

The Flood
Genesis 7:20 - 8:22

How to use this Scripture Engagement



Pray to Begin

Before you start each lesson, ask the Lord to use it to grow you in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.



Read the Bible passage

Invite God to open your eyes and deepen your understanding of His Word as you read the passage.



Study the Scripture Engagement Guide

Go through the Scripture Engagement study provided to reflect on the meaning, context, and personal application of the passage you've read.



Reflect on the Scripture Engagement Questions

After every teaching, consider the Scripture Engagement questions listed for personal reflection and application and for your small group discussions.



Listen to Dr. J. Vernon McGee's Teaching

If you'd like to hear the complete audio teaching on the passage, [visit ttb.bible](http://ttb.bible) or scan the QR code on the last page to download the THRU the BIBLE app in your own language.



Use our recommended **pause and resume icon**. This will guide you to move through the content thoughtfully and at your own rhythm.

For your consideration

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The Flood

Dear Heavenly Father,

Just as You remembered Noah in the flood, we trust that You remember us in every storm. Help us walk in faith, obeying Your Word even when we don't see the full picture. Thank You for being our refuge and for the new life we have in Christ.

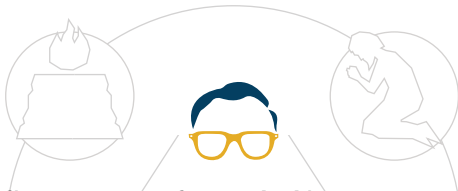
In Jesus' name, Amen.



The Flood and the Only Refuge



Genesis 7:20-24



"The first act after deliverance wasn't rebuilding but worship. Noah built an altar, not a house."

-Dr. J. Vernon McGee



Spiritual Truths

The Flood Was Universal

The biblical account is unmistakable: **the floodwaters covered the entire earth**, not just a local region.

"And God said to Noah, 'The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.'" (Genesis 6:13)

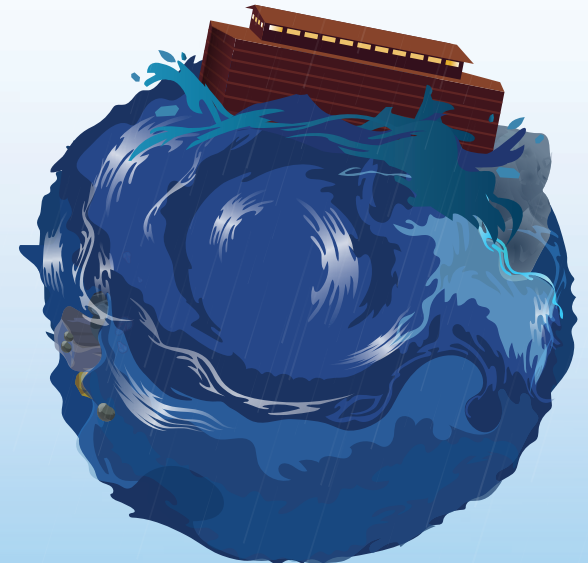
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And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man. All in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, all that was on the dry land, died.

Genesis 7:21-22

”

Genesis 6:13 and Genesis 7:21-23 declare that, “**all living things**” (v.23) perished, except those inside the ark.



Only Those in the Ark Were Saved

Noah and his family were **the only survivors of this global judgment**. "So He destroyed all living things... Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive." (*Genesis 7:23*)

This is a vivid picture of **salvation**, which is found **only in God's appointed way**, just as Christ is **the only way of salvation today**. "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" (*John 14:6*)

Scoffers in the Last Days

Just as Noah faced ridicule, we too live in an age of skepticism.

2 Peter 3:3-4 predicted skeptics would mock believers saying, **"Where is the promise of His coming?"**

This is the mindset called uniformitarianism, which denies judgement and intervention.

But the global Flood is a historical event, and it's evidence that God will again judge the world. (*2 Peter 3:5-7*)



The scoffer has always been a uniformitarian, but you could not very well hold that position and accept the integrity of the Word of God at this particular point.

”

God's Salvation Plan Foreshadowed

The ark was God's only provision for salvation. Those who ignored God's warning perished, but those who entered the ark were saved. "Then the Lord said to Noah, 'Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation.'" (*Genesis 7:1*)

Likewise, **Jesus Christ is God's only provision for sinners today**. "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (*Acts 4:12*)

All outside of Him will face judgment. All who are in Christ will be saved.





Reflection

Question 1

Why is it important to believe in a literal and global flood? What does the flood say about God's justice?

Question 2

How do you see others challenging or dismissing what the Bible says about God's truth and judgment?

[illegible]

Application

Question 3

How can we lovingly share the truth of judgment and salvation with those who are skeptical? Think of someone you can share the good news with today.

Draw your Application



God Remembers and Brings Peace

 Genesis 8:1-5

 Key Insights

God Remembers

The phrase, “**God remembered Noah**” is deeply comforting. God **never forgets** His people.

“**Remembered**” doesn’t mean God had forgotten Noah. It means He **acted with steadfast love**, fulfilling His promise to deliver Noah and his family.

God Restores

The wind that began to dry the earth reminds us that God **uses natural means to accomplish His supernatural purposes**.

The flood **didn’t end suddenly**, it took time. God works in **His timing**, with **precision and care**.



God Gives Rest

“Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat.” (*Genesis 8:4*)

After 150 days of prevailing waters, the ark rested on the mountains of Ararat.



The word “**rested**” echoes the Sabbath. After judgment comes **rest and peace**. It’s God’s restoration and a new beginning for those who trust Him.



Reflection

Question 1

How does it deepen your understanding of God to think that Jesus remembered you when he bore the judgment for your sins on the cross?

Question 2

Reflect on the freedom you have in Christ to live at peace with God, knowing His promises never fail.

[illegible]

Application

Question 3

Do you find peace when you surrender control, trust His promises, and remember that He is with you?

Draw your Application



Lessons from the Raven and the Dove



Genesis 8:6-12



Spiritual Truths

Noah's release of the raven and dove reveals a rich spiritual lesson about the believer's two natures.

The Raven

The Old Nature - Sinful Nature

The raven never returned to the ark. Considered unclean (*Leviticus 11:15*), it likely fed on the decaying remains floating in the water.

"For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find."
(*Romans 7:18*)

This bird is a picture of **our old sinful nature**. It's drawn to what is corrupt, restless, and is unable to find satisfaction in the presence of God.



The Dove

The New Nature - Christ's Nature

In contrast, the dove, a clean bird, returned with an **olive leaf**, symbolizing **life, peace, and restoration**.



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."
(*2 Corinthians 5:17*)

The dove's repeated flights, and its final departure when the earth was ready, can be likened to the **Spirit-led nature** of the believer. Unlike the raven, the dove found rest only when the waters of judgment had receded, just as our souls find true rest only in Christ.

The Coexistence of Both in the Ark

Inside the ark were both **clean and unclean animals**, a reminder that in every believer, the old nature and the new nature still exist.

"That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." (John 3:6)

The Spirit empowers us to live, fight the old nature within us, and live in the new nature.

Paul's Explanation: Two Natures in One Life

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.” 1 John 2:15

Paul taught that the believer lives with a **constant struggle** between the **old nature (flesh)** and the **new nature (Spirit)**.

"For the **flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh**; and **these are contrary to one another**, so that you do not do the things that you wish." (Galatians 5:17)

The raven represents **that restless old nature**, drawn to the things of this world, while the dove **reflects the believer's new heart** that longs for purity, peace, and God's presence.

Many justify living like the world, but **God's standard doesn't change** with culture or human opinion.

The world today is already **under judgment**, just as in Noah's day.

The believer must live a life that is **set apart in distinction and mission**.

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15





Reflection

Question 1

When your heart feels restless, like the dove searching for a place to land, where do you return to rest? Do you find rest in Christ or look for rest in the world?

Question 2

Are you enjoying the “old nature”, like worldly recognition or success, or are you longing for God’s presence and peace found only in Christ?



Application

Question 3

What does the “raven nature” in you feed on? Identify if there are any habits, appetites, or attitudes that pull you away from walking with God?

Question 4

What does returning to the “ark” mean to you? Sketch or journal what your personal “ark” of refuge in God looks like. It will be a visual reminder of where true safety and peace are found in Christ.

Draw your Application



New Beginnings: Sacrifice, Covenant, Commission



Genesis 8:13-22

Timeframe of the Flood

The total time Noah and his family were in the ark:

371 days

150
Days

of rising
waters

221
Days

of waters receding
and the earth drying



“...the waters were dried up from the earth...” (v.13)

This confirms again: the Flood was **universal**, not local.

Noah's First Act: Worship Before Work

“Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.” (v.20)

Noah's **first priority** was to worship God through **sacrifice**.

He offered **clean animals**, this is why God instructed taking seven of the clean.

Dr. McGee makes a note, that this **burnt offering foreshadows Jesus Christ**. The offering of praise and full surrender that pleases God.

“And the Lord smelled a soothing aroma...” (v.21)



Christ Connection

Noah's altar of thanksgiving points forward to the **greater sacrifice of Jesus Christ**.

"And the Lord smelled a soothing aroma. Then the Lord said in His heart, 'I will never again curse the ground for man's sake...'" (*Genesis 8:21*)

Just as Noah's sacrifice pleased God, **Christ's sacrifice on the cross fully satisfies God's justice** and leads the way for mercy and reconciliation between God and man.

"For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified." (*Hebrews 10:14*)

God's Promise & Covenant with Humanity



Man's Rebellion

Even after the flood, God acknowledges the unchanged condition of human hearts.

"... although **the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth**; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done." (*Genesis 8:21*)

3R's	What Happened	Reference
Rebellion	Man openly rebelled against God	Genesis 6:5
Revelation Rejected	Noah preached for 120 years, but people ignored his warnings	2 Peter 2:5
Repentance Refused	No one turned back to God	Genesis 7:1

This is a sobering reminder of the **spiritual hardness** of mankind, even when warned.

Though the world had been **cleansed by water**, the **root of sin** remained in man's heart and the nature of man remains the same.

Salvation could **never come through judgment alone**, but only through **the Redeemer** God had promised.



Reflection

Question 1

When God gives you a fresh start, how will you respond? Will you, like Noah, begin with worship to honor Him before moving on to the next task?



Application

Question 2

How can your daily life become a spiritual altar before God, by offering Him your time, thoughts, and choices? Identify one area where you can surrender fully to Him as an act of worship.

Draw your Application



Your Takeaway

Integrating **'God's Intelligence'** in my life.

McGee's Quote



“The raven never returned because it fed on death. The dove came back, because it sought peace and purity. What we send out from our hearts reveals which nature rules in us.”



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