

SERMON 3: Noah — "Judgment and Mercy: God Remembers"

Text: Genesis 5:6–10:32 Character Focus: Noah

Theme: God judges sin with righteousness, but preserves His promise through

mercy.

Main Principle: In the midst of judgment, God remembers His people and keeps

His covenant.

INTRODUCTION

The story of **Noah** is more than a tale of animals and an ark. It's a story of **justice** and grace. The world had grown violent, corrupt, and lawless. But in the middle of that dark generation, one man stood out: **Noah**, who "walked with God." His story is about the **certainty of judgment**, the **power of obedience**, and the **faithfulness of God** to remember His covenant and preserve His plan of redemption.

SERMON OUTLINE

- 1. The Corruption of the World (6:1–13)
- 2. The Command to Build the Ark (6:14–22)
- 3. The Judgment by Flood (7:1-24)
- 4. God Remembers Noah (8:1–19)
- 5. The Covenant of Preservation (8:20-9:17)
- 6. The Failure of Noah and the Spread of Nations (9:18–10:32)

EXPOSITIONAL TEXT – VERSE BY VERSE



6:5 – "And Yahweh saw that the evil of man was great in the earth, and every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." (JEN)

- **Explanation:** The word ra' (evil) speaks of moral corruption and violence. Man's depravity wasn't just in action but in **intention**—the very fabric of his heart was twisted.
- **Historical Setting:** Ancient societies like Mesopotamia also had flood legends (e.g., Epic of Gilgamesh), but Genesis uniquely emphasizes **moral judgment and divine holiness**.
- Supporting Scriptures:
 - Romans 3:10 "None is righteous..."
 - Matthew 24:37–39 The days of Noah were full of wickedness before judgment came.
- **Principle:** Sin corrupts deeply and universally.
- Application: God sees the heart—repentance must begin there.

• 6:8 – "But Noah found grace in the eyes of Yahweh." (JEN)

- **Explanation:** *Chen* (grace) means undeserved favor. Noah was not perfect—but he believed and walked with God (v. 9). He was different because he trusted God's word.
- **Key Word:** *Grace* appears here for the first time in the Bible.
- Supporting Scriptures:
 - Hebrews 11:7 Noah built the ark by faith.
 - Titus 2:11 Grace appears to bring salvation.
- Principle: God saves by grace through faith, not merit.
- Application: Like Noah, live set apart by faith in a world of compromise.

★ 6:14 – "Make for yourself an ark of gopher wood..." (JEN)

• Explanation: God gives Noah exact instructions for salvation— measurements, materials, design. The ark becomes a symbol of refuge in judgment, designed by God Himself.



- **Historical Insight:** The size (450 ft long) shows it was built not for speed, but for survival. The ark is a type of **Christ**, our only safe place from God's wrath.
- Supporting Scriptures:
 - John 10:9 "I am the door."
 - 1 Peter 3:20–21 The ark prefigures baptism and salvation through Christ.
- **Principle:** Obedience to God's design brings salvation.
- **Application:** Are you following God's Word precisely, or selectively?

7:1 – "Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you I have seen to be righteous before Me in this generation." (JEN)

- **Explanation:** God's command is **personal and urgent**. He sees righteousness and makes provision for Noah's family.
- Supporting Scriptures:
 - Acts 16:31 "Believe...and you will be saved, you and your household."
 - o Psalm 34:15 "The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous."
- **Principle:** God honors righteousness and protects the faithful.
- Application: Your obedience can have generational impact.

7:17 – "Then the flood came upon the earth for forty days..." (JEN)

- Explanation: The rain fell, the earth convulsed, and judgment began.
 "Forty" symbolizes testing or judgment. Everything outside the ark perished.
- **Key Word:** *mabbul* the Hebrew word for the flood implies total destruction.
- Supporting Scriptures:
 - 2 Peter 3:6–7 The flood prefigures future judgment by fire.
 - Genesis 7:23 "Only Noah was left."
- **Principle:** God's judgment is real and thorough.



• **Application:** Don't delay obedience—judgment comes suddenly.

* 8:1 – "But God remembered Noah..." (JEN)

- **Explanation:** "Remembered" (zakar) in Hebrew means more than recollection—it means God acted on behalf of His covenant. The storm did not make Him forget. This is the turning point of the narrative.
- **Key Word Study:** zakar is covenantal—it means "God kept His word."
- Supporting Scriptures:
 - Psalm 106:45 "He remembered His covenant..."
 - Luke 1:72 God remembered His holy covenant.
- **Principle:** Even in judgment, God remembers mercy.
- Application: When you feel forgotten, trust that God remembers His promises to you.

8:20 – "Then Noah built an altar to Yahweh..." (JEN)

- Explanation: First response after salvation? Worship. Noah offers clean animals in gratitude. God smells the offering and commits never to destroy the earth again in the same way.
- Supporting Scriptures:
 - Romans 12:1 Present your bodies as a living sacrifice.
 - Hebrews 13:15 Offer a sacrifice of praise.
- **Principle:** Salvation leads to worship and gratitude.
- Application: Has God delivered you? Then respond in worship.

9:13 – "I set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth." (JEN)

• **Explanation:** The rainbow (*qeshet*) is a warrior's bow hung up—pointed away from earth. It's a sign of peace and divine restraint. God binds Himself in mercy.



- **Key Word:** Berit covenant; God initiates a binding promise of protection.
- Supporting Scriptures:
 - Isaiah 54:9 "As I swore that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth..."
 - o Revelation 4:3 A rainbow surrounds God's throne.
- **Principle:** God keeps His covenant even when man fails.
- Application: Trust in the God who binds Himself to mercy.

9:21 – "Noah drank of the wine and became drunk..." (JEN)

- **Explanation:** Even the righteous fail. After God's great act of salvation, Noah's weakness is exposed. His son Ham dishonors him, but Shem and Japheth cover him.
- Supporting Scriptures:
 - 1 Corinthians 10:12 "Let him who thinks he stands take heed..."
 - Romans 3:23 "All have sinned..."
- **Principle:** No human savior is sufficient. We need a greater Noah.
- **Application:** Don't rest in past faithfulness—walk humbly today.

10:32 – "These are the clans of the sons of Noah...from these the nations spread abroad on the earth after the flood." (JEN)

- **Explanation:** Noah's family becomes the seedbed of all nations. God's plan of redemption continues—**from one family to all nations**.
- Supporting Scripture:
 - Acts 17:26 "From one man, God made every nation..."
 - Revelation 7:9 All nations gathered around the throne.
- **Principle:** God's covenant is global in scope.
- **Application:** Live with a mission mindset—God desires worship from every nation.

© CONCLUSION & APPLICATION



→ Big Idea:

Noah's life shows us that **God is holy and will judge sin**, but He is also **gracious and remembers His people**. The ark was a shelter from wrath—so is **Christ**, our true refuge.

Application Points:

- 1. Live a righteous life in a corrupt world by faith in God's Word.
- 2. **Warn others**—judgment is real, and the door of the ark won't stay open forever.
- 3. Trust in God's covenant faithfulness—He never forgets His people.
- 4. **Worship God** for His mercy, and **walk humbly**, knowing even the faithful stumble.
- 5. **Look to Christ**, the greater Ark, who saves us from the wrath to come (1 Thess. 1:10).