

# AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

Matthew 24:37 & Luke 17:26

THE FIRST-FRUITS TO EXPERIENCE COMING UP HIGHER

**THE NOAH PARABLE** of the dealings of God to get us out of the old Adamic *valley-life* into the full *mountain-top* life of Christ whereby we can experience *the new heavens and the new earth*\*. God speaks to His people with parables so that we must lean upon Him, His indwelling Spirit, to grasp the interpretation and the desire that God has for each of us. \* 2 Peter 3:13

The scene is set at a crucial time of judgment for man because he has degraded himself to a very low place and his 'flesh' is dictating all his thinking and subsequent actions. We could be discouraged if we did not have a solid confidence in Father-God that He, never being taken by surprise, knows *all things* and *is working them together for the good* of completing His mighty plan of the ages. However, judgment must take place where the sinner (one who missed the 'mark') is found 'guilty' when judged by the Word.\*\* The guilty one is passed through for sentencing. The 'Church system' from a ways back took over from God and passed on these guilty ones a sentence of endless torment and punishment with no hope of parole. However the sentencing is the Judge-Christ's prerogative not the Church's. Because Christ bore our judgment on the cross, God exonerates the guilty from the death penalty but has a probation period (called 'hell') in which this man goes through the corrective dealings to bring him to righteousness ... Yes! *Every man in his own order*\*\*\* according to what he did with his life and relationships.

\*\* John 12:48. \*\*\* 1 Corinthians 15:22+23.

**GOD'S JUDGMENT BY WATER.** Everything manifesting fleshly carnal expressions of man's natural and oftentimes beastly lifestyle, must be judged and removed so that the life of God imparted to man at the beginning, can be released to be seen in the earth. God's plan was to destroy and remove all such evidence by means of a great flood. His plan included, however, an **ARK** for Noah and his family to come safely through the trial. Today the Ark represents the '**CROSS**' and the provision that God has given in Christ-Jesus via His death, burial, resurrection and ascension. In the Ark ... in the Cross ... we have a sure hope of experiencing the promised new beginning including all the way through to the climax in which God brings life and victory to every man each in his own order and that order is determined by God.

**NOAH'S NAME** means *REST* and/or *COMFORT*. From such a nature within, he was enabled to hear the voice of God for a stressed-out person will have great difficulty hearing that still small voice within. God revealed to Noah that there was coming a flood-judgment and he was to build an ark. Noah's faith in what God had spoken to him was so solid that he never questioned the instruction or the details that he received later. The whole plan was a gigantic undertaking ... the destiny of Jesus was likewise a huge undertaking. Bear in mind in the account we are looking at, that Noah was getting close to being 600 years young!

**GOD** had some specific dimensions for Noah to adhere to for these sizes would be in latter times a pattern or parable for all who would experience the new heavens and the new earth. God informs Noah that the length of the ark (the Hebrew word for 'ark' actually means *COFFIN*) was to be **300** cubits signifying that the ark would bring '*COMPLETE DELIVERANCE*' for all who enter therein. Remember that God measures in cubits, so we won't change these units, will we? Noah overcame his surprise silently and then heard that the width of the ark was to be **50** cubits signifying that the deliverance was to be by the Spirit (50 meaning

**PENTECOST** or **THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT**). The height was to be **30** cubits declaring that it was for all those who would seek to become fully mature in Christ (30 speaks of **MATURITY**).

**NOAH - THE LOGGER & BUILDER**. This ark was to be made of arcacia **WOOD** and 'wood' speaks of humanity. It was human Adam that failed in the beginning, it necessitated that the human Jesus was to re-establish what was lost. The ark was made of wood just as the cross was. The ark was covered inside and outside with pitch<sup>++</sup> and Jesus was our atonement on that wooden cross. One large **DOOR** near the ground large enough for elephants and everything smaller to pass through and one window on top facing heaven. This **WINDOW** had to be one cubit square ... 1c x 1c = 1 sq.c. ... depicting that at the end of these dealings, we shall be one in Him.

<sup>++</sup>the Hebrew word translated pitch is **KAPHAR** and means **ATONEMENT**

**THREE DECKS** (or storeys) were to be included speaking of the three specific dealings of God shown later in **the Feast of Passover, the Feast of Pentecost and the Feast of Tabernacles**. This could be also seen as the three parts of our being ... body, soul and spirit. All who enter will come through the door and will undergo the dealings of God separating all that is of Adam and 'his' tree of the knowledge of good and evil which will be pictured as the black raven, from the Christ-life- tree represented by the white dove. This dove, this **unified spirit-man** will bring forth the evidence of the new heavens and the new earth. One enters the Kingdom of God via Passover, gains release in Pentecost to come up higher into the fullness of God via Tabernacles.

**GOD'S COVENANT** with Noah and all he represents in this hour is that He would never destroy all fleshly life on the earth by a flood again for He knew that all flesh of Adam would ultimately be destroyed by the shed blood of Christ at Calvary through which all men would be set free to embrace and declare the Father.

**METHUSELAH**. Noah had quite a remarkable heritage including Enoch who walked with God and did not see death — he was Noah's great grandfather plus his grandfather was prophetic Methuselah known as the oldest recorded man and he pictures for us the old Adamic life which, when dead, God's progress via judgment into Life begins. Methuselah means **"it will happen when he is dead"** ... as we accept Christ-Jesus as Lord and Saviour, God's dealings with us begin. This complete surrender to Christ is a walk of faith and faith comes by hearing the word of God and doing it without debate!

If one looks carefully at Genesis 5, you will see that when Methuselah was born, his father Enoch was 65. The 65th day of the Hebrew year is the Feast of Pentecost and the 187th day of the Hebrew year is the Day of Atonement. Just a glimpse of the amazing detail God adds in for us. Methuselah was 187 when his son Lamech was born. Lamech was 182 when his son Noah was born making Methuselah at that time 187 + 182 = 369 years old, Now we read in Genesis 7:6 that when the flood came Noah was 600 years old which would make Methuselah 369 + 600 = 969 which Genesis 5:27 records was when he died ... fulfilling his prophetic name of **'IT WILL HAPPEN WHEN HE IS DEAD'**. Do you know that you died in Christ — crucified with Christ etc.?

It is time to listen to God's voice of His Spirit within you ... He will say, **"Come into the Ark"** which equates with truly taking up your cross and following Christ.

**THE ARK IS COMPLETED** and still no sign of rain let alone a flood! The Ark now is stocked up with all the provisions for the next phase of God's plan. The full work of the cross releases all that we will ever need for our journey into the new heavens and the new earth ... that's grace. The living creatures in the ark had everything provided for them. The next phase was to bring into the ark every known animal in pairs ...

however, the clean animals came in seven pairs. Noah really needed some help so God moved upon these animals and they came into the ark ... into their prepared place. Noah's life must have been magnetic drawing all expressions of life into the ark.

**COME IN.** Then follows the command of God to Noah ... "*Come into the Ark all 8 of you*" (Gen.7:1). You will notice that God did NOT say "*Go* into the Ark", right? Where was God (as it were) when He spoke? He had to be in the Ark already. God calls us today **INTO Himself** because He sees us righteous in Christ-Jesus just as He, back in Noah's day, saw him righteous. Entering in to the unknown is a step of faith and it would be quite scary without a solid, dependable trust in Christ.

Noah must have been physically tired but all through was obedient to Father's wishes. Still no sign of rain and his 'friends' of the area tried to persuade him to quit creating doubt in his mind. After a further **7** days ++ (probably on Noah's birthday?) it 'finally' started to rain. This extra waiting (7 days) was the test of patience to bring **PERFECTION** or completion of the preparation. No one had seen anything like that rain before and it kept on teeming without a break for **40** full days. '**40**' speaks of **TESTING** and **PROBATION**. ++

Romans 8:18

**THE RAIN** came down from the huge aqueous canopy that had surrounded the earth since the beginning and it flowed with the waters from within the earth that erupted to add to the flood which covered everything of the 'old' earth by a minimum height of **15** cubits. The number '**15**' denotes **SPIRITUAL REST** for **THE LAW IS FULFILLED**. God was the **CAPTAIN OF THEIR SALVATION** for He was in command of all the work to do with the ark/cross. He was the One who shut the door of the ark enclosing the **FIRSTFRUITS COMPANY** who would inherit the new heavens and the new earth shortly. Eight souls saved in the ark where the number **8** speaks of **A NEW BEGINNING** and **RESURRECTION LIFE**.

**600th. YEAR OF NOAH'S LIFE** @@... these 8 went into the ark. One week later, the water started to cover the earth. The rudderless voyage started when they embarked at God's command. 7 dry days when nothing was happening + 40 of the deluge + 150 days of God steering the ark by wind (spirit) ... certainly not by drifting = 197 days of being cooped up in an unpleasant atmosphere even for farmers! Many of the animals, I believe, were in hibernation ... so that their natural cries, because of their unaccustomed surroundings and routines, would not be heard. This pictures for us how we could react out of our humanity to the new demands involved in walking away from our comfort-zones. @@ Genesis 7:6

**THE ANIMALS** ... in pairs for they would be reproducing and replenishing in the new world. Each species of animals represents an aspect of your character that you bring along within you as you are dealt with by the Lord. Some characteristics are good and others not so good! The stubborn-goat alongside the Tiger-temper plus the elephants forgetfulness... the lion's ruling ability ... the skeptical jackass .. the running (away) jaguar ... the eagle who soars the heavenlies and the chicken who scratches in the dirt ... and so on.

The flood waters abated and settled; the Ark ran aground at the top of a mountain in **the seventh month** on the 17th. day ... the month of the Tabernacles Feast. The number '**17**' denotes **VICTORY**.

**ARARAT** was the name of the mountain ... God named it for man could not see it. The chosen name means **THE CURSE IS REVERSED**. Even with the vision in sight ... their destiny apparently fulfilled ... they still had to stay in the ark for approximately another 2½ months. That was almost as hard a test as floating along trusting the Lord that He knew where they were going.

**TIME TO OPEN THE WINDOW** ... out goes a **RAVEN** which represents **RELIGION** all the fleshly religious speech, rituals, calendars that had been removed from the firstfruit mariners. Ravens are black and they mostly feed upon dead flesh called unbelief, negativeness, lies and gossip etc. The **DOVE** is then sent forth ... the dove represents the kingdom life that has been somewhat dormant in each one seen in the oneness in the spirit of God, peace, purity (pure in heart) and gentleness. Seven more days passed before the dove brought back evidence of the new life in the new world in the new age (Gk. **AIONIOS**) of the Kingdom of God.

**DISEMBARK** for all things are new. Noah and crew saw the stars and the new heavens in the natural for the first time ... they then experienced the new earth for formerly they were in a fertile valley and now they would have to till the hilly land for their survival. All the livestock were released in their new natures where the lamb could lie down with the lion etc. Noah built an altar and gave a thank-offering for it was surely God in the Ark that brought them through such dealings and testings. The 'clean' animals were also a thanksgiving-sacrifice acceptable to God as well as having an advantage in reproducing more than the unclean. There will still be some former, natural traits or characteristics for the next order to overcome.

**SEASONS** were introduced which introduced some new patterns and principles relating to the new lifestyle of the new surroundings. **WINTER** time of apparent death, cold times and hardship wherein one learns patience for the **SPRINGTIME** of seed time will surely follow with evidences of new life come forth bringing in the warmth of the **SUMMER** season of growth and increase. **AUTUMN** (or FALL) proclaims the harvest of God's provision.

For **the present-day end-time firstfruits Noah-company** will disembark to answer the cry that is now coming from all creation which has an expectation of new life ... for mother earth has been pregnant a long time!

**AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH** ... Jesus brought this parable of Noah to our attention by saying, '*As in the days of Noah so shall the days of the Son of Man be ...*' (Luke 17:26); '*As in the days of Noah, so shall be the coming of the Son of Man*' (Matt.24:37). 'Son of Man' here speaks of the corporate Son of Man, the Body of Christ. Christ only has one body. The Word does not say 'Son of God'. **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. (Heb.11:17).

\*\*\* Romans 12:1-3

Rom 8:18 *For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time (IN THE ARK/CROSS DEALINGS) are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us (IN THE NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH WALK). (19) For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God (THE NOAH-FIRSTFRUITS COMPANY OF SONS). (20) For the creation was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, (21) Because the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. (22) For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together UNTIL NOW. (23) And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit (wherein is the vision of our calling), even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body (THUS FULLY EQUIPPED TO MOVE IN RECONCILIATION AND RESTORATION FROM THE THRONE).*