The Story of Noah and His Times

Jeff Trahan · Hebrews 11:7

INTRODUCTION

- It's possible for us to turn the story of Noah into nothing more than kind of a biblical old McDonald's farm if we're not careful.
- The story of Noah actually provides us with a number of practical lessons. It's not just a story. It was written, as was the entirety of scripture for our instruction.

1 Noah and His Times

Genesis 4:16; Genesis 4:25–26; Hebrews 11:5

- The fact that Cain moved away from the presence of the Lord had a tremendous impact not only on Cain himself, but also on his descendants after him.
- The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- The descendants of Seth start making bad decisions and they marry carnally-minded women and eventually they too become corrupt.
- It was a bad time in the history of the world, but Noah was a righteous man all the same.
- He did all that God commanded him. He did exactly what God said.

2 Faith Is Based on God's Word

Hebrews 11:7; Hebrews 11:6; 2 Timothy 3:16

- Noah did what he did because he was warned by God concerning events as yet unseen.
- He acted on information he received from God. And I'll just go and tell you that's the only way to act by faith.
- Noah's faith was based upon God's word.
- The kind of faith that is pleasing to him is the kind of faith that is based upon what God has said, what God has revealed. That's what we have in scripture.

3 Faith Is Demonstrated by What We Do

Hebrews 11:7; 2 Peter 2:5; 1 Peter 3:20

- Noah took the information he received from God and he acted on it.
- God did more than give Noah information to believe. He gave him information to act upon.
- Biblical faith is the kind of faith that leads a person to act in a way that is prescribed by God.
- We take what he said, we believe what he said, and then we do what he tells us to do in response to that. That's faith.

4 We Can Be Influenced for Evil by Other People

1 Corinthians 15:33; 1 Kings 11:1–8; Judges 14:3

- We can be influenced by people who are going to lead us in the wrong direction.
- Do not be deceived. Bad company corrupts good morals.
- The problems that eventually led to the flood resulted not just from evil influences, but from evil influences within the marriage relationship.
- Even a man with Solomon's wisdom was led away to serve other gods because of the wives he had married.

5 We're Not the Only People to Face Difficult Times

- We sometimes act like we're the first people who have ever been challenged with the task of serving God in the midst of an ungodly world, but we're not.
- As bad as things seem sometimes, there are still people who are interested. And we do have help.
- Noah would just say to us, "Join the club and get back to work."

6 We Serve a God Who Is Patient, Willing to Forgive

2 Peter 3:5–10

- We serve a God who is patient, willing to forgive.
- God is being patient. He's holding off judging the world again.
- His patience will run out one day, just as it did before.
- The Lord's not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

THE CHALLENGE

Why not make the decision to obey the Lord based on what he said, not what anybody else says.

MY NOTES