

Lessons from the Flood

by Joshua R. Welch

There have been a lot of jokes about Noah lately. It is hard not to think of Noah when we see or hear of vast flooding during these spring rains. Yet, all kidding aside, there are some great lessons we can learn from the man *“who found grace in the eyes of the Lord”* and was saved from the mass destruction of the global flood (Genesis 6:8).

There’s more important stuff than stuff. *“For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away...”* (Matthew 24:38-39). Some are so focused on earthly success, they think little of eternal affairs until it is too late. How many hours in your day are spent redirecting our focus on the eternal?

Faith is connected to action. *“By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen; moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household ...”* (Hebrews 11:7). We cannot pretend a faith in God that is completely divorced from our own works. Noah’s faith in God was seen in his obedience. Can people tell, by your actions, you are a Christian?

People of faith are often a minority group. *“...Once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls were saved through water”* (1 Peter 3:20). Do not be deceived into thinking the big crowd is the right crowd. They may all be drowning. Are you willing to do what is right even if it’s not what the rest of the world finds acceptable at the time (Romans 12:1-2)?

God will destroy the earth again, but it will not be with a flood. *“For this they willfully forget... the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men”* (2 Peter 3:5-7). One day God’s *“longsuffering”* will end. So, are you prepared for *“the day of God”* (2 Peter 3:11-12)?

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