

OT-OV

Lesson 14

1. Last week I completed an analysis of the reason for the Flood.
2. When time expired we were looking at Genesis chapter seven with comment.
3. I want to review some of that learned and then we will pick up with new material and our analysis of Genesis seven.

The Ark - A Symbol of Protection and Salvation

4.1 Noah's ark was a colossal barge. God commanded Noah to build this grand structure for the purpose of keeping alive members of his family, and two of every kind of land animal. Seven (extra) clean animals were also gathered for sacrifice purposes.

4.1.1 Additionally, Noah was to bring enough food for his family and the animals; though not explicitly stated the Scripture implies that various seeds for later planting would also be stored within the Ark.

4.2 The Ark was to keep them alive through a universal flood which would come upon the earth. The English word ark is a translation from the Hebrew teba, meaning "chest, ark" box," or "coffin."

4.2.1 The word is also used in Exo 2:3 and 5 where it describes not a ship but a barge like repository intended only to float and to withstand the impact of waves. This very small "ark" was designed for the baby Moses.

4.2.2 Noah's Ark would have a carrying capacity one-third greater than a ship of similar length and width, and it would have been almost impossible to capsize.

4.2.3 The ark was constructed of gopher wood (cypress?) and was protected by an inner and outer coating of pitch or bitumen (Hebrew kopher).

4.2.4 The three decks were divided into rooms (Hebrew qinnim, "nests"). Around the entire vessel just below the roof was an opening for light; and in one side was a door. (Gen 6:14-16)

4.2.5 The ark was 300 cubits long, 50 wide, and 30 high (Gen 6:15). Assuming that the basic Hebrew cubit was 17.5 inches, the ark was 437.5 feet long, 72.92 feet wide, and 43.75 feet high.

4.2.6 The total volume of the ark would have been 1,396,000 cubic feet, giving it a gross tonnage of about 13,960 tons, which is well within the category of large metal ocean-going vessels today.

4.2.7 As early as 1609-21, Peter Janson in Holland built a large model of the ark and demonstrated the efficiency of its design and proportions.

4.2.8 Not until the last half of the 19th century was a ship built with dimensions exceeding that of the ark.

4.2.9 Noah and his sons probably hired many men to assist them in the construction of the ark. Many no doubt ridiculed God's man, nevertheless when the time came Noah and his family entered the Ark. Let's look at these Scriptures with brief comment:

Gen 7:1 The LORD (Yehovah) then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation.

Comment: Critics have argued because a different name for God is used here, therefore, some mysterious editor took two different accounts and pasted parts together to form the present story. This because in chapter six God is called Elohim and here in chapter seven he is called Jehovah. God (Elohim) is the plural creative and complete name of the Godhead; Jehovah is His redemptive name. These verses speak of redemption whereas the prior verses spoke of the problem and God's displeasure. Jehovah now acts in utter grace, eight pure souls will be delivered. In the KJV Gen 7:1b has been translated: "For thee have I seen righteous before Me." Noah, in addition to being uncontaminated was also said to be positionally and temporally righteous and yet not long after the Flood we will find him engrossed in sin. Barnhouse in his book *Genesis* has written:

"What is beauty? Ask the critics, and after much discussion they will tell you that it depends on the person who does the looking. What is admired by one person is despised by another. This leads us to conclude that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. In ourselves there is no loveliness, but God has deigned to look upon us through the Lord Jesus Christ. As a child may find a deformed toy lovely and precious because of something in the heart of the child, so the Lord found us righteous before Him because of something in His heart. And that something is what He has seen in Christ who is made unto us righteousness."

1Co 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

2Co 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Phi 3:9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

Both my daughter and granddaughter, like most little girls, had dolls, Thumbalina and Tiny Baby respectively, neither of the dolls had any redeeming aesthetic qualities and yet in the heart of these two little girls came a love for the unlovely. God's love, similarly, comes from whom and what He is and not whom and what we are.

Gen 7:2 Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate,

Comment: In the phrase "Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate" we again find critics posing objections. Here the critics cry, "contradiction!" because, they say, in the Elohim account found in Gen 6:10-20 God commanded two and in this, the Jehovah account, God commands seven.

Gen 6:19 And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female.

Gen 6:20 Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

The explanation is found in the word "clean." Of all living things there were two for preservation of species. In addition, clean beasts by sevens (probably seven pairs to include the birds) were taken, because there were to be blood sacrifices. When Noah came out of the ark, his first act was to build an altar and kill at least one of every kind of clean animal and bird (Gen 8:20). He could not have done this, if there had been only one pair.

Gen 8:20 And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

Gen 7:3 and also seven of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth.

Gen 7:4 Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made."

Gen 7:5 And Noah did all that the LORD commanded him.

Gen 7:6 Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters came on the earth.

Gen 7:7 And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood.

Comment: In verse seven we find the matter of fact statement: "And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark." Far from being a mundane phrase to move the scenario, it was a description of a tremendous act of faith. The people round about must have thought that his folly had now reached its climax. We do not know what they thought when suddenly the animals began entering. But we do know that Noah's entering the ark became the grounds for the condemnation of the world (Heb 11:7).

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Again, if I may quote from Barnhouse again:

"No man could say that he could not believe. A believing convict condemns an unbelieving convict. A believing doctor condemns an unbelieving doctor. The entering in of the believer condemns the unbeliever."

Gen 7:8 Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground,

Gen 7:9 male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah.

Gen 7:10 And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth.

Gen 7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month-- on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened.

Comment: Verse 10 tells us "and the floodwaters came on the earth."

Enoch had prophesied and had announced the judgment upon the ungodly. Noah announced it and built the vast Ark in the sight of the world, which undoubtedly ridiculed him. He held steadfast to the end in spite of all appearances and without any precedent whatsoever. At last judgment came to pass. God is not a man that He should lie (Rom 3:4 every man a liar but God is truth). All that He has promised He will perform.

Gen 7:12 And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights.

Gen 7:13 On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark.

Gen 7:14 They had with them every wild animal according to its kind, all livestock according to their kinds, every creature that moves along the ground according to its kind and every bird according to its kind, everything with wings.

Gen 7:15 And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life.

Comment: Verses 15 tell us: Noah, his family and the animals went into the ark.

There have been those who have ridiculed the idea of Noah catching all the animals and what a time he must have had. But the Lord God can turn the heart of animals and He can certainly lead them to where he wishes. Neither had any of them at this point tasted blood, they were herbivorous. The Lord brought them to the Ark and the Lord shut them in.

Only man is more stupid than the animals: "The ox knows its owner, and the ass its master's crib."

Isa 1:3 The ox knows his master, the donkey his owner's manger, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand."

Isa 1:4 Ah, sinful nation, a people loaded with guilt, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! They have forsaken the LORD; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him.

Gen 7:16 And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God (Elohim) had commanded him: and the LORD (Yehovah) shut him in.

Comment: Verse 16 tells us Elohim commanded and Yehovah safely shut him and his family safely inside. The cruise was about to begin. Once more God shows more than one side of His nature and being. As God, Elohim, He commanded. As Jehovah, the Redeemer, He shut Noah inside. There was safety inside. Noah's being sealed inside is the equivalent of our being sealed with the Holy Spirit (Eph 4:30). Noah was not only saved, he was safe and secure.

Eph 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

Gen 7:17 And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth.

Comment: Verse 17 also describes how the waters rose with the raging waters as the Ark floated above even the highest point on the planet. The same waters that destroyed life on the earth bore up the ark in which Noah and all his family were carried safely. The same judgment that swept down from God upon the Lord Jesus Christ brings death to those who refuse and life to those who believe. In the ark Noah was surrounded by judgment which showed God's hatred of sin, but he himself was safe. In Christ we are surrounded by the judgment of God against the sin of unbelief; we are safe in the arms of a loving Christ. The Ark was lifted high above the earth; no doubt the ride of a lifetime.

The Ark seems to be symbolic of our protection in time, eternal salvation and ultimate ascension into heaven. If you could have looked upon this earth from the moon, you would have seen vast rolling waves destroying every living thing on the earth. But on the surface, like a cork bobbing on a stream, you would have seen the Ark with its precious cargo. It is possible to get away from the earth and to look at the world in judgment by standing on the Word of God.

Gen 7:18 And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters.

Gen 7:19 And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered.

Gen 7:20 Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

Gen 7:21 And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:

Gen 7:22 All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died.

Comment: Verse 22: All human, animal and bird life outside the ark died.

Never go beyond what is written. Clarence Darrow cynically confused William Jennings Bryan by asking him if he believed every word in the Bible. When Jennings replied that he did, Darrow asked contemptuously if he believed that the fish had drowned in the flood. Bryan did not know how to answer. If he had known the little intricacies of the Word, he could have confounded the skeptic. Only the animals that had within them the (Nephesh) breath of life died. By thy way, Jennings won the debate, or so thought the jurors.

Gen 7:23 And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.

Gen 7:24 And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days.

11.2.9 By the very nature of the case, the project must have gained worldwide attention, and the universal rejection of Noah's faithful warnings during this final testing period of 120 years was the basis upon which Noah "condemned the world" (Heb 11:7). The ridicule did not keep Noah from his faithful task of warning of the impending deluge or assembling his odd crew for what would prove to be an exciting cruise aboard the USS Flood Buster.

4.2.10 For well over a century, scholars have debated whether the ark was sufficiently large to carry two of every kind of air-breathing animal in the world, plus an additional five of each "clean" kind.

4.2.11 It must be recognized, in the first place, that two or more similar "species" of modern taxonomy may be included within one Genesis word "kind."

5. Let me give you a point or two about the "science" of Taxonomy:

5.1 Taxonomy is the study of classifying species. There is a very sharp argument on the part of evolutionist that Genesis says God created every species in its own kind and then told every creature to reproduce only after its kind. This is exactly what we see happening today and since no data has ever been presented to indicate such reproduction ever stopped, it is a wonder that an evolutionist would ever bring up the subject. Because some animals resemble one another like a zebra looks like a horse and a coyote looks like a dog, the evolutionist with great definite assumptions espouses what they call "theoretical progressions." Theoretical progression is based solely on the assumption that similarity of looks makes for a genre or specie.

5.2 There is a great reliance on this empirical observation of appearance; so much so that the evolutionist turns to the science of taxonomy for help. They assume the taxonomist can know as a certainty what is a specie and can therefore tell if animals are moving from one specie to another. Nothing could be further from the truth.

6. Let's look at the history of species classification or the wonderful world of taxonomy:

6.1 Although as we have seen there are numerous changes within a Biblical "kind," there has never been a change even alleged to have occurred between a meaningful species; this after hundreds of years of careful scrutiny by multitudes of biologists, all seeking desperately to find such a phenomena.

6.2 Evolutionist have duped students with cliches such as "gaps" are all we have need of finding. This gives the cursory student the impression that all but a minor proof problem remains. In reality the only proof available is "nothing" since no one even purports to have discovered movement from one species to another. Much has been left to the taxonomist to arrange species definitions since the species themselves will not cooperate and this is what has actually been done.

7. The "artful dodgers" have developed the subtle ploy that can best be described as a play on ignorance by the taxonomist—these guys should no better and be ashamed. Let me illustrate by their few diversionary insults:

7.1 Quoting from a Heutschel and Cook textbook, *Biology for Medical Students*:

"To explain the presence of so many different kinds of plants and animals, two theories have been propounded. The traditional idea was that of special creation in which all organisms as we know them today were invented and made in the beginning of time with the same structure as we now find them. Such is the primitive human conception of the origin of the species as exemplified in the first chapter of Genesis and similar ideas also current in the cosmologies of most religions of the world. The "facts" of biology, however, do not allow us to accept this view."

7.2 Hegner and Stiles in their book, *College Zoology*:

"The doctrine of special creation, that is that each species of animal was specially created, is sufficiently refuted to the satisfaction of most biologists by the "facts" of organic evolution."

7.3 Gardner Moment in his textbook *General Biology*:

"One of the oldest ideas and, until recently, the most widely accepted, is the theory of special creation. Certainly very few, perhaps no biologists, now believe that each species was separately created and has existed since the beginning of the world."

8. Much is made of the use of the Hebrew word LAMINAH translated "kind" as allegedly meaning "Every species was created exactly as it was ordained, and divinely prohibited from change." Nothing could be further from the truth. The word translated kind is very subjective and might better read "after the general likeness of one another." The kind specifically described in Genesis 1:21 is:

8.1. "whales or TANIN" in the Hebrew (meaning sea or land mammals - given the context the first TANIN would seem to be sea monsters or mammals) after their kind, living creature or NEPHESH meaning all animal life, cattle or BEHEMAH in the Hebrew meaning tame animals after their kind, creeping things or RAMAS in the Hebrew meaning living things that glide on the earth and beast or TANIN meaning land animals; contextually used to designate wild animals after their kind.

Gen 1:21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

Gen 1:23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

Gen 1:24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

Gen 1:25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

8.2 Much then is made by the evolutionist that God said something He never said. God obviously left room for animals to operate sexually within their general kind (subject to chromosome limitations, i.e., like the horse and the donkey).

8.3 Remember, we find nothing offered by the evolutionist as evidence of inter movement between the biblical kind but rather they employ a diversionary tactic, an alleged prohibition by God, that "species were separately created and must exist as originally created from the beginning of the world." This is done by the evolutionist to merely discredit the Bible because obvious INTRA-MOVEMENT of species has always been a fact.

8.4 Keep in mind the evolutionist is a master at scientific legerdemain. The evolutionist is dishonest because his arguments are most often made by men without knowledge of biological science; they therefore know that no one can properly define the term species, while at the same time they say that people who believe in special creation can distinguish species and hold that every species was created separately. Since the experts frequently disagree among themselves and change their minds as to what is a species, it is absurd as well as dishonest to imply that men who are not taxonomists can do this. What they seem to be trying to do is to make the creationists and Bible seem stupid.

9. Textbook writers charge that special creationists believe every species was created separately and then they themselves admit the number of creations of species by their classifications change from year to year. What you were never taught that, Let's look at a few examples:

9.1 Fresh water clams were formerly believed to exist in 251 species but these have now been reduced to one. See Ernst Mayer's, *Systematics and The Origin of the Species*.

9.2 In 1931 Swarth studied ground finches and classified them into 5 genre, 317 species and subspecies but confessed it would be logical to place them in one. See Julian Huxley's *The Living Thoughts of Darwin*.

9.3 In Ruggles Gates' *Human Ancestry* the species of birds were said to be reduced by changes of opinions from 27,000 to 8,500.

9.4 Fishes of North America have moved from 670 to 795. See Michael Guyers' *Animal Biology*.

9.5 In 1955 the Rana Kandivehi frog formerly classified in 1922 was later determined to be only a mutant form of the common leopard frog. It differed only with reference to a single mutant gene.

10. This list of quotes could go on forever. This is perhaps why Harvard Professor Hooten said: "I am convinced that a zoological classificationist may be as dissolute and irresponsible as a lightning rod salesman." See Ernest Hootens' *Apes, Men and Morons*.

10.1 Had Richard Nixon, the strange RINO, known how taxonomist can adjust species to fit their needs and/or how strong the environmentalist lobby would become, I doubt *the Endangered Species Act* would ever have been signed into law. Today we find progress being stopped and property rights taken, even as genera are adjusted to fit the needs of "mother earth."

11. O wretched men that we are. Thank God there is now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus.

End Lesson