

Noah's efforts of boat building come to fruition as God sends the flood. In His execution of judgement, God takes the life of all land-dwelling things due to the hardness of man's heart. However, in the midst of His wrath, we see His grace, preserving Noah and his family for future generations that will populate the earth once again.

## Genesis 7:1-8:5

# The Flood

### I. COMPARING OUR STORIES

#### **MY EXPERIENCE...**

#### **YOUR EXPERIENCE...**

For many, Noah and the ark are a difficult piece of history to rationalize. Scripture is clear regarding the events that took place; a catastrophic flood, an enormous boat, and the preservation of one family and only a few kinds of animals. The destruction of so much life can leave a challenging explanation to some, especially when we're discussing a benevolent, good, God.

### II. CONSIDERING OUR STRUGGLES

**WHAT** challenges arise when you consider explaining the flood to others?

**HOW** do you explain God's wrath on so much of the world because of man's sin?

**HAVE** you ever doubted the story of Noah and the ark?

**WHERE** do you see God's mercy in the story of Noah and the flood, specifically?

# Genesis 7:1-8:5      Read Genesis 7:1-8:5

## The Flood

### **OBSERVATION**

How is Noah described in vs. 1?

How many pairs of clean/unclean animals is Noah called to take into the ark?

How did Noah respond to the Lord's commands (vs. 5)?

What was the source of water for the flood, according to vs. 11?

Who shut Noah, his family, and the animals into the ark (vs. 16)?

For how long did the waters prevail upon the earth (vs. 24)?

Where did the ark finally come to rest (8:4)?

### **INTERPRETATION**

What does it mean that Noah was righteous? Consider Romans Genesis 6:5 and Romans 3:23.

What's the difference between clean and unclean animals? Why would God require more of some than the others? See Leviticus 11 and Genesis 8:20 for insight.

Compare the timing of the floods onslaught (Noah's age and the beginning of the flood) in vs. 11 to that of the flood's completion in 8:13. What does this tell us about the duration of water covering the earth?

What might the source of the floodwaters reveal to us about the geography of the earth (vs. 11)?

Explain the significance of verse 16 and how this points to the gracious protection of Noah and His family.

What does 2 Peter 2:5 and Hebrews 11:7 reveal to us about Noah, his character, and what he was up against?

What does it mean to live righteously before God today? Are we even able to do so in this generation?

### **APPLICATION**

How might you compare and contrast Noah's situation to yours? What can we learn from Noah's experience in Genesis 7 that would translate to our situation today?