

The covenant that God made with Noah was sealed with a rainbow... but the covenant that God made with us is sealed with the blood of His Son – Jesus Christ!

**Revelation 4:2-5; 5:6-7, 9** “<sup>2</sup> Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. <sup>3</sup> And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. <sup>4</sup> Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. <sup>5</sup> And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God... <sup>6</sup> And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne... <sup>9</sup> And they sang a new song, saying:

‘You are worthy to take the scroll,  
And to open its seals;  
For You were slain,  
And have redeemed us to God by Your blood  
Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation.’”

**More People Like Us with Problems Like Ours**  
**Noah ~ The Eternal Difference One Person Can Make**  
*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / May 30, 2010*

**Genesis 5:31-32; 6:5-22; 7:11-16; 7:23-8:1**

**I. You Wake Up to the Fact that We’re Living in Desperate Times**

**Genesis 6:5** “Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”

**2 Timothy 3:1-5** “But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: <sup>2</sup> For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, <sup>4</sup> traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup> having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”

**II. You Stop Thinking You’re Better – and You Recognize Grace!**

**Genesis 6:8** “But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.”

The word ‘grace’ is only used 20 times in the entire Old Testament, but it shows up for the very first time in Genesis 6:8, after one of the darkest verses in Genesis 6:5.

The grace in v.8 produces real effects in v.9. Grace is not caused by goodness, but grace causes goodness.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** “For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

**Ephesians 2:10** “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

The grace of God leads to a changed life.

**Genesis 6:9** “Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God.”

- Is the grace of God evident in your life by the way you walk and live?

### **III. You Start Taking God’s Word Seriously – Regardless of What You See or Think or Feel about it**

**Genesis 6:22** “Thus Noah did: according to all that God commanded him, so he did.”

**7:5** “And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him.”

**7:9** “... as God has commanded Noah.”

**7:16** “... as God had commanded him...”

Notice... he just did exactly what God said to do!

#### **A. When You Take God’s Word Seriously You Obey It**

And that takes faith because it doesn’t always make sense based on what you’re seeing around you.

**Hebrews 11:7** “By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.”

#### **B. When You Take God’s Word Seriously You’re Not Afraid to Share It with Others**

**2 Peter 2:4-5** “For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment; if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others.”

**Genesis 5:22** “And Noah was 500 years old...”

**Genesis 7:11** “In the 600<sup>th</sup> year of Noah’s life... on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.”

### **IV. You Keep Living with a Sense of Urgency Regardless of God’s Time-Table**

Christianity is a ‘long obedience in the same direction.’

- **Eugene Peterson**

**2 Peter 3:3-12** “<sup>3</sup> First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. <sup>4</sup> They will say, ‘Where is this “coming” he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.’ <sup>5</sup> But they deliberately forget that long ago by God’s word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. <sup>6</sup> By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. <sup>7</sup> By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. <sup>8</sup> But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. <sup>11</sup> Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives <sup>12</sup> as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.”

**Matthew 24:36-39, 42, 44** “<sup>36</sup> No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man... <sup>42</sup> Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come... <sup>44</sup> So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

- Are you safe in the ark of Christ and His work on the cross?

**Genesis 9:11-13** “Thus I establish My covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” And God said: ‘This is the sign of the covenant which I make between Me and you, and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.’”