

## THE CHARACTER OF NOAH

A special Hebrew phrase is used to introduce a new section of study in the Book of Genesis. This special Hebrew phrase is “These (elleh) are the records of generations (toledah) of Noah.”

It is used to introduce Gen.6:9-9:29. We will divide 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 the Ark
- Gen.7:1-8:19                      Coming of the flood judgment
- Gen.8:20-9:17                      Covenant of the Rainbow
- Gen.9:18-29                      Curse of Canaan

We will examine the passage on the **Character of Noah** by the following three homiletical points.

- Credentials of Noah    (Gen.6:9-10)    Four
- Corruption of mankind (Gen.6:11-12)    Flesh
- Condemnation by God (Gen.6:13)    Fatal

**This lesson will study SIX aspects of the Character of Noah.**

We will learn how one Spiritually Mature Believer was called upon to stand alone in representing the Plan of God to a world that was not interested in it. **“By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.” (Heb.11:7)**

### **1. A biblical Hebrew name has historical meaning in the redemptive plan of God.**

Noah was given this prophetic name by his father Lamech: “Now he called his name **Noah**, saying, ‘This one shall give us rest (nacham / piel impf) [comfort, console] from our work and from our toil of our hands arising from the ground which the Lord has cursed.’” (Gen.5:29)

In the niphal, the word ‘nacham’ is translated sorry and is used as an anthropopathism, (a human emotion attributed to God) in Gen.6:6-7.

The name ‘Noah’ identified him prophetically, in the messianic redemptive Plan of God with the curse upon the man as a result of Adam’s Original Sin (AOS) (Gen.3:17-19). This same curse is carried in the messianic redemptive Plan of God all the way to the Second Coming of Christ. (Rom.8:18-23; 2 Pet.3:5-9; Matt.24:37-39).

### **2. Noah was the last Sethite, in the lineage of Christ of the Antediluvian civilization (Gen.5:1-32; Luke 3:36-38; 1 Chron.1:1-4).**

There were ten generations of Sethites from Adam through Seth to Noah. They comprised the first ten generations of the Gentile Age (dispensation). The second ten generations of the Gentile Age were the Shemites (Gen.11:10-26; Luke 3:34-35).

Noah was the last messianic link to the Antediluvian period and the first messianic link to the Postdiluvian period. Biblical scholars consider Noah to be the father of the Gentile Age like Abraham was to the Jewish Age. How important was Noah in the redemptive plan of God? You are just as important?

**3. Noah and his three sons were blameless in their lineage genealogies (2 Pet.2:4-5; Jude 6).**

“These are the records of the generation of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless (tamim / teleios) in his time (dor / genea); Noah walked with God.” (Gen.6:9)

This means that their flesh was not corrupted with the Nephilim like the rest: “And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt (shachath / niphal pf) [perverted]; for all flesh had corrupted (hiphal pf) their way (Derek) [manner or course of life] upon the earth.” (Gen.6:12)

**Blameless** meant not corrupting their manner or course of life upon the earth like Nephilim.

**4. The saturation of maximum evil represented by the Nephilim (fallen ones) was the cause of the divine judgment of the flood upon the Antediluvian world (Gen.6-9).**

This began in the 6<sup>th</sup> generation of the Antediluvian civilization (Jared) [descend]. Four generations later there was universal apostasy and defiance towards God except for the Noahic families (Gen.5-6).

**“For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.” (Matt.24:37)** We believe the “days of Noah” were the last days of the Antediluvian period. Historically we know them as the last 120 years of preaching the coming of God’s judgment while building the Ark (Gen.6:3).

**5. Noah was the last faithful preacher of God’s righteousness and judgment (Heb.11:7; 2 Pet.2:5).**

We recall that the first missionary evangelist was Enosh, the son of Seth (Gen.4:26). We also recall that Enoch (7<sup>th</sup> generation), the son of Jared, was a preacher who also walked with God (Gen.5:18-24; Jude 14-16).

Noah was one person against his entire generation of degenerate people. You ask, “what could I do?” You can be faithful to walk with God! Noah was able to marry a righteous woman and they raised three righteous sons who married three righteous women amidst a spiritually declining nation. They personally engaged in the redemptive Plan of God that affected a manner of life they chose to live (2 Cor.6:14-18).

Noah was a Spiritually Mature Believer who chose to walk with God - which put him out of step with everyone around him except his family (Ezek.14:14-20).

**6. The historical dating of God’s judgment of the flood was given by the age of Noah at the time.**

“In the six hundred year of Noah’s life; in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky opened.” (Gen.7:11)

“Thus He blotted out every living thing that was upon the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky, and they were blotted out from the earth; and only Noah was left, together with those that were with him in the ark.” (Gen.7:23)

“For this is like the days of Noah to Me; when I swore that the waters of Noah should **not flood the earth again**.” (Isa.54:9)

**“The Lord is not slow about His promises, as some count slowness, but is patient towards you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.” (2 Pet.3:9)**