

Make Yourself An Ark

Introduction & Review

- Noah has become the recipient of the love and grace of God.
- The love and grace of God has changed Noah into a righteous man – his relationship with God (Gen. 6:9b).
- The love and grace of God has changed Noah into a blameless man who obeys God – his relationship with people (6:9c).
- The love and grace of God changed Noah into a man who walked with God – lived an obedient life of faith (6:9d).

I. Awful Conditions in the Earth (Gen. 6:11-13)

A. Corruption

The word “corrupt (ed)” is used three times in verses 11-12. It means to ruin or destroy. “the earth” is used repeatedly in these verses – affected by sin (Rom. 8:19-22). Humanity had ruined or destroyed God’s design for His creation – people & the earth. This is always the effect of unchecked sin; it spreads & ruins whatever it touches. This is God’s assessment of humanity’s care for each other & all of His creation.

B. Violence

The word “violence” is used twice in verses 11-12. Violence means severe treatment of another person and may involve physical harm. Violence exists when there is no fear of God or respect for people (life). The only solution when humanity has reached this condition is judgment or destruction from God – “I will destroy...” (Gen. 6:13;).

APPL: The effects & spread of evil is always under God’s careful control. God is extremely patient even with wicked people because He takes no pleasure in their destruction (1Pe. 3:20; 2Pe. 3:9; Ezek. 33:11). He alone knows the right time & He alone is able to radically stop the damaging spread of evil in all the earth.

II. Awesome Command of God to Correct (Gen. 6:14-22)

A. Make the ark (Gen. 6:14-17)

“ark” means chest or basket – Noah & Moses (Ex. 2:3-5). God’s plan of deliverance involves human responsibility & obedience – “Make yourself”. God alone saves by faith in Christ alone, but we still must believe. God’s will must be done God’s way for His promised results (v. 14-16). The size & design were important – large & functional (rooms, decks, a door & window). Details that are important to God are found in the Scriptures – salvation, worship, marriage, singleness, parenting, etc. (Mt. 4:4) = how to build a life. Everything outside the ark will be destroyed (v. 17).

B. Enter the ark (Gen. 6:18-22)

Noah will be saved because of grace – “I will establish my covenant with you”. God takes the initiative & makes the unmerited obligation to save Noah & humanity. Noah’s family will also be saved by grace – “..come into the ark, you, your sons...”. Animals & vegetation will be delivered because of the covenant with Noah (v. 19-21). Noah’s trust & obedience to God is essential for his deliverance (v. 21). Noah cannot lean to his own understanding – never seen rain, flooding, boat this size, animals flocking to him, etc. Noah walked with God by faith, not by sight.