

Christ: Our Ark From Judgment

Genesis 6:11 – 7:24

I. Fool: Man Is Incredibly Sinful (6:5, 11-13)

A. Man's Great Wickedness (5,11-13)

- Intense Sin (5a)
- Intentional Sin (5b)
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B. God's Great Judgment (13a)



II. Flotation: God Is Graciously Merciful (6:14-22)

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B. The Vessel's Designation

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III. Flood: God Is Patiently Just (7:1 – 7:24)

A. God's Instructions For Salvation

- God Protects The Righteous (7:1, 6-7; cf. 6:8-9; Heb 11:7)
- God Preserves His Creation (2-3, 5, 8-10)

B. God's Implementation Of Judgment (4, 11-24)

- A Gracious Warning (4a; 2 Pet 3:5-9) – 120 years + 7 days
- A Total Elimination (4b; Ps 29:10)
- A Double-Sourced Deluge (11-12)
- A Limited Salvation (13-16)
- A Global Flood (17-24)

Conclusion:

1. God wants to preserve His relationship with us.
2. God is mercifully patient with us.
3. God's salvation is available for a limited time.
4. Will we obey God's warning and find refuge from judgment in Christ? (Mt 24:37-39)
5. The next judgment is by fire, not by water. Get in the Ark of Christ by faith. (2 Pet 3:5-7)

Christ: Our Ark From Judgment

Genesis 6:11 – 7:24

Genesis Jokes

- What chapter is baseball in the Bible? (Gen 1:1 – in the Big Inning)
- At what time of day was Adam created? (A little before Eve.)
- What evidence does the Bible give to show that Adam and Eve were rather noisy? (They raised Cain.)
- Who was the best financier in the Bible? (Noah. He floated his stock [animals] while the whole world was in liquidation.)

Genesis *Rapped Up*

- Light From Dark (Gen 1-2)
- Eden Park (Gen 3-5)
- Noah's Ark (Gen 6-9)
- Babel's Bark (Gen 10-11)
- Patriarch (Gen 12-50)

1. Did Noah's Flood really happen?

- If the flood happened as the Bible said, we would find billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth" (Ken Ham)
- What do we find in the fossil record? Billions of dead things buried in rock layers laid down by water all over the earth.
- <https://answersingenesis.org/store/product/new-answers-dvd-1/?sku=30-9-291>
- Much of the fossil record is a record of Noah's flood

2. Was the Flood global or local?

- God wanted to destroy all men and animals worldwide
- 2nd coming is universal, flood was universal
- why preserve animals on boat if they could just migrate somewhere
- Bible declares it was global

3. Other Historical Accounts of a Worldwide Flood

<https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/flood-legends/australian-aboriginal-flood-stories/>

- The Babylonian Epic of Gilgamesh
 - The Babylonian literature pre-dates Moses' account in Genesis
 - The date of the literature doesn't mean Noah borrowed from Gilgamesh
 - A king set out on a journey to seek the secret of immortality
 - On this journey, he meets Utnapishtim, a survivor of a huge flood sent by the gods
 - Utnapishtim was warned by the water god, Enki, to build a boat to preserve his family, friends, animals and precious metals
- Ancient Greek & Roman Legend of Deucalion & Pyrrha
 - They, along with their children and animals, were saved from a flood in a box-like boat
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4. The Structure Of The Flood Narrative

(Allen P. Ross, *Creation & Blessing*, p. 191, Baker, 1988)

- A** God resolves to destroy the corrupt race (6:11-13)
- B** Noah builds an ark according to God's instructions (6:14-22)
- C** The Lord commands the remnant to enter the ark (7:1-9)
- D** The flood begins (7:10-16)
- E** The flood prevails 150 days, mountains covered (7:17-24)
- F** God remembers Noah (8:1a)
- E** The flood recedes 150 days, mountains visible (8:1b-5)
- D** The earth dries (8:6-14)
- C** God commands the remnant to leave the ark (8:15-19)
- B** Noah builds an altar (8:20)
- A** The Lord resolves not to destroy humankind (8:21-22)

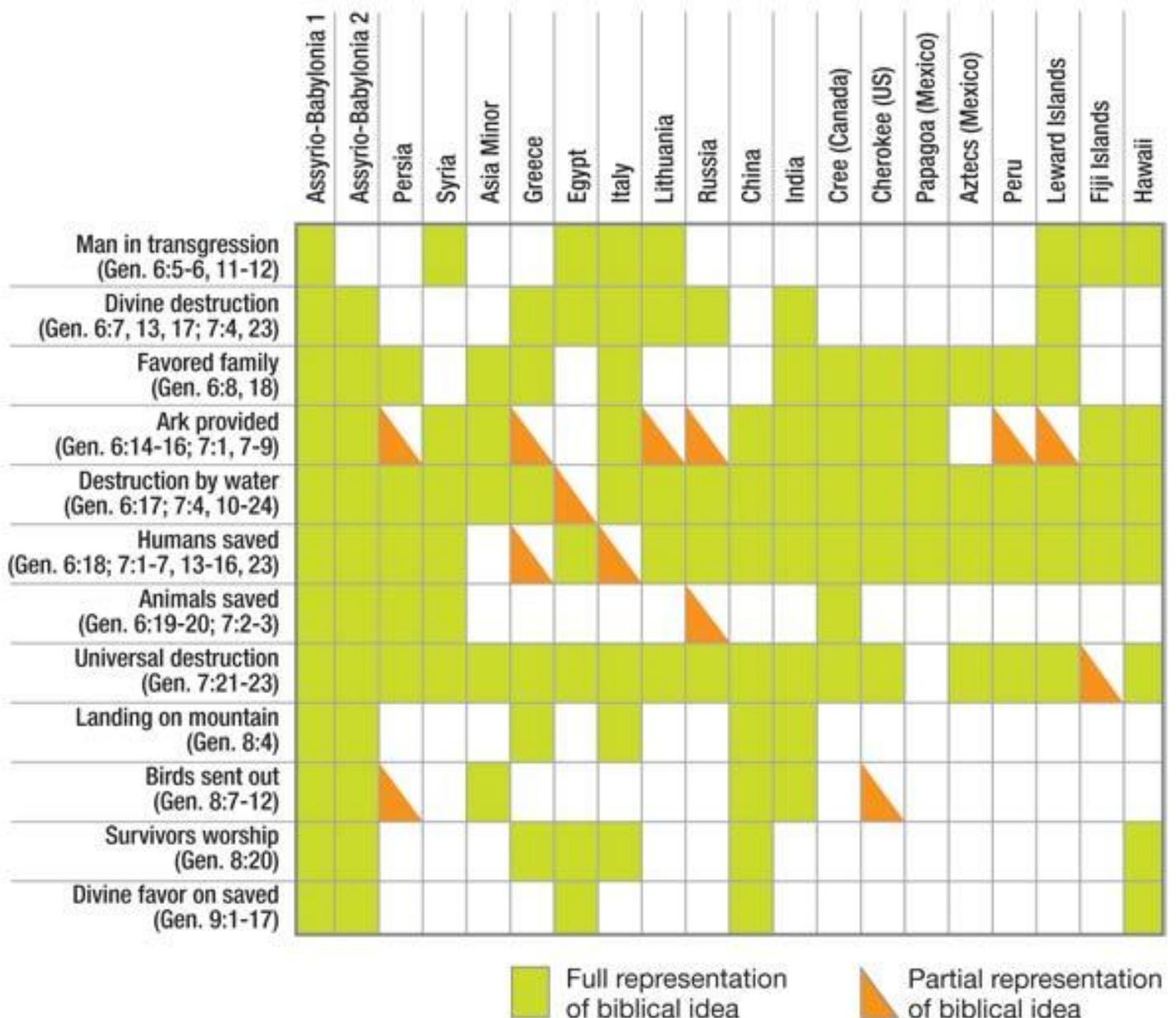


Chart adapted from B.C. Nelson, *The Deluge Story in Stone*, Appendix 11, Flood Traditions, Figure 38, Augsburg, Minneapolis, 1931. <https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/flood-legends/flood-legends/>

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/blacksea/ax/frame.html>

The story most familiar to many people is the **biblical account of Noah and his ark**. Genesis tells how “God saw that the wickedness of man was great” and decided to destroy all of creation. Only Noah, “who found grace in the eyes of the Lord,” his family, and the animals aboard the ark survived to repopulate the planet.

- **Irish legends** talk about Queen Cesair and her court, who sailed for seven years to avoid drowning when the oceans overwhelmed Ireland.
- European explorers in the Americas were startled by **Indian legends that sounded similar to the story of Noah**. Some Spanish priests feared the devil had planted such stories in the Indians’ minds to confuse them.

I. Fool: Man Is Incredibly Sinful (6:5, 11-13)

Genesis 6:5,11-13 ⁵ The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹² And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. ¹³ And God said to Noah, “I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

A. Man’s Great Wickedness (5,11-13)

1. Intense Sin

^{5a} *The wickedness of man was great in the earth*

- “wickedness” = outward acts

2. Intentional Sin

^{5b} *Every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually*

- “intention of the thoughts of his heart” = inward acts

3. Infectious Sin

¹² *The earth was corrupt – all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth*

- “corrupt” = Heb. *shachat* = gone to ruin, used 3x in this section
- “the earth” and “all flesh” – the whole population of the world
- the infection of sin affected the whole human population

Psalms 14:1-3 ¹ The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good. ² The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. ³ They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

4. Injurious Sin

^{13b} *The earth was filled with violence.*

- Sin manifested itself in violence

- Murder happened in the 2nd generation of mankind
- Cain kills a brother
- Lamech kills somebody else

B. God's Great Judgment (13a)

^{13a} And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh

- "make an end" or "destroy" = *shachat* – same word translated as "corrupted" in v. 12
- Moses is making the point that as man ruined the earth, God will ruin man
- Noah's Flood is not a cute flannelgraph story for kids – dark thundering skies, crashing waves, human bodies floating on the ocean
- Noah's Flood is a **judgment**, not about cute animals and a boat
- How do you get rid of infectious cancer? You destroy everything around it.
- God will judge sin
- If God hasn't judged your sin through Christ dying on the cross for your sin, you will face God's judgment one day



II. Flotation: God Is Graciously Merciful (6:14-22)

A. The Vessel's Design (14-16)

1. The Materials Of The Ark (14)

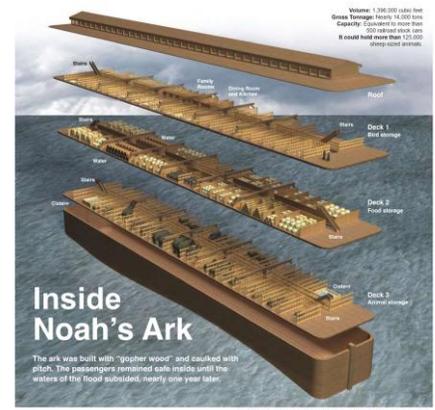
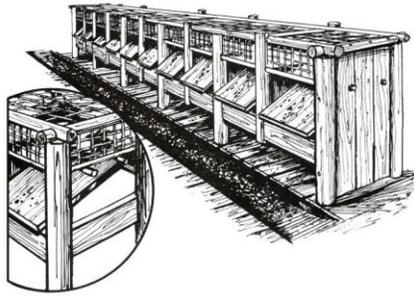
¹⁴ Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch.

- "Make yourself an ark"
 - the technology available in Noah's time does not make it far-fetched for Noah to build an ark
 - Tubal-Cain (Gen 4:22) already was using tools of iron and bronze
 - How could 1 person build an ark? He probably built the ark with his sons (4 total)
 - They had 120 years.
 - 2 men could build a house in 2 weeks. This is plausible.
- "gopher wood" is not easily identified with a contemporary tree
 - Some think it could be **cypress** (Keil & Delitzsch) or **Indian Teak** (Woodmorappe)
 - It could also be a process to harden the wood
 - *Gopher* is similar to *Kopher* which means "resin"
 - *Gopher* is also similar to *kaphar* which means "to cover" (like the Heb. word for atonement – Yom Kippor)

- “pitch”
 - Some critics of Noah’s Ark doubt that pitch could be used because petroleum, which is the source of modern pitch, could not have been formed yet – not enough time or catastrophic pressure
 - But pitch has been made without petroleum using pine resin mixed with charcoal – called Oleoresin (also called gum or pitch)
 - No clear biblical instruction is given as to why Noah was to use pitch, though waterproofing would be the most likely reason

2. The Rooms Of The Ark (14)

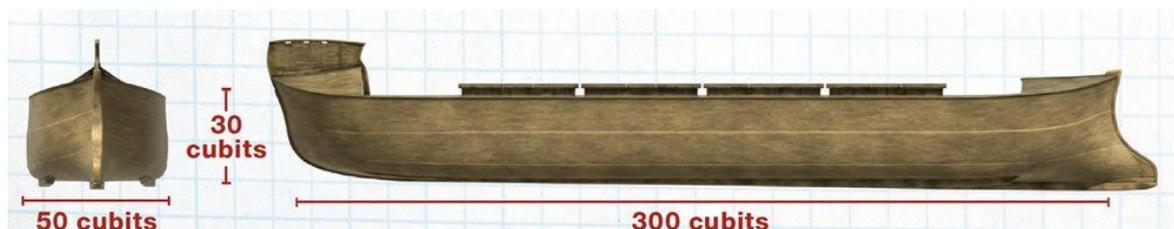
- “rooms” = Heb. *qinnim* = lit. nests (e.g. bird’s nest)
- straw would be used to cover manure with other absorbent material – saw dust, peat moss
- Woodmorappe suggests a sloped floor where manure falls away from animal

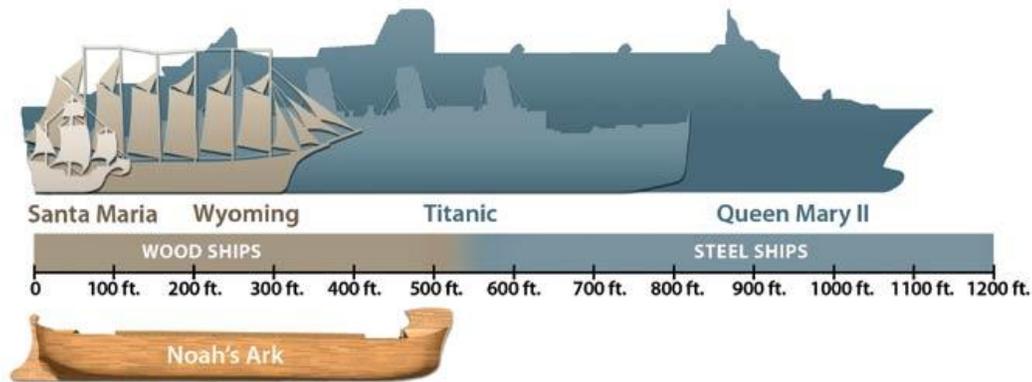


3. The Dimensions Of The Ark (15)

¹⁵ This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits,⁵ its breadth 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits.

- A cubit is the distance between one’s elbow to finger tips – approx. 18 inches or a foot and a half
- That makes the ark 450 long and 75 feet wide
- 44,400 square meters or 1.52 million square feet





Q: Was there enough room for all the animals on the ark?

- Jonathan Safarti (*The Genesis Account*, pp. 499-500) helps us to think of the size through an American semi-trailer (40' long, 8.5' wide, 13' high, 4,420 cu.ft. and can haul 22 tons)
- 1 semi-trailer can haul
 - 37 x 1,200 lb. steer
 - 90 x 500 lb. calves
 - 180 x 250 lb. hogs
 - 300 x 125 lb. sheep
- The Ark could hold 102,000 sheep-sized animals
- Depending on what "kind" is ... Safarti points out "Based on the ability of various species to hybridize, the 'kind' is clearly larger than the modern biological 'species'. Indeed, the kind may be as high as the 'family'. If so, then only 2,000 animals would have been Ark passengers." (*The Genesis Account*, p. 516)
- Woodmorappe calculates 8,000 genera (including extinct ones) – thus 16,000 animals aboard (Safarti, *ibid*)



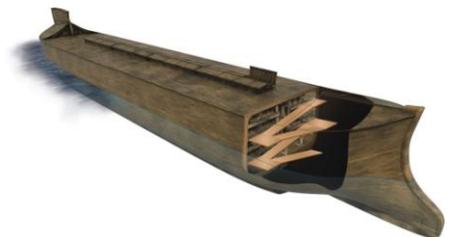
Practical Considerations

- You didn't need to bring 200 dogs, just 2
- Dinosaurs on the ark? Bring juvenile dinosaurs

4. The Features Of The Ark (16)

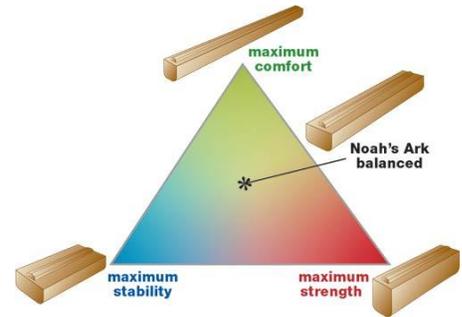
¹⁶ *Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and set the door of the ark in its side. Make it with lower, second, and third decks.*

- **Roof**
 - *Tsohar* – could also be translated a window (or a hole for light)
 - Also important for ventilation
 - Oxygen in, CO₂ out
 - Cool off from all the body heat
- **3 decks**
 - if equal in height – they would be 10 cubits high (15')



- **Could this long ship survive the flood?**

- Not built for site-seeing
- No masts (which are usually most vulnerable part of ship)
- No sails



- **Stability?**

- 3 types of rotation that happen to ships
- Yawing – rotation on vertical axis (bow and stern spin alternatively left and right), causes motion sickness but not a threat to the ark
- Pitching – rotation on lateral axis (bow and stern alternatively rise up and down, also not a threat because of length)
- Rolling – rotation on longitudinal axis (bobbing portside and starboard, left & right) which could tip the boat over – this would be a big threat
- David Collins, a naval architect, demonstrated how a 210 – knot wind (3x hurricane force) could not tip the ark on it's side (Safarti, p. 503)
- Korean naval architects – confirm the ark had optimal stability (ibid)
 - if the wood was a foot thick, the ark could withstand 100 foot waves
 - most tsunami waves are around 30 foot waves – some have reached 100 feet but if the ark was built on high ground it would not have had to face such waves
 -

B. The Vessel's Designation

1. The Ark Of God's Protection (17-18)

¹⁷ For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. ¹⁸ But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you.

- Judgement is coming through a flood
- The Ark is mankind's salvation
- There would be no safe spot on earth
- It would all be covered with water
- Everything on earth would die
- **Q:** Do we really want to take sin lightly and face God's wrath?
- Noah's wife, 3 sons and their wives spared with Noah
 - Noah was 500 yrs old when Japheth was born (Gen 5:32)
 - Noah was 600 yrs old when the flood came
 - Give about 30 years old for the 3 sons to grow and marry
 - Noah had about 70 years to build the ark with his sons help
- His father Lamech died 5 years earlier
- His grandfather Methuselah had probably died too

1 Peter 3:20 because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

2 Peter 2:5 if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;

- God has provided us an Ark today – the person of Jesus Christ
- Come to Christ for safety

2. **The Ark Of God's Promise (18a; cf. Gen 8:21; 9:14-17; Isa 54:9)**

¹⁸ *But I will establish my covenant with you*

Genesis 8:21 Then the Lord said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, 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 9:14-17 ¹⁴It shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the **rainbow** shall be seen in the cloud; ¹⁵and I will **remember** My covenant which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶The **rainbow** shall be in the cloud, and I will look on it to **remember** the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." ¹⁷And God said to Noah, "This is the **sign** of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth."

- The Covenant with Noah is eternal and unconditional. God promised that there would be no more worldwide cataclysmic judgment. Nothing is based on any act of obedience of Noah or his descendants.

Isaiah 54:9 For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you.

3. **The Ark Of God's Provision (19-22)**

¹⁹ *And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female. ²⁰ Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground, according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you to keep them alive. ²¹ Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up. It shall serve as food for you and for them. ²² Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.*

- God sought the preservation of species
 - A lot of critics want to make the ark insufficient to preserve life
 - Only needed 2 dogs, not 100
 - Only needed 2 cats
- But most everything else on earth would die
- V. 21 – food was stored – probably seed as well to farm once landed
- **Q: How did salt water and fresh water fish survive?**
 - Many fish can adapt to varying salinity of water (Safarti, p. 515)

- Freshwater is less dense and can float on top of salt water (*halocline* is the phenomenon of a vertical salinity gradient)
- There are several types of fish that are fresh and salt water varieties. They adapted post flood to their particular environment

III. Flood: God Is Patiently Just (7:1 – 7:24)

A. God's Instructions For Salvation

1. God Protects The Righteous (7:1, 6-7; cf. 6:8-9; Heb 11:7)

¹ Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. ⁶ Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth. ⁷ And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood.

- God recognized Noah's righteousness and obedience
 - God saves the righteous
 - God doesn't care if you're Republican or Democrat, He cares if you're Righteous
 - God doesn't care if you're liberal or conservative, but Righteous

Genesis 6:8-9 ⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. ⁹ These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God.

Hebrews 11:7 ⁷ By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

- This challenged Israel in the wilderness to be right with God and obey God's commands in the midst of a hostile environment

2. God Preserves His Creation (2-3, 5, 8-10)

² Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, ³ and seven pairs² of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth... ⁵ And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him... ⁸ Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, ⁹ two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. ¹⁰ And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

- "male and female" for reproduction sake
- "7 pairs of clean animals" for more rapid reproduction and sacrifices
- 1 pair of unclean animals
- Critics contend 1 week is not enough time to load millions of species, but they only needed to load around 16,000
 - 100 kg pigs are processed at slaughterhouses at 1,000 per hour (Safarti, p. 523)
 - Woodmorappe demonstrates these animals could have been boarded and caged in 5 hours

- V. 5 Noah obeyed – God preserves us but we have to obey Him

B. God's Implementation Of Judgment (4, 11-24)

1. A Gracious Warning (4a; 2 Pet 3:5-9) – 120 years + 7 days

^{4a} *For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights,*

- Noah preached for 120 years
- Built ark for about 70 years
- 7 more days when mankind first saw rain
- God is longsuffering

2 Peter 3:5-7 ⁵ For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, ⁶ and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. ⁷ But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise ^v as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

2. A Total Elimination (4b)

^{4b} *and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground."*

- ie/ I remember my kids drawing something great but they make a little mistake and throw it away to start it over perfectly

Psalm 29:10 "The Lord sat as King at the flood."

3. A Double-Sourced Deluge (11-12)

¹¹ *In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened.*

¹² *And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights.*

- Water came upwards from fountains of the deep and downward from the heavenly drenching

4. A Limited Salvation (13-16)

¹³ *On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, ¹⁴ they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. ¹⁵ They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. ¹⁶ And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And **the LORD shut him in.***

- One day God will shut the door to salvation
- By death (all of us will die)

5. A Global Flood (17-24)

¹⁷ The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. ¹⁸ The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. ¹⁹ And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. ²⁰ The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. ²¹ And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. ²² Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. ²³ He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. ²⁴ And the waters prevailed on the earth 150 days.

- The flood covered mountain tops
- Evidenced by fossils of sea life found in Mt. Everest, high mountains in Peru, and at the high elevation of the Grand Canyon



Conclusion:

1. God wants to preserve His relationship with us.
2. God is mercifully patient with us.
3. God's salvation is available for a limited time.
4. Will we obey God's warning and find refuge from judgment in Christ?

Matthew 24:37-39 ³⁷ For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

- The time of Christ's Second Coming is evident, but men will fail to heed God in their self-indulgence, neglecting the warnings of His coming.
- Do not set dates for Christ's return - trust God's timetable
- Do not take your eyes off Christ's return - obey God's Word
- Flood = Gr. *kataklusmos* - means to "wash down", get "cataclysm" from this word
 - Noah told to build ark - 120 years of warning people but they failed to listen
 - as ark got more complete, Noah continued to preach, people continued to ignore - but logically, the flood was getting closer
 - after the ark was complete - what would be an even greater indication that judgment was coming? - Noah loaded the ark full of animals - Get a clue!
 - they still watched as Noah's family entered

- How do we know the “one taken” refers to judgment and not to a post-tribulation rapture?
 - consistent with Mt 24:36-27, where Noah’s family remained to repopulate the earth and the world was taken away in judgment
 - parallel with Luke 17:34-37 where those taken will end up as a carcass for the vultures in Armageddon
 - posttribulationists claim that the word “taken” (Gr. *paralambano*) is a reference to Jesus taking His own unto Himself, and not to judgment, but the word is not specific, has been used negatively (Mt 4:5,8; Jn 19:16), and must be interpreted in it’s context
 - a rapture after the tribulation would be unnecessary if the believers were to pop up to heaven then immediately return with Christ at His Coming
 - the entire context of the Olivet Discourse has given no discussion or hint of the rapture

5. The next judgment is by fire, not by water. Get in the Ark of Christ by faith.

2 Peter 3:5-7 ⁵ For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, ⁶ and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. ⁷ But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

- In the days of Noah, men failed to heed God’s warning in their self-indulgence.
- Deliberately overlook – “forgets purposely by discarding information” (T. Constable)