

February 14, 2021

La Jolla Christian Fellowship

GENESIS : Behind The Curtain
Episode 4 : The "Ark" of History

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Genesis 6:9-14

This is the account of Noah and his family.

Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God. ¹⁰Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. ¹¹Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹²God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. ¹⁴So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out.

Key Idea:

Key elements of the text:

1. **The righteousness of Noah**
2. **The corruption of the earth**
3. **God's plan of redemption**

- 1) **The righteousness of Noah: Vs. 9** *Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God.*
 - a) **Job 1:1** *In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil.*
 - b) **Gen 5:2** *Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.*

- 2) **The way of Noah: Isaiah 42:5-7** *Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶**"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,** ⁷ *to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.**

3) **The corruption of the earth:**

- a) **Vs. 11-13** *Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹² God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³ So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth.*
- b) **Matthew 24:36-39** *"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.*

4) **God's plan of redemption: The Arch of history is an ark of redemption.**

- a) **The Ark of Noah: Gen 6:14** *So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out.*
- b) **The Ark of the Covenant: Exodus 37:1** *Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood--two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high.*
- c) **Mary as the Ark of Christ: Luke 1:30-32** *But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.*
- d) **You as the Ark/Tabernacle of the Holy Spirit: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20** *Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.*

Small group discussion questions:

1. Vs. 9 says that *Noah was a righteous man that walked blamelessly before God*. Is that possible today? What does righteousness look like in 2021?
2. Isaiah 42:6 talks about the blessings and call that comes with walking righteously with God. Describe in your own words what those blessings are according to this verse.
3. The times of Noah were seen by God as corrupt. How should we respond to modern day corruption? Do we have a part in stemming the tide of corruption? How?
4. Pastor Adam spoke about 4 archetypal arks in scripture that bring salvation. They were, the ark of Noah, the ark of the covenant, Mary as the mother and ark carrying Jesus and you as the ark or temple of the Holy Spirit. Is this a new idea for you and what are your thoughts on this scriptural idea?
5. How would understanding yourself as an ark of the Holy Spirit carrying God's message of hope to a corrupt and broken world change the way you live daily or perhaps see your mission on this earth?