Noah, what might be some of his fears when God asks him to build the ark?

7. What do Noah's actions tell you about his relationship with God?

8. Which phrase in Genesis 7 shows that the flood must have been accompanied by tremendous upheavals of the earth?

9. Why do you think God has decided not to destroy the human race again? (Refer to question 1) CCC1219
CCC1219 The Church has seen in Noah's ark a prefiguring of salvation by Baptism, for by it "a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water": The waters of the great flood you made a sign of the waters of Baptism, that make an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness.

10. What has left the deepest impression on you during this week's lesson?