

In the Beginning

A Study Through the Book of Genesis



Lesson 14: "Noah and the Ark" Chapter 6:9-22

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

I. Noah Walked with God (9-12)

9 This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

12 So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

- A. Noah was a just (righteous) man. From the Hebrew it is the word *sad-diq* and it means righteous, lived a Godly life, innocent, upright, devout.
- B. Noah was perfect in his generations. From the Hebrew it is the word *ta-mim* and it means complete, whole, blameless. It does not imply that he had no sin because as humans, we all sin and fall short of the glory of God (*Romans 3:23*).
- C. Noah Walked with God.
- D. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
- E. The earth was corrupt (ravaged, destroyed, and ruined) and violent – from the Hebrew word *ha-mas* meaning oppressive, violent, wrong in the eyes of God.
- F. All flesh had corrupted their way – meaning that they followed their own desires and ways instead of God's.

II. The Ark is Prepared (13-16)

13 And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

14 Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch.

15 And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits.

16 You shall make a window for the ark, and you shall finish it to a cubit from above; and set the door of the ark in its side. You shall make it with lower, second, and third decks.

- A. God saw that the earth was filled with violence and God told Noah that He was going to destroy all of humanity and all of the earth.
- B. God gave Noah specific instructions about how to build the ark:
 - 1. Gopherwood: most likely a type of cypress since it is durable and water resistant.
 - 2. God told Noah to make rooms in the ark.
 - 3. God told Noah to cover the inside and outside with pitch. Pitch is a tar-like substance. It is an asphalt-like resin made of tree sap and petroleum substances. It is highly waterproof. It is the Hebrew word *kopher* which related to the Hebrew idea of covering or atonement.
 - 4. God gave Noah the measurements to make the ark:
 - a. A cubit is estimated to be about 18 inches.
 - b. The length was 300 cubits = 450 feet; about 1 ½ football field lengths.
 - c. The width was 50 cubits = 75 feet wide; 5 average cars parked end to end or half of a basketball court.

- d. The height was 30 cubits = 45 feet high; a 4-story building.
- e. God told Noah to place a window one cubit from the top. This could have been one window all the way around, or one small window. The description is vague.
- f. God told Noah place the door in the side and to make lower, second, and third decks.

III. God's Declaration (17-18)

17 And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die.

18 But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you.

- A. God declared that He would bring the flood waters to destroy all flesh with the breath of life and everything on earth.
- B. God established a covenant with Noah. The Hebrew word is *be-rit* and means a solemn oath or agreement between God and man. "The covenant concept is a central, unifying theme of Scripture, establishing and defining God's relationship to man in all ages."
Steven B. Cowan, "Covenant," in Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, ed. Chad Brand et al. (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003), 355.
- C. God told Noah that he, his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives would go in the ark. It can be seen as a reference to abiding and dwelling in Christ for the believer.

IV. God's Instructions for Animals and Food (19-22)

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

20 Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive.

21 And you shall take for yourself of all food that is eaten, and you shall gather it to yourself; and it shall be food for you and for them."

22 Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

- A. God instructs Noah to take two, male and female, into the ark to keep them alive – birds, animals, and creeping things.
 - 1. God's instructions for gathering the animals includes every living thing, clean and unclean. This can be seen as a foreshadowing of God's inclusion of the Gentiles for salvation.
- B. God told Noah that all of these animals would come to him.
- C. God instructed Noah to gather food for himself, his family, and all of the animals.