**12 – Obedience of Noah**

*Genesis 6:22; Hebrews 5:8-9*

**God’s Justice**

* **Romans 2:1-11** – God is just/righteous and must deal with men according to their deeds.
  + **The nature of God is absolute in that He can do no injustice**. **The destruction of the world in Genesis 6 was righteous.**
* All have sinned – thus including Noah (**cf. Romans 3:23**).
  + This a plan from God to make provision for righteous living for mankind. Of course this included sending Jesus (**cf. Romans 3:21-26**).
  + God is not limited by time – ***“with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Peter 3:8)***.
    - The sacrifice of Christ was once for all in the sense of being sufficient, but also sufficient for all who lived (**cf. Hebrews 9:15** – His sacrifice made available redemption for all man, including those under first covenant. But also before that.)
    - ***“Noah was a just man” (Genesis 6:9)***. I.e. he was lawful; righteous; right with God – ***“Noah walked with God” (Genesis 6:9***). (Before Law of Moses)
      * The Jews often associated the righteousness of Abraham with works of the Law. Paul refuted that (**cf. Romans 4:1-4, 9-12**). (**Justified by faith before circumcision.**)
    - Noah was just. He found favor with God. But why? 🡪
      * **Hebrews 11:7** – Noah lived by faith.
        + **Romans 10:17** – Faith comes by hearing the word of God. (**Noah heard what God said and did what God said. This was true up to, and including, building the ark**.)
        + **Justification is through faith**. **Noah was just before building the ark – which is why God saved him.**
* **Genesis 6:1-8 – The world turned evil. In fact, in accord with God’s justice only eight souls were spared through the ark (All but 8 were wicked.)**
  + **God’s decision to destroy the world was just. But even though His decision was made He remained longsuffering for a time giving opportunity for repentance. 🡪**
  + **2 Peter 2:5 –** Noah preached righteousness to the world. (**cf. Genesis 6:3** – In other words, God was giving man another 120 yrs of longsuffering.)
    - **(cf. 1 Peter 3:18-20)** – Christ preached to these individuals through the inspired Noah. (Jesus was in the spiritual realm before He descended to earth.)
  + **2 Peter 3:9** – God was not willing that these men perish so He was longsuffering toward them. He destroyed them because of their disobedience.
* ***“though [Jesus] was a Son, yet he learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him”*** **(Hebrews 5:8-9)**.
  + Noah was unique and thus received favor from God. However, God did not show partiality – He never has and never will.
  + Noah was unique because he was the only one willing to obey (**cf. Genesis 6:9** – not perfect as in sinless. He was *complete* or *blameless* in the sense that he maintained moral integrity before God even in the midst of such a perverse generation.)

*Noah’s life of obedience is exemplified in the building of the ark to save his family from the flood waters.*

**Noah Builds the Ark**

* Some contend that there are many ways to please God as long as one is sincere. God’s instructions to Noah suggest otherwise.
* **Genesis 6:13-22** – Noah did ALL of what God told Him to do. The specifications were not mere suggestions but commands and expectations.
  + **Noah was saved because he did exactly as God said to do**. Compare with others:
    - **Genesis 2:16-17; 3:6, 17-19** – Adam and Eve.
    - **Genesis 4:3-5; Hebrews 11:4** – Cain and Abel.
    - **Leviticus 10:1-3** – Nadab and Abihu.
  + **Each of these are examples of individuals who were commanded something specifically, like Noah, however didn’t obey and therefore were not acceptable to God.**
* Lesson 7 concerned the understanding of Jesus’ authority by the Centurion (**cf. Matthew 8:5-9**).
  + **The obedience of Noah follows the same understanding. God has authority, therefore what He says must be done to the letter.**
* **Generic Authority – whatever is necessary to carry out a command is included in the command.**
* **Specific Authority – anything specifically mentioned in a command prohibits anything that differs.**
* **Silence does not authorize.**
  + ***Leviticus 10:1 – “which He had not commanded them.”* –** Did not say He said not to do what they did, but that He simply didn’t say they could.
  + **Hebrews 7:14-17** – Christ could only be a priest after the order of Mechizedek because nothing was said about a priesthood from Judah.

**Matthew 7:21-23 – The proper response to a command given by God is obedience. Only then will we get to heaven.**