

*The third example of God's faithfulness to Noah and the creatures is that...*

### 3. God Comforted Them, Ge 8:20-22

#### a. God gladly accepted Noah's offering

- 1) Noah's first action was to build an altar and sacrifice of every clean beast and clean fowl to the Lord. Remember, God sent 7 of each clean animal and bird into the ark, probably for this very purpose.
- 2) The smell of his sacrifices were sweet to the Lord.
- 3) Here is a reminder always to thank the Lord after He delivers us from a trial. (Hebrews 13:15) "*By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.*"

#### b. God gave them promises

- 1) He promised not to curse the ground in this manner for man's sake (v.21).
- 2) He promised not to smite every living thing in this manner again.
- 3) He promised that while the earth remains, there would always be seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night. This was new, as the pre-flood earth was tropical. Many creation scientists believe that the ice age was caused by the flood as evaporation from the yet warm oceans turned to snow which piled deeply and turned to ice in the cold regions of the new world. The ice age probably lasted about 700 years after the flood.

**Conclusion:** Noah's trials began when God instructed him to build the ark and lasted until they safely exited the ark. God faithfully remembered, instructed, and comforted Noah during his trials.

Though our trials will not last as long as those of Noah, there may be times when they seem no less severe. The same faithful God who remembered, instructed and comforted Noah will do the same for you and me if we will walk with Him, obey Him, trust Him, wait on Him, and thankfully praise Him. (1 Peter 5:7) "*Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.*"

**Song:** Great is thy Faithfulness 40

# God's Faithfulness

*21 March 2021 PM – Genesis 8 – Gen2021 – Scott Childs*

**Introduction:** The faithfulness of God ought to be a great comfort to your heart. He is always the same. He never changes. He always keeps His word. He is always on time, never early or late. He never forgets. Read the words of "Great is Thy Faithfulness." #40

**Transition:** As we meditate on Genesis 8, we find three examples of God's faithfulness to Noah and the creatures in the ark.

*The first example of God's faithfulness to Noah and the creatures is that...*

### 1. God Remembered Them, Ge 8:1-14

#### a. God continued to remember them.

- 1) We are so prone to forget things and then suddenly remember when we smell or hear something. Perhaps when you have had a dish of food cooking, you got busy and forgot about it until you smelled something burning. Maybe a friend promised to pick you up to go somewhere, and you forgot until the doorbell rang.
- 2) The grammar of v.1 assures us that God had not forgotten Noah and the creatures on the ark and then suddenly remembered them. He *continued to remember* them the entire time they were in the ark.
  - a) God remembered them during the violent flood.
  - b) God remembered them during the slow months.
  - c) Once the earth was dry, God remembered their needs, their feelings, and their desire to get out of the ark.
- 3) Be assured that during the storms of life, during the seasons of waiting on the Lord, and during the emotional struggles of life, *God faithfully remembers you*. Consider these pictures of God's care. (Isaiah 43:2) "*When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.*" (Romans 8:38) "*For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present,*

*nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

**b. God acted on His remembrance.**

- 1) He sent a wind to dry the earth (v.1).
- 2) He stopped the fountains of the deep and the windows of heaven (v.2)
- 3) He pressed down the oceans, which pushed up the mountains, causing the waters to rush off land into the oceans. These events left behind twisted and angled sedimentary layers, bluffs, pinnacles, canyons, sea fossils on top of mountains, coal, oil and other amazing testimonies.
- 4) After exactly 5 months (150 days, cf., 7:11; 7:24; 8:4), the waters calmed and the ark touched down in the mountains of Ararat (v.4). **No more motion!**
  - a) Most people believe that this was in the mountain range in the upland regions of what is now Armenia.  
Henry Morris, The Genesis Flood, p.208
  - b) This high mountain "abounds in what is known as pillow lava, a dense lava rock formed under great depths of water." Ibid.
- 5) Then in the 10th month on the 10th day, nearly 3 months after the ark landed, the tops of the mountains could be seen, v.5.
  - a) Just 40 days after seeing the mountaintops, Noah opened the window and sent out a raven, v.6-7.
  - b) Again, he sent out a dove to see if the ground was dry yet, v.8-9. The dove found no truly dry ground and came back to Noah.
  - c) Seven days later he again sent out a dove, and it returned with an olive leaf, v.10-11.
  - d) After another week, he sent out the dove, and it did not return, v.12.
- 6) On the 601st year, 1st month, 1st day, Noah removed the cover of the ark and looked out on the drying ground, v.13.

- 7) Almost two months later, in the 601st year of Noah's life, the 2nd month, and the 27th day, the earth was truly dry. **After one year and 11 days, the flood was finally over!** The excitement of Noah's family must have been almost uncontainable.
- 8) When trials of life are long and drawn out, remember God is still in control. Cast your burden on Him! (Psalms 55:22) *"Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."*

*The second example of God's faithfulness to Noah and the creatures is that...*

**2. God Instructed Them, Ge 8:15-19**

**a. God's instruction was timely, v.14-15**

- 1) God waited until the ground was safe, dry, and producing vegetation. Often, we get impatient, but we must learn to wait on the Lord. **His timing is always right.** (Psalms 27:14) *"Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD."*
- 2) This is the first recorded conversation between God and Noah since He told him to enter the ark (7:1-4; 8:15).

**b. God told Noah to exit the ark, v.16-17**

- 1) God must have opened the large door of the ark that He had tightly closed.
- 2) Noah was to exit and to bring out all the creatures he had sustained (v.17).
- 3) **They readily obeyed** (v.18-19). The old earth was totally buried and changed. Nothing remained the same. The new earth was fresh and bursting with plant life.
- 4) Though God had destroyed the earth, He quickly replenished it with all things needed for sustaining life.
- 5) Though it may be difficult to detect at the time, every trial that God allows in our lives is for our good and His glory. We would be much more content if we would say with Job, *"But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold."* (Job 23:10)