

THE CONSTRUCTION OF NOAH'S ARK

We have divided Gen.6:9 - 9:29 into the following five homiletical parts for study.

- Gen.6:9-13 Character of Noah
- Gen.6:14-22 Construction of Noah's ark
- Gen.7:1-8:19 Coming of flood judgment
- Gen.8:20-9:17 Covenant of Rainbow
- Gen.9:18-29 Curse of Canaan

We will examine our lesson text on the Construction of Noah's Ark by the following four homiletical points.

- Gen.6:14-16 Construction Blue-print and properties
- Gen.6:17 Cataclysmic flood Breath of lives and perish
- Gen.6:18-21 Cargo Boarding and passengers
- Gen.6:22 Captain Boss and provisions

**This lesson will study SIX aspects of the construction of Noah's Ark.
It will teach us about preparation for the coming judgment upon the Postdiluvian world of the ungodly.**

1. The Hebrew word for ark (tebah) describes a floating box not boat (Gen.6:14).

Biblical scholars believe tebah was an Egyptian loan word for a box, chest, or coffin.

This same Hebrew word was used for Moses ark made of bulrush or papyrus (gome) (Ex.2:3).

The Greek word for ark is kibotos (Matt.24:38; 1 Pet.3:20).

2. The blue-print for the construction of Noah's was given by God (Gen.6:13-17)

"Noah did everything just as God commanded him." (6:22)

Dimensions of the ark were 450 ft long by 75 ft wide by 45 ft high. An engineer, Rick Broadhead estimated that the Ark weighed 23,730 tons. He concluded that it stands as an "engineering wonder of the world" when you consider the timber, trimming, transporting of materials, erecting the ark, fitting and connections - and then on top of that, it was constructed by a novice! Noah had the tools, for we know that all kinds of tools had been forged out of bronze and iron by that time (Gen.4:22).

- The Ark was made of **gopher wood** (gopher) and sealed watertight with a pitch inside and outside (kopher).
- It consisted of **three decks**, each 15 ft in height involving several 'rooms' or partitions / dividers.
- It had a **venting window**, 18 inches in height extending around the top of the entire 'box'.
- It had **one door**, on the side that was shut from the outside - "Then the Lord shut him in." (NIV, Gen.7:16)

3. Three different boarding lists of passengers were recorded with for Noah's ark.

- **Saved** people passengers (8 believers - Gen.6:18; 1 Pet.3:20).
- **Species** - pairs of animals (passengers - Gen.6:20).
- **Sacrificial** - animals in groups of seven (passengers - Gen.7:2) [shadow Christology of Heb.9:11-10:18].

The migration of the animals to the ark was a visual aid to unbelievers of the long-suffering and power of God to save from judgment (Gen.6:20; 1 Pet.3:20; 2 Pet.3:9).

Noah was also responsible for provision for all the passengers for over a year on torrent sea (Gen.6:21). This was a reverse lesson for the birds (Matt.6:26; Gen.8:6-12).

4. The Hebrew word for flood (mabbul) is used only for the Antediluvian world flood (Gen.6:17).

The Greek word is (kataklusmos) and is translated cataclysm in the English (Matt.24:38-39; Luke 17:24).

By putting these two words together, we understand that this is a reference to a cataclysmic flood of the Antediluvian world (Gen.6:17; 2 Pet.2:5; 3:6).

Gen.7:20 indicates that the floodwaters reached 22.5 ft above the mountains. Mt.Ararat is where the ark rested after the flood (Gen.8:4-5). Modern Mt. Ararat is 17,000 ft.

5. At the time of the flood, there had not been any rain. There was mist (ed) (Job 36:27) and rivers but not rain (Gen.2:5-6, 10-14; 7:4, 12).

At the time of the flood, God opened the foundations of the great deep and the floodgates of the sky for 40 days and nights (Gen.7:11-12).

The ark was afloat in the midst of cataclysmic flood condition for 150 days (Gen.8:3-4). They were in the ark for a total of 370 days (Gen.7:11-12) [17/2/600]; (Gen.8:13-14) [27/2/601].

How important is it for God to be in charge of our lives? (Phil.4:19)

6. Noah's ark was a visual sign to the Antediluvian world as well as to the Postdiluvian world.

A sign of the reality of God's pronounced judgment upon the ungodly of the world (Heb.11:5-7; 2 Pet.2:5; 3:10-13; 2 Thess.1:8-10).

Noah's ark surviving the cataclysmic flood gives assurance to the believer of God's grace security (Gen.6:18; 1 Pet.3:20). It became a symbol of the believer's security in Christ (John 10:27-30; 18:9; 1 John 5:9-13). Even the migrating animals had a sense of the preservation of life in the ark.

The days of Noah offer us a lesson that God is long-suffering and willing for all to be saved (2 Pet.3:5-6, 10-13).

The <u>second</u> letter of each word put together spells an important name from our lesson _____.	
- - - - -	Special passengers on ark (Gen7:2-3).
- - -	The meaning of Hebrew word for ark (Gen.6:14-18).
- - - -	This never occurred prior to the flood (Gen.7:4).
- - - -	The Lord did this to the door of the ark before sending the flood (Gen.7:16).