

Noah – Lesson 1: Introduction

Psalm 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to pass.

In this lesson set, we will examine the testimony of Noah to see a snapshot of the progression of humanity and gain an understanding of the expectations of God, as all of us are in the same boat.

“Unless commitment is made, there are only promises and hopes...but no plans” – Peter Drucker, American management consultant, educator and author (1909 – 2005).

Mr. Drucker’s admonition to his readers affirms that action is a result of more than simple intent – It requires commitment; That inner quality that motivates us to follow through, changing thoughts and ideas into actions that bring accomplishment.

The best ideas are pointless if they never have commitment to drive movement, and we will never go forward while looking backward (commitment is about the future, and the future starts right now):

- **Luke 9:62 – The Lord requires commitment**

(62) And Jesus said unto him, **No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.**

Christ makes it very clear the only way forward is never behind you – If you cannot look ahead, you are not eligible for what lies ahead.

Noah is the benchmark of commitment in a human being as he is exclusive among the creation of God. He is only behind Adam (Adam and Eve are the only created humans to have ever set foot in this world) and Enoch (GEN 5:24 – Walked with God, God took him). For a reference, the ‘beginning’ is exactly where we will begin – To define just who Noah is, and we will proceed from there.

The lineage of Noah

Genesis 5:1-3 – The starting point

(1) This *is* the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;

(2) Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

(3) And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat *a son* in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

On the sixth day of creation (**GEN 1:26-28**) God created Adam in the image of God - A triune being (**GEN 2:7**) of body (dust of the ground), spirit (God’s breath of life) and soul (a LIVING soul – eternal). Adam is the only one directly created in the image of God in this fashion.

Eve was later created by God of Adam (**GEN 2:21-22**) where she is his flesh (**GEN 2:23** – Bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh). All humanity after this are children of Adam.

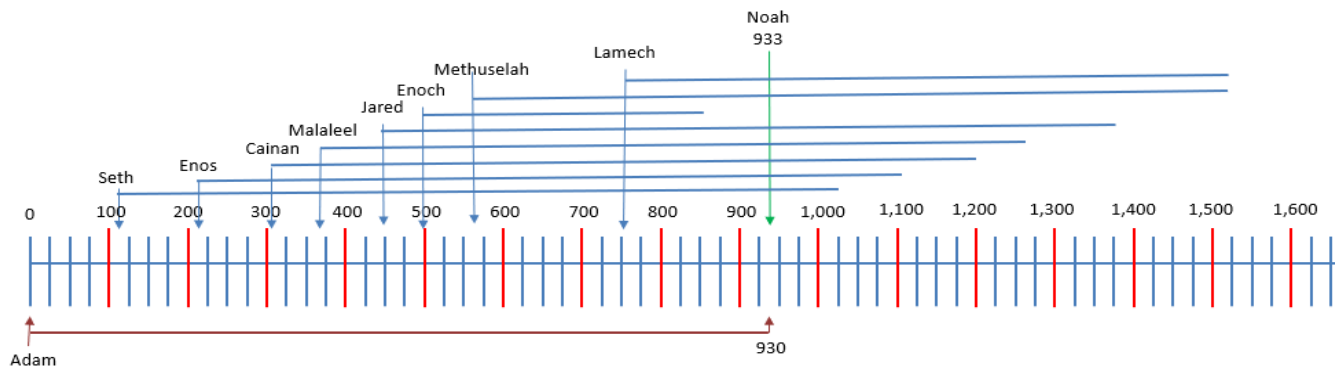
This is where we will start – Looking at Noah’s ancestry:

Adam and Eve had three sons – Cain, Abel, and Seth

- Cain was first born, but cursed for the murder of his brother Abel (**GEN 4**) where Abel had no descendants and Cain was cursed (**GEN 4:14** – A fugitive and vagabond, and marked by God). Cain’s children were children of disobedience (**GEN 4:23-24**).
- Adam begat his third son Seth (**GEN 5:3**) at 130 yrs, lived 930 yrs and begat sons and daughters

- Seth (912 yrs) produced the lineage that would endure, with the naming of each successive first born starting with Enos when Seth was 105 yrs old:
 - Enos (**GEN 5:6**) begat Cainan at 90, lived 905 yrs and begat sons and daughters
 - Cainan (**GEN 5:10**) begat Malalaleel at 70, lived 910 yrs and begat sons and daughters
 - Mahalaleel (**GEN 5:12**) begat Jared at 65, at lived 895 yrs and begat sons and daughters
 - Jared (**GEN 5:16**) begat Enos at 62, lived 962 yrs and begat sons and daughters
 - Enoch (**GEN 5:19**) begat Methuselah at 65, lived 365 yrs and begat sons and daughters – Enoch walked with God and God took him (brought before God directly)
 - Methuselah (**GEN 5:21**) begat Lamech at 187, lived 969 yrs and begat sons and daughters
 - Lamech (**GEN 5:26**) begat Noah at 182, lived 777 yrs and begat sons and daughters
- Noah is the tenth generation of humanity and his birth represents 933 years after creation – Born just three years after Adam passed away (Adam lived to 930 and saw all the sons and daughters of the following nine generations).

Noah lived among Seth, Enos, Cainan, Malaleel, Jared, Methuselah and Lamech, and most of their sons and daughters:



Born into a world in decline

Genesis 5:28-29 – Hope springs eternal

(28) And Lamech lived an hundred eighty and two years, and begat a son:

(29) And he called his name Noah, saying, This *same* shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD hath cursed.

Lamech lived in a time when literally all of his ancestors (with the exception of Able) were alive, and he had first hand knowledge that the world was not getting better, but worse:

- All were cursed due to the transgression of Adam and Eve:

Genesis 3:16 – The curse of womanhood

(16) Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

The role of wife and mother will consume the woman where there will never be worldly freedom from this curse (there will be deception, but it will always be present)

Genesis 3:17-19 – The curse of man

(17) And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

(18) Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

(19) In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.

The man will be consumed in the conflict of the world – It will be a constant struggle as man is expelled from Eden and will have to fight for survival (the entire world is now uncooperative with humanity and not in harmony) with the end being a return to the elements of the earth.

Lamech named his first born Noah out of hope and desperation that this son may be a path of reconciliation with God, and a return to the blessings of alignment with God.

The children of Adam grow distant from God

Genesis 6:3-6 – A spiritual storm building

(3) And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also *is* flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

(4) There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare *children* to them, the same *became* mighty men which *were* of old, men of renown.

(5) And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.

(6) And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

As the rebellion of humanity grows, it is fueled by 'unnatural' conditions as other created beings (sons of God – Not part of this creation) interfere with (or take advantage of) the lust of the human heart:

- **1 John 2:16** For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

As the human heart is desperately wicked (**JER 17:9**), it is the conflict of this world

- **Psalms 81:12** So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: *and* they walked in their own counsels.

God recognizes the desire of humanity toward sin and allows their indulgence, which will be the course to their own end (**PROV 16:18** – Pride goeth before destruction)

Note: There is more than a cursed nature at work to drive humanity away from God:

Genesis 3:14-15 – Enemy in the midst

(14) And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

(15) And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Satan is the enemy of humanity – From Adam, through to the time of Noah, though to today, until the deceiver is eventually defeated (**REV 20:10** – Cast into the lake of fire)

- Bruise the heel: Satan will attack Christ (and those who are His) but cannot deliver the fatal blow.
- Bruise thy head: Satan will be defeated by Christ, as the judgement will be fatal and final.

This is the world Noah is born into – A world of chaos, confusion, and wickedness, where humanity strays further and further from God. Although among family (the nine previous generations almost all present), Noah is in a hostile environment knows no peace, love, or holiness (**GEN 6:11-12** – Corrupt, filled with violence), and is at the edge of God's judgement.

Considering the testimony of humanity from all of Noah's predecessors, it is revealed that the heart of humanity has not changed – Love can only come from God (**1 JOHN 4:8** – God is love) and the only path is through God's gift of the Christ (**John 14:6** – *I am the way, the truth, and the life*).

Next Lesson: Noah – Raising A Family

Noah – Lesson 1: Introduction

Study Questions

1. According to Genesis 5:3, how old was Adam when Seth was born?

2. According to Genesis 5:28-29, who is Noah's father?

3. According to Genesis 5:28-29, how old was Noah's father when he was born?

4. According to Genesis 5:29, what was the hope of Noah's father upon his birth?

5. Complete the following scripture:

Psalm 37:5 Commit thy _____ unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to _____.

True / False

T F Noah is a descendant of Cain

Reference

T F Cain was marked by God

T F Curse of humanity includes misalignment with nature

T F God will protect you from your own mistakes

EXTRA CREDIT – In your opinion, are children the hope of something better? Why or why not?
