

God's Warning Through Noah

Matthew 24:37-39 [NIV] *“As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 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; 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.”*

Jesus Christ's Second Coming is linked to a world that existed in the days of God's man Noah.

Noah was **not** a popular figure in his day, but he was God's man, God's prophet, in a time of world crisis.

Noah was faithful in the prophetic ministry that the Creator God gave him, [**Genesis 6:22**].

By the time of Noah, the world was no longer the paradise that God intended it to be.

Genesis 6:5-7 [NIV] *“The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. So the LORD said, ‘I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth, men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air, for I am grieved that I have made them.’”*

Does this scripture mean that God regretted creating human beings?

No!

1 Samuel 15:29 [NIV] *“He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a man, that he should change his mind.”*

God does not change His mind, [Hebrews 13:8].

God was expressing sorrow for what the people had done to themselves, as a parent might express sorrow over a rebellious child.

God was sorry that the people had chosen a sinful life, that would only bring pain and sorrow and eventually death instead of a humble loving relationship with Him.

Genesis 6:8 [NIV] *“But Noah found favour in the eyes of the LORD.”*

Noah was the only exception to this society full of evil.

What actually did God ask Noah to do?

Just this, to believe what He said, to trust the future in Him, to obey and carry out His commandments.

Hebrews 11:7 [NIV] *“By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.”*

It was *“holy fear”* that moved Noah to do all that God had commanded him, [**Proverbs 9:10; Proverbs 1:7**].

Noah demonstrated a high quality of wisdom as well as spiritual concern when he was moved to trust God and His Word.

Noah did **not** argue about his rights.

Noah did **not** argue about God's assessment of human nature and human violence.

Noah did **not** argue about God's course of action.

Noah's high regard for God's Person was intermingled with his own reverent faith and holy fear.

Nothing but the will of God was of any consequence to Noah.

Noah faced reality.

Noah was moved by personal knowledge of the Creator God, and a personal revelation from a holy and sovereign God.

Many people are moved by their emotions, but are **not** moved enough to do anything that matters.

Noah was moved to do what was right and important and as a result he saved himself and his family from death.

Noah had feelings and was stirred to action, he did **not** stand still, wondering and debating.

Noah was moved to face the consequences in the glare of an unbelieving and godless generation.

Noah, as a preacher of the Creator God, condemned the world in its unbelief, and became heir to the righteousness that is by faith in the Creator God.

What would Noah say to this generation of believers and non-believers?

"When you hear the truth from God's Word, if you just wait and do nothing you will find the next time you hear the truth it will not move you as much until the time comes that it will not move you to action at all!"

Do not disregard this warning!

We have to confess that there is a distressing kind of brazen unbelief around us in this generation, as in the days of Noah.

Because people are without fear of God, they are paying little heed to any of God's warning signals.

There is such a thing as faith that believes in the soundness of a warning that is found in God's Word, the Christian Bible, a faith that is **not** ashamed to move in the direction that the Creator God shows is the way of salvation.

John 3:16-21 [NIV] *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."*

Even this well-known and preached scripture is accomplished with a warning of what will happen if it is ignored.

How should we react to this good news and warning?

Romans 12:1-2 [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

If we make this the motivating force in our lives we will be following Noah’s everlasting example.

May the Creator God give us ears to hear and hearts to obey Him.