

Words of Truth & Reason

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CHURCH OF CHRIST—QUAIL VALLEY

A RECORD OF HUMAN HISTORY

The entire earth was buried under water. Water came from above and below the earth and only eight humans lived to tell about it! This is not the next Hollywood movie—this is a part of human history!

Like the record of the life of Jesus, the record of Noah's life is a record of actual human history. Most seminaries in America (maybe even the one where your pastor was trained), do not teach that the record of Noah and the flood is genuine history. They say it is a moral myth, parable, or that the flood was just a small local flood like happens today. Here are the historical FACTS of the flood (Genesis 6-9):

Several generations after Adam, most people were extremely wicked. So, God warned Noah that the world would be destroyed by water, but he could be saved by building an ark. Noah warned men of this flood and

showed God's way to be saved but most did not believe (2 Peter 2:5; Hebrews 11:7). God brought land animals into the ark (Noah did not have to catch them). The entire world was covered with water by which all in the ark were saved and all outside were lost. Do you believe it?

2 Peter 3:1-7 warns that just as people ignored warnings of the coming flood, people will laugh at the teaching that Jesus will judge the world. All who do not know God and those who have not obeyed the gospel will spend eternity in hell. Obey the gospel before this final event in human history.

Theme: Lessons From the Flood

- **A Record of Human History**
- **Most Are Lost**
- **God Saves Man By Water**
- **Do Not Add To God's Word**

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MOST ARE LOST

Genesis 6-7 tells us of a time when there was more worldwide wickedness, even then there is today. God was longsuffering, but His patience came to an end when He flooded the entire world. God killed a huge number of people because of their stubborn rebellion.

This historical event is recorded as a reminder that MOST people will be lost at the end of time. Do you believe that? Jesus said, *wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it* (Matthew 7:13-14). If Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism, Wicca, etc. are "good religions too," then Jesus' words would be false.

Jesus also said that "many" people who called Him "Lord" will be lost (Matthew 7:21-23). Thinking that they did many things in His name, they were actually spiritually blind, not doing the Father's will. Do you know the Father's will on matters such as marriage, lying, the Lord's Supper, and baptism? Open your Bible and be among the few who "find it"!

GOD SAVES MAN BY WATER

Every day, God saves us from physical death by supplying water, in a variety of ways. Study the Bible to learn of other times when God has used water to save man.

Peter draws many modern lessons from the life of Noah. In 1 Peter 3:20, he tells of the occasion when the *ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.* God, grace, and faith saved Noah, and the Spirit includes water in that list. Water saved Noah because water kept the ark afloat.

Next Peter says, *There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism...* Another word for antitype is “counterpart,” connecting the two occasions of God saving man through water. Today, God uses water at baptism to save man. This is what Jesus told Peter to teach (“He who believes and is baptized will be saved” Mark 16:16). Along with repentance, this is what Peter taught sinners who had faith to do *for the remission of sins* (Acts 2:38). It is at this time that Jesus’ blood washes us (Hebrews 10:22) which makes us part of the saved (the church).

No one escaped the Flood by faith alone or a sinner’s prayer—neither will you escape sin in these ways. Through grace, faith, and water, God wants to save you today!

“... by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water” (2 Pet. 3:5)

You are invited to:
Sunday AM
Bible classes: 10:00AM
Sunday AM Worship:
10:45AM
Sunday PM Worship:
5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible
Classes & Worship:
7:00 PM

DO NOT ADD TO GOD’S WORD

When you first got your driver’s license, were your parents happy because now you could run errands for them? Did your momma ever send you to the grocery store with \$5 for a gallon of milk? Would you have dared to buy a candy bar with that money? Of course not—you dare not add to her grocery list without her permission!

In preparation for the flood, God told Noah, “Make yourself an ark of gopherwood...” (Genesis 6:14). God chose gopherwood, so all other woods were sinful to use in making the ark. If Noah used this wood plus any other type of wood, he would have added to God’s instructions.

Acts 11:26 tells us that saved people were “called Christians.” The word “called” in this verse means a divine call, so God chose to call saved people “Christians” (like God chose gopherwood). Since God chose “Christian,” why have men added Catholic, Baptist, Methodist, and other religious names which God never chose? Even a well-known Baptist preacher said “I hope the Baptist name will soon perish...” (Spurgeon Memorial Library, Vol. I, p. 168). Like Noah, be content with God’s choice, and do not add to it.

Questions from this month’s articles:

1. Is the story of the Flood an ancient myth or a record of actual events in human history?
2. Did Jesus teach that most people will be saved or lost?
3. When God saved Noah by water, did that include God’s grace or exclude God’s grace?
4. Why would it have been sinful for Noah to add a cedar door to the ark?

- * Mail your answers to church of Christ—Quail Valley 4104 East Harrison St, Batesville, AR 72501
- * OR, e-mail your answers to **TruthAndReason@suddenlink.net**
- * Do you have other Bible questions we can help you with? Write or call us (870 793-6700; 569-4491)
- * Visit our website WWW.QVCOC.COM for further study of various Bible subjects.