

2021: Saturday, 9/18 at 4:00 & Sunday, 9/19 at 9:00



Series: Are You Ready to Cross the Finish Line?

Let's Start Over Again

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Scripture: Genesis 6:9 – 9:17, NAS 1995

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: As a computer can sometimes be repaired through a restart, so *the LORD restarted the world through the devastating worldwide flood!* From *the first sin* until *God called Noah to build the ark* was a period of about 1,500 years. The trend was **from bad to worse**: *ignoring the LORD, focusing on temporal things, and having thoughts that were only evil continually* 😞.

The people of Noah's day were NOT ready to cross the finish line, **BUT** 😞the flood came, 😞they died, and 😞they went to hell. The true story of the worldwide flood is intended to lead sinners to *be sorry and cry out to the LORD for mercy!*

- Promise and Preparation:** ¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence....
¹³ Then God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me..., I am about to destroy them with the earth.
¹⁴ Make for yourself an ark... ¹⁷ Behold, **I, even I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth, to destroy all flesh....** ¹⁸ But I will establish My covenant [agreement] with

you; and you shall enter the ark-- you and your sons [Shem, Ham, and Japheth] and your wife, and your sons' wives with you....²⁰ [Regarding birds, animals, and creeping things], **two of every kind will come to you....**²¹ As for you, take for yourself some of all food which is edible, and gather *it* to yourself; and it shall be for food for you and for them.”
// The plan was so radical, yet Noah believed and obeyed!

- Building and Preaching:** Following the LORD's command, Noah made the ark **500 feet long, 83 feet wide, and 50 feet high** (see 6:15; cubit = elbow to fingertip, about 20 inches).¹ Quite a HUGE task for ▶Noah, ▶his sons, and ▶possibly some hired help. They worked on the construction of the ark for about 55 to 75 years.² During that time, the Bible says that “Noah... prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world” (Heb. 11:7). What does that mean? Noah believed and built; *the world disbelieved and mocked*. The Bible calls Noah “a preacher of righteousness” (2 Peter 2:5). Why? When the people sinned, *he called them to repent and trust in the Messiah!* Since they all rejected, *they all condemned themselves!*
- Entering, Timing, and Water:** **7:1** Then the LORD said to Noah, “Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you [singular] *alone* I have seen *to be righteous before Me* in this time [*thus, believing in the Promised Messiah*]....⁴ **...after seven more days, I will send rain on the earth** forty days and forty nights...”¹¹ In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, **...all the fountains of the great deep** burst open [*coming up* ↑], and **the floodgates of the sky** were opened

¹ <https://arkencounter.com/noahs-ark/cubit/>

² <https://answersingenesis.org/bible-timeline/how-long-did-it-take-for-noah-to-build-the-ark/>

[falling down ↓]. ¹² The rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights. // Noah alone was righteous in the LORD's sight, yet, *in His mercy*, the LORD spared the lives of the others and used them to repopulate the earth. Being connected to Noah, they survived the flood, *but each person must know Jesus to go to heaven (Ez. 14:12-20)!*

4. **Depth and Death:** ¹⁷ ...the water increased and lifted up the ark, so that it rose above the earth.... ¹⁹ ...**all the high mountains everywhere under the heavens were covered....** ²¹ **All flesh that moved on the earth perished...** ²³ ...only Noah was left, together with those that were with him in the ark. ²⁴ The water prevailed [*was strong*] upon the earth **one hundred and fifty days.** // The LORD promised the flood; *then He sent the flood!* How many died? Hard to say, but a possible estimate is **four billion** (*about half the population of today's world*).³ Let us always believe the LORD!
5. **Rest and Dry land:** **8:1** But God remembered Noah and all the beasts...; and God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the water subsided.... ⁴ In the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month [*5 months after the flood began*], the ark rested upon the mountains of Ararat.... ¹⁴ In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month [*1 year and 10 days after the flood began*], the earth was dry. // Imagine being on the ark: ♦ **40** days of tremendous water; ♦ then floating for another **110** days; ♦ then coming to rest on the mountains of Ararat; ♦ then waiting another **220** days for the water to recede and the ground to dry. It was all very difficult, **YET** the LORD was ☺*in control and* ☺*carried them through the worldwide calamity.* He will do the same today, *so let us trust Him and be at peace!*

³ <https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/pre-flood-population/>

6. **Sacrifice and Seasons:** ¹⁵ Then God spoke to Noah, saying, ¹⁶ “Go out of the ark...” ¹⁸ So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him. ¹⁹ Every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird... ²⁰ Then **Noah built an altar to the LORD...** ²¹ ...and the LORD said to Himself... “I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done. ²² While the earth remains, **Seedtime and harvest, And cold and heat, And summer and winter, And day and night Shall not cease.**” // When we have faith, we see God’s blessings and give Him a portion of what He has given to us. Also, *He controls the weather and seasons!* So, let us **TRUST THE LORD** and **LIVE WITHOUT FEAR!**
7. **The Post-Flood World:** **9:1** ...God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “**Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth [but they stayed together☺]....**” ³ **Every moving thing that is alive shall be food for you [earlier they had been given only the plants]** ... ⁶ **Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed [introducing court justice and capital punishment]** ... ¹¹ I establish My covenant with you; and all flesh shall never again be cut off by the water of the flood.... ¹³ **I set My bow [rainbow] in the cloud....”**

Conclusion:

- **Truth** – The LORD caused the worldwide flood!
- **Relevance** – All **un**repentant ones will go to hell!
- **Inspiration** – The way to heaven is now open **thru Jesus!**

Let Us Pray: Dear Holy Spirit, make us VERY serious about continuing in repentance and sharing God’s truth with others!

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Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma; **Podcast-listen:** Benefit from the Bible
Address: 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134; **Phone:** 440-845-2230