

# **Genesis 7:1-23—God’s Judgement Unleashed, The Whole World Is Destroyed By The Great Flood**

## **Memory Verse**

Genesis 3:15 NKJV (God speaking to satan)

And I will put enmity between you [satan] and the woman, and between your seed [the antichrist] and her Seed [the Messiah]; He [the Messiah] shall bruise your [satan’s] head, and you [satan] shall bruise His [the Messiah’s] heel.”

## **Outline: (Genesis 7:1-23)**

1. God’s invitation to Noah and his family to come into the Ark (v 1)
2. Noah, his family, and the animals go onto the ark (vs 2-9)
3. The fountains of the great deep break up and the flood begins (vs 10-12)
4. God shuts Noah, his family, and the animals in the ark (vs 13-16)
5. A detailed description of a global flood (vs 17-23)

## **Genesis 7:1-24 NKJV**

Then the LORD said to Noah, “Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation. <sup>2</sup> You shall take with you seven each of every clean animal, a male and his female; two each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female; <sup>3</sup> also seven each of birds of the air, male and female, to keep the species alive on the face of all the earth. <sup>4</sup> For after seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and I will destroy from the face of the earth all living things that I have made.” <sup>5</sup> And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him. <sup>6</sup> Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth.

<sup>7</sup> So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons’ wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. <sup>8</sup> Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth, <sup>9</sup> two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah. <sup>10</sup> And it came to pass after seven days that the waters of the flood were on the earth. <sup>11</sup> In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. <sup>12</sup> And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights.

<sup>13</sup> On the very same day Noah and Noah’s sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark—<sup>14</sup> they and every beast after its kind, all cattle after their kind, every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, every bird of every sort. <sup>15</sup> And they went into the ark to Noah, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life. <sup>16</sup> So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.

<sup>17</sup> Now the flood was on the earth forty days. The waters increased and lifted up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. <sup>18</sup> The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth, and the ark moved about on the surface of the waters. <sup>19</sup> And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered. <sup>20</sup> The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered. <sup>21</sup> And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man. <sup>22</sup> All in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, all that was on the dry land, died. <sup>23</sup> So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive. <sup>24</sup> And the waters prevailed on the earth one hundred and fifty days.

# 1. God's invitation to Noah and his family to come into the Ark

Genesis 7:1 NKJV

Then the LORD said to Noah, "Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation.

What does God save us for?

v 1 **Come into the ark:** God could only say "**Come into the ark**", if He was already *in* the ark. If God were outside the ark, then He would have had to say, "**Go into the ark**". But God was already inside the ark waiting for them. This is a beautiful picture of salvation, where God calls or invites everyone to *come to* Him and enjoy fellowship with Him. Mankind is born separated from God, and it's only when we accept or receive God's grace that we are able to enter in to God's presence, and be covered by His atoning blood (like the ark was covered in pitch/atonement).

What does God save us from?

Choosing to accept God's invitation to come into the ark also means deliverance from the coming judgement. Of course, the ultimate judgement that Noah and his family were spared from is the *Second Death*, also called the *Lake of Fire* (assuming they all had saving faith in the Messiah—the fact that they all went on to the ark is evidence of this, even though only Noah is declared to be "righteous").

The rest of the world that perished at the time of the flood are now in Torments in Hades, just waiting for their day in God's court, when at the Great White Throne Judgement God will judge the living and the dead. There, they will all be sentenced to eternity in the Lake of Fire—the Second Death—eternal separation from the *love* of God. Only those whose names are written in the book of life will enter into eternal life, and be eternally separated from the *wrath* of God.

\*\*Remember: God's physical judgments are only a physical picture of an eternal spiritual truth—they are a warning of something much worse that is to come if a person refuses to repent and believe.\*\*

Revelation 20:11-15 NKJV

Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. <sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. <sup>13</sup> The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. <sup>14</sup> Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. <sup>15</sup> And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

When we think about all those billions outside the ark, and the horrible death by drowning they willingly chose at the time of the great flood, remember that that's nothing compared to the eternal torment that they will have to endure for eternity in Hell—the Lake of Fire—the Second Death. Scripture describes the horrors of this eternal damnation several times. For example, Isaiah describes Hell as a place which is visible for all eternity to those who have been saved. They will be able to look upon the great suffering of those who refused God's gracious gift of salvation and be reminded of just how great a salvation they have received—they have been saved from eternity in the Lake of Fire.

Isaiah 66:24 AMP

And they [the righteous] shall go forth and gaze upon the dead bodies of the [rebellious] men who have stepped over [the line or transgressed] against Me; for their worm shall not die, their fire shall not be quenched, and they shall be an abhorrence to all mankind.

Isaiah 66:24 NLT

And as they go out, they will see the dead bodies of those who have rebelled against me. For the worms that devour them will never die, and the fire that burns them will never go out. All who pass by will view them with utter horror.”

They will feel like they are being eternally eaten by worms. They will look like corpses but will still be physically alive. They will feel like that their bodies are being continuously burned by fire. Who would want to spend eternity with this kind of almost unimaginable physical suffering, which will also be accompanied by the mental anguish of regretting their stubborn pride and their foolish choice to not repent of their sin and believe. Jesus also warns us about the terrible suffering that people choose to endure in Hell.

Mark 9:42-48 NKJV

“But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea.

<sup>43</sup> If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched—  
<sup>44</sup> where ‘Their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’

<sup>45</sup> And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, rather than having two feet, to be cast into hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched—  
<sup>46</sup> where ‘Their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’

<sup>47</sup> And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire—<sup>48</sup> where ‘Their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’

There’s a good reason that Jesus died such a gruesome death—*Jesus experienced and suffered in our place what we deserved*. The cup of the eternal wrath of the Almighty God for the sins of every person who will ever live was drunk in full by Jesus. Jesus absorbed and suffered the infinite wrath of a perfectly holy God. May we not see sin as something to play with, but rather something to avoid at all costs, as something that has tremendous consequences and causes tremendous pain and grief to our loving Heavenly Father.

*How was Noah made righteous—Was it because Noah worked hard for 120 years to build the ark?*

v 1 **I have seen that you are righteous:** Why was Noah righteous? Was it because of his hard work for God? No! Was it because of his obedience? No! Noah was only righteous because he, by faith, chose to receive God’s grace—“*But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD*” (Genesis 6:8). After the flood, we will see that Noah was not perfect. In fact, he got completely drunk and naked, bringing much shame upon himself (see Genesis 9:20-24).

Both the forgiveness for his sins that made Noah perfect or righteous before God, as well as the power and desire to obey that enabled Noah to practically live a righteous life, were gifts given to Noah. The same is true for all others who choose to repent and believe or trust in Jesus. Noah didn’t work for his salvation, he didn’t earn his salvation, he didn’t deserve or merit God’s salvation, rather, Noah *received* God’s gift of salvation. The Bible says, “*Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD*”. Remember, by definition, grace is a free gift—it cannot be earned, and it is never deserved—it can only be received.

Genesis 6:7-8 NKJV

So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."

<sup>8</sup> *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*

Paul in his letter to the Romans explains that our salvation is only by grace—no works are required. If any works were required, then Paul explains that that would mean that it wasn't by grace, it wasn't a free gift.

Romans 11:6 NKJV

And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.

Romans 11:6 NLT

And since it is through God's kindness, then it is not by their good works. For in that case, God's grace would not be what it really is—free and undeserved.

Romans 11:6 AMP

But if it is by grace (His unmerited favour and graciousness), it is no longer conditioned on works or anything men have done. Otherwise, grace would no longer be grace [it would be meaningless].

Noah's work was a response to grace (the free gift of salvation)—Noah was also empowered by God's grace to do the good works that God had planned in advance for him to do (see Ephesians 2:10). When a man repents of his sin and believes, God gives him His grace, His strength or enablement, so that he is both willing and able to do the good works that God has already planned for him. *A man's obedience and work for God is a result of his being saved, and not the cause or reason why he is saved.* A man **works out** what God **works in**.

Philippians 2:12-13 NKJV

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, *work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;* <sup>13</sup> for it is God who **works in** you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

Philippians 2:12-13 NLT

Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. *Work hard to show the results of your salvation,* obeying God with deep reverence and fear. <sup>13</sup> For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

When Noah gets to heaven, he will have nothing to boast about, as everything he did was only made possible by God's power working through him. Remember, it's not our ability that God is looking for, but only our availability. All God expects of us is that we remain faithful to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength—that we have no idols in our lives (we don't compromise and make something else more important than Him).

1 Corinthians 15:10 NKJV

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but *I laboured more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.*

1 Corinthians 15:10 NLT

But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favour on me—and not without results. *For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace.*

1 Corinthians 15:10 AMP

But by the grace (the unmerited favour and blessing) of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not [found to be] for nothing (fruitless and without effect). In fact, *I worked harder than all of them [the apostles], though it was not really I, but the grace (the unmerited favour and blessing) of God which was with me.*

## **2. Noah, his family, and the animals go onto the ark**

Genesis 7:2-9 NKJV

You shall take with you seven each of every clean animal, a male and his female; two each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female; <sup>3</sup> also seven each of birds of the air, male and female, to keep the species alive on the face of all the earth. <sup>4</sup> For after seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and I will destroy from the face of the earth all living things that I have made.” <sup>5</sup> And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him. <sup>6</sup> Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth.

<sup>7</sup> So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. <sup>8</sup> Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth, <sup>9</sup> two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah.

v 2 **You shall take with you:** This is a great example of God telling Noah to do something that is humanly impossible, but then making it possible by His own infinite power and wisdom. All Noah had to do was to be ready to receive all the animals. God would do the rest. God would decide which pairs of animals had the best genetics, were of the optimal age to survive and reproduce once they were off the ark, and were free from pests and diseases. God would ensure that one was a male and the other was a female.

God would also cause these selected animals to **come to** Noah. “Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind **will come to you** to keep them alive” (Genesis 6:20). Just imagine how it must have looked, with all these wild animals, several thousand individual pairs of them, separating themselves from their groups, and making their way to the ark, including walking up the ramp—“two by two they went into the ark **to Noah**, male and female, as God had commanded Noah” (v 9). All Noah and his family would have had to do was wait inside the ark and then direct them to the correct pen or stall.

“Some wonder how the animals came to Noah or how Noah got them. In Genesis 6:20 God said the animals would come to Noah by migration. In some animals, God has created a migratory instinct (which can operate in an amazing manner). It is no difficulty for Him to miraculously place an urge to migrate to the ark in each pair of animals He planned to be preserved in the ark.” (David Guzik)

“From the North Pole, terns fly to Hawaii for the winter. But they leave their young behind because the young aren't ready to fly. Several months later, having gained enough strength to make the journey, the young terns fly in formation on their own—without a single travel agent or map—straight to their parents in Hawaii.” (Jon Courson)

v 9 **Two by two they went into the ark to Noah:** All the animals obeyed God, but the billions of people didn't. Who is wiser, the animals or the people? Pride makes mankind foolish.

Isaiah 1:3 NKJV

The ox knows its owner and the donkey its master's crib; but Israel does not know, My people do not consider.

v 6 **Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth:** This would mean that Noah was a mere 480 years old (middle aged) when God commanded him to build the ark.

### **3. On one day the fountains of the great deep break up and the flood begins**

**Genesis 7:10-12 NKJV**

**And it came to pass after seven days that the waters of the flood were on the earth. <sup>11</sup> In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. <sup>12</sup> And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights.**

v 10 **After seven days that the waters of the flood were on the earth:** This seems strange to us. Why would God wait seven days after shutting the door of the ark (see verse 13) before the flood started? No doubt the people outside the ark would have been having a great time mocking Noah. Maybe they felt some fear and became quiet when the big heavy door closed all by itself. But I imagine that after a couple of days, with Noah and his family shut up in the ark, that there would have been a lot of jeering and mocking—“Where’s all the water Noah?”, they might have been saying. It would have taken a lot of faith for Noah to keep trusting God and not start to doubt that there really would be a flood. It’s always at the last minute, after waiting patiently, and working hard for so long, that we start to second guess ourselves and often give up.

But practically, there was probably a good reason why God gave them seven days. Just imagine all the work involved in making sure that all the animals were fed and watered, with all the animal’s bedding in place and everything secured, ready for a very rough ride.

v 11 **In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day:** What a momentous day! The last day of life for billions of people and the vast majority of all plant and animal life. The world would never be the same. In fact, in just over one year later, nothing would be recognisable—different continents, different environments, different oceans and lakes, and different and much higher mountains. It would be like a new earth, albeit a very cold and icy one, with a new beginning for mankind and the air breathing animals.

v 11-12 **On that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. <sup>12</sup> And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights:** This was not a gentle rain fall, where the water level slowly rises and then starts flowing down streets and causing damage. This was a geologic catastrophe which the world had never seen before and will never see again. In **one day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up**. In one day, thousands upon thousands of volcanoes erupted at the same time. Also, most likely, at the same time, a layer of water about 1.6 km thick, probably around 16 km under earths surface, where it was under very high pressure, caused the earths crust to fracture and split, causing massive geysers of water, rocks, and mud to be propelled high up into the atmosphere—this is most likely the geological description of the “**fountains of the great deep were broken up**”. For more information, consider the *Hydroplate Theory* proposed by Walt Brown (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sD9ZGt9UA-U>). Search “The Hydroplate Theory - The Flood (Newer Version!)” on youtube.com. There is a 10 minute video that shows how this could have happened, and how it answers many of the unanswered questions that geologists have been puzzling over for a long time.

The Hydroplate Theory explains :

- rapid continental drift
- how mountain ranges form rapidly
- how the coal, oil and methane deposits formed
- the huge trenches on the ocean floor
- why there are hundreds of canyons (e.g. the Grand Canyon)
- why there are tens of thousands of volcanoes
- how the ice age begun immediately after the flood and for the next several centuries
- the formation of the layers and almost all fossils
- the frozen mammoths
- the origin of comets, asteroids, and meteorites
- and more...

v 12 **And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights:** If all the clouds dropped all their moisture as rain all at the same time, it would only rain for about three days. There must be an alternative explanation for how it could rain for forty days. Some suggest that there was a hydrosphere, a layer of water high up in the earth's atmosphere, which something causes to precipitate. However, I think that the hydroplate theory fits best with the geological evidence. The water gushing up into the atmosphere would have come down as rain, ice, and snow, snap freezing vast portions of the earth, especially around the poles. This explains how the mammoths and other creatures could be snap frozen, and why there is tropical plant matter in their stomachs (fossil evidence shows that before the flood, the whole earth was lush and tropical. However, after the flood, things were very much different, similar to today). The mammoths lived in what used to be a tropical environment where tropical plants grew, but in a very short period of time, probably only a day or two, the whole land area was covered in ice, freezing and preserving everything.

v 12 **Forty days and forty nights:** Forty is the number often associated with trials and temptation in the bible.

“The number 40 becomes associated with testing and purification, especially before coming into something new and significant. This is seen in Moses’ time on Mount Sinai (Exodus 24:18, Deuteronomy 9:25), the spies’ trip to Canaan (Numbers 13:25), Israel’s time in the wilderness (Numbers 14:33, 32:13), Elijah’s miraculous journey to Sinai (1 Kings 19:8), and Jesus’ temptation in the wilderness (Mark 1:13).” (David Guzik)

#### **4. God shuts Noah, his family, and the animals in the ark**

**Genesis 7:13-16 NKJV**

**On the very same day Noah and Noah’s sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark—<sup>14</sup> they and every beast after its kind, all cattle after their kind, every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, every bird of every sort. <sup>15</sup> And they went into the ark to Noah, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life. <sup>16</sup> So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.**

v 13, 16 **On the very same day ... Went in as God had commanded him:** Noah did exactly as God had commanded him. Noah was well prepared for the coming judgement because he had been faithful to obey God for the previous 120 years. Because of Noah’s faithfulness, not only were each kind of air breathing animals saved, but also Noah’s family. The influence that a godly father can have on his family cannot be underestimated.

v 16 **And the LORD shut him in:** This would be a comfort for Noah. Noah had been preaching for 120 years, and it would have been hard for him to give up on all those people that he had grown to love and care for as he had been praying for them. It wasn't up to Noah to tell people that their time was up, God did it. The moment God shut that door, the opportunity to enter the ark and be saved was ended.

Everybody has a limited time to accept God's give of forgiveness found in Jesus, and nobody knows how long it is—it ends when they die. I may have another 10 minutes, or another 10 years, only God knows. Once we die, the choice we made in this life concerning whether or not we believed in Jesus is fixed—either eternity with God, or eternity separated from God in the Lake of Fire.

Hebrews 9:27 NKJV

And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment.

There are no second chances. Today is the day of salvation. Tomorrow could be too late.

James 4:13-14 NKJV

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; <sup>14</sup> whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

## **5. A detailed description of the global flood**

**Genesis 7:17-23 NKJV**

**Now the flood was on the earth forty days. The waters increased and lifted up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. <sup>18</sup> The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth, and the ark moved about on the surface of the waters. <sup>19</sup> And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered. <sup>20</sup> The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered. <sup>21</sup> And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man. <sup>22</sup> All in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, all that was on the dry land, died. <sup>23</sup> So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive.**

v 17 **Now the flood was on the earth forty days:** This was just the beginning. The first 40 days was probably how long it took for the flood waters to reach their maximum height. The earth was completely covered in water for over a year.

v 18 **The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth... and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered. <sup>20</sup> The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward, and the mountains were covered... And all flesh died... all that was on the dry land, died... Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive:** There is so much repetition here. It's as if God knew that sinful man would doubt the existence of a global flood, so God makes it super clear as to what actually happened. Even the highest mountain peak that was in existence at that time was covered by over seven metres of water (remember that it was only later, towards the end of the flood, that the ocean basins sank, the continents rose, and the colliding tectonic plates rose up to form the massive mountain ranges that we have today, e.g. the Himalayan mountains).

v 20 And the mountains were covered: Is there enough water on the earth to cover all the small mountains that existed at the time? Yes. If the earth were a perfect sphere, then it would be covered by water to a depth of about 3 km. That's a lot of water. That's why today two thirds of the earth surface is water, and why the oceans are so deep, with an average depth of close to 3.7 km.

“If this were not a global flood, then the ark itself would be unnecessary. If this were only a local flood, then God's promise to never again bring such a flood is false. If this were only a local flood, the Bible is wrong when it traces all of humanity back to Noah's sons and other passages that speak of a universal flood (such as Psalm 104:5–9 and 2 Peter 3:5–6).” (David Guzik)

Psalm 104:5-9 NLT

You placed the world on its foundation so it would never be moved. <sup>6</sup> You clothed [covered] the earth with floods of water, water that covered even the mountains. <sup>7</sup> At your command, the water fled; at the sound of your thunder, it hurried away.

<sup>8</sup> Mountains rose and valleys sank to the levels you decreed. <sup>9</sup> Then you set a firm boundary for the seas, so they would never again cover the earth.

“The waters rose fifteen cubits—approximately twenty-four feet—above the highest mountain peaks. Some have suggested that this was not a worldwide flood, but rather a local flood in one section of the world. The problem with this viewpoint is that if it was merely a local flood, why didn't God simply tell Noah to leave the area? The waters were above the mountains—which speaks of a global flood. That is why virtually every culture on the face of the earth has stories about a flood, and why fossils of sea life have been found underneath ice packs in the Himalayas.

The idea of a local flood doesn't make sense logically, culturally, paleontologically, and certainly not Scripturally. Peter wrote that, just as the world was wiped out by water in Noah's day, it will be destroyed by fire in the last day (2 Peter 3:7). Thus, if the Flood was local, the end-time fire will be local as well. And that's just not so.” [Jon Courson]

### Other evidence for the flood

“Literally hundreds of people groups have their own accounts and legends of the flood. One of the most remarkable is the Babylonian account, which is similar to the Genesis account in many ways and is clearly drawn from it. Since all mankind came from Noah's sons, all mankind remembers the flood.”

Boice specifically cites the legends of the Samo-Kubo tribe of New Guinea, the Athapascan Indians of America, the Papago Indians of Arizona, Brazilian tribes, Peruvian Indians, African Hottentots, natives of Greenland, native Hawaiian islanders, Hindus, Chinese, Egyptians, Greeks, Persians, Australian natives, the Welsh, Celts, Druids, Siberians, and Lithuanians.

Of the more than 200 cultures that have their own account of the flood the following aspects of the story are common:

- 88% describe a favoured family
- 70% attribute survival to a boat
- 95% say the sole cause of the catastrophe is a flood
- 66% say that the disaster is due to man's wickedness
- 67% record that animals are also saved
- 57% describe that the survivors end up on a mountain
- Many of the accounts also specifically mention birds being sent out, a rainbow, and eight persons being saved” (David Guzik)

## Summary and Conclusion

The flood was real. The promised judgement came back then, and God's judgement is coming again. God is gracious and kind, giving extra time for people to repent, but the judgement will still come. For those who don't repent and believe before they die it is too late. Those who don't repent and believe before the rapture will have to endure the seven year tribulation. Those who still don't believe before the end of the seven year Tribulation will be removed from the earth and sent to Torments in Hades.

God gives many warnings and chances, but in the end, there is always a limit to God's patience and grace when it comes to receiving His free gift of salvation. The invitation to come into the ark was a limited time offer. There came a day when the door was closed. Even if the people wanted to change their minds they couldn't. Once unbelievers die, they will see the reality of Heaven and Hell, but then it is too late—there are no second chances. Don't play with your eternal future. Don't be content with a few years of pleasure on earth but an eternity of suffering in the Lake of Fire. Be willing to give up the temporary pleasures of this world and suffer for the sake of Christ, and then enjoy eternity with God forever. The word of God is true. Believe it.

Luke 16:19-31 NKJV

"There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup> But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, <sup>21</sup> desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. <sup>22</sup> So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

<sup>24</sup> "Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.'

<sup>25</sup> But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'

<sup>27</sup> "Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.'<sup>29</sup> Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.'<sup>30</sup> And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'<sup>31</sup> But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.' "

Notice how the unbelieving rich man is full of regret once he reaches Torments in Hades (the suffering section of Hades set aside for the unbelievers). Life for him in Torments is no party with his friends, no chance to sit back and enjoy himself. No. There is no escape. He is conscious of his own suffering. He is conscious that many of the people he loves and cares for, that are still alive on the earth, are also unbelieving and heading for the same eternal suffering that he has started to experience. But, there is nothing that he can do for anyone anymore, not for himself, and not for anyone else. His life was a wasted life. He was rich. He had a good life. He did what he wanted. He ate what he wanted. He went where he wanted. But in the end, it all meant nothing. Only one life, will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last. The rich man achieved *nothing* of eternal value.

The judgement is coming. Are you ready? Do you believe that Jesus is both God and man? Have you made the decision to turn away from your sins? Have you asked Jesus to forgive your sins? Have you boarded the ark of salvation?