

## A Word from Kathy

*This week's section of scripture will be a very familiar story. Let's take care, to give it our full attention, as we read and study. Great men, like Noah, are an inspiration to others, to live a life that is obedient and pleasing to God. God wants lives that He can use to do great things. Pray and ask God, to show you anything that would stand in the way, of your being used mightily by Him.*

*The world has yet to see what God can do with and for and through and in and by the man who is fully and wholly consecrated to Him. I will try my utmost to be that man. -D.L. Moody*

## Observation

*Let's be careful not to get bogged down in details that godly theologians have debated and wondered about for centuries. The scriptures are rich with truth we can understand and apply. I am not saying don't try to reason and compare scripture with scripture in order to gain a greater understanding. But, please use your time wisely, to glean all you can, where you can.*

1. This was a time of great population explosion. Men were living, as we saw in Genesis 5, for hundreds of years and having children. But, instead of growing closer to the Lord, they were obviously living more and more for self. According to Gen 6:5 and 11, how bad were things?
2. According to Gen. 6:2, what do you see was their basis, for determining who they would marry?
3. God does something unusual in verse 3; He gives them a timeline to His judgment. But, even though Noah preached as he built his ark, how many do we see actually heeded his warning and repented? Gen. 6:18; Gen. 7:7  
How much?  
How long a time did they have?
4. What was different about Noah, compared to the men of his day?  
Look up Heb. 11:7 and compare it with Gen. 6:9.

But Noah found favor  
in the eyes of the  
LORD.  
Gen. 6:8

5. As we have seen before, the word of God sometimes goes back and gives further details. Gen.7 gives greater details for the filling of the ark. But, the most important detail is in Gen. 6:22 and 7:5; what is it?
6. How old was Noah when he got in the ark?  
God had instructed him all the way through the building of the ark, the filling of the ark and now the entering of the ark. Who shut the door?
7. To what extent, did water cover the earth? What does scripture tell, us about there being any place left to climb, to get away from the flood of water? Did anyone survive outside the ark?
8. Gen. 8:1 says God remembered Noah. God had made an everlasting covenant with Noah. God had not forgotten him. This means that God is about to take action, this is a turning point in the story. What does God do in Gen. 8:1-2?
9. Where did the ark come to rest, when the waters went down? Remember the ark is 45' high; after it lodged, how long was it before the mountains were visible?
10. Noah opened the window. What did he do?  
What did he send out the second time? Why do you suppose he switched?  
After waiting another seven days, Noah sent him out again and this time, what did he bring back? What would be the significance of this treasure?
11. Even after all this time inside the ark, we do not see Noah rushing off the ark. On what, do verses 15-16 say, he was waiting? What was the first thing he did, after leaving the ark?
12. God made a promise in Gen. 8:21-22, what was it?
13. What instructions were given, to Noah and his sons? Gen. 9:1
14. How has their menu changed, now that they are off the ark? Gen. 9:3  
What was the warning?

15. Again we see the details of the covenant, in Gen. 9: 8-16. What is the sign of this covenant that we still enjoy today?
16. There are certain details in the scripture that, when I read them, I think to myself; if I were God, I don't think I would have written that down for everyone to read. But, we can learn much, from the last 11 verses of Gen. 9. Write out the chain of events. We have spent a week studying this hero of the faith, yet we see even he could sin, when the opportunity was right. It is easy to be judgmental sometimes when we see someone who is into a sin that is not a temptation for us. But, if the circumstances are right, we too may fall.
17. It is sad to see, but even godly men and women do sin. When they do, their sin affects many others. How were Noah's sons affected by his drunkenness? Even though this man had walked obediently through much more difficult times and circumstances, he drank to the point of drunkenness. His son revealed what was in his heart by not caring for his father as he could have. Perhaps he was glad to see his father in this sinful condition and couldn't wait to share it with his brothers. Can any of us ever really know what we are capable of doing? **Jer. 17:9** *The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?*

## **Interpretation**

18. If you have ever known someone who had a child who would not listen but was bent on destruction, then you know a bit of the heartache that God felt as he watched the wickedness of men and women spiral out of control. What opportunities had they been given? What would God have done had they repented and lived for him? We cannot know for sure since this did not happen. What do you know about the character of God that would help you answer this question? Look up 2 Peter 3:9
19. Gen. 6:9 says of Noah that he was a righteous (just) man, blameless (completely and utterly innocent, a man of integrity) among the people of his time, and he walked (lived his daily life in a manner consistent) with God. We often hear people complain about how difficult it is to live for God, when surrounded by those who care nothing about Him. Is it possible to live a life that is pleasing to God under such circumstances?

20. What are the promises that God stated, as part of His covenant?

(Look at Gen. 8:21-22 and Gen. 9: 11-17)

What do these promises reveal about His character?

### **Digging Deeper**

1. *Look up the words that describe Noah in Gen. 6:9. Do you have a better understanding of this man Noah?*
2. *Gen. 6:18 is the first time a covenant is mentioned. Look this word up and write a definition. Further details are given in Gen. 9:9-17*

### **Application**

21. What is God most interested in seeing in our lives; how great and how often we sacrifice for Him or how quickly and with what kind of a heart do we obey Him? It has been said that, if obedience is not instant, it is not obedience. Do you agree?

22. If you were Noah, how would you handle an assignment of this magnitude? We need not worry about things over which we have no control. We simply do the next right thing and allow God to work out the details. How does this apply to your life today?

23. Noah and his family had been on the ark for over a year, yet we see tremendous patience. How patiently do you wait on God? Are you waiting on Him for something now? What have you learned, from this study that will help you?

24. Why is the rainbow such an important reminder, even to us today? What should we do when we see one? Have you been careful to share this promise of God's with others when you see a rainbow?

25. The last few verses of Gen. 9 are a particularly sad part of the story of Noah and his family. Can you relate to his mountain top and his valley experiences in your walk of faith?

To obey is better than sacrifice,...  
1 Samuel 15:22

**2 Peter 3:17** *Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position.*

**Gal. 6:1** *Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.*

**Heb. 3:12** *See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.*

**2 Peter 3:17** *Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position.*