

Genesis Chapter 6 Part 2

Ge 6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Noah was described as being just, perfect in his generations, and one who walked with God (Ge.6:9). He was also a preacher of righteousness (2Pet.2:5). It is for these reasons that Noah found grace (Heb.11:7, Eze.14:14 vs. Rom.10:3). Psalms 84:11 For the LORD God *is* a sun and shield: the LORD will **give grace** and glory: no good *thing* will he withhold from **them that walk uprightly**. Grace is “earned” or “deserved” in the O.T. Grace is found 37 times in the O.T. (26 times it is either “found” or “find” grace) and 122 times in the N.T. (over 3 times more). In the N.T. we receive grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Jn.1:17, Eph.2:8-9, Rom.3:25-26, 2Tim.1:9) not according to our works.

Ge 6:9-10 These *are* the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God. **10** And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Noah’s sons are not listed in chronological order. Japheth is the oldest (Ge.10:21), then Shem, then Ham (Ge.9:24). It is presumed that Shem is mentioned first because he is in the line of Christ.

Ge 6:11-13 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. **12** And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. **13** And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

Man had corrupted his way (Pr.16:25, Jn.14:6). Not only were the sons of God marrying women, but violence was rampant. The earth itself was said to be corrupt suggesting that the violence included bloodshed (Num.35:33, Pr.28:17). Paul tells us that men who sow to the flesh and consent not to wholesome words have corrupt minds (1Ti.6:5) and reap corruption (Gal.6:8). But praise God all who are saved are raised incorruptible (1Cor.15:42-54).

Ge 6:14-16 Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch...

Although the bible gives some details of the ark’s construction, there is much conjecture over the specifics. For example, Gopher wood is a transliteration from the Hebrew text and is an unknown species of tree. Many believe it to be Cypress or Cedar. Others believe it is not a reference to the actual wood but as to how it was prepared. The exact length of a cubit is unknown. It varies from 18” to 22.5”. Ken Ham believes a cubit to be 20.4” and built an ark replica at 510 ft. long, 85 ft. wide, and 51 ft. tall. His website states, “*Few wooden ships have ever come close to the size of Noah’s Ark. One possible challenger is the Chinese treasure ships of Zheng He in the 1400s. An older contender is the ancient Greek trireme Tesseractes. The Ark is near the maximum size known to be possible for a wooden vessel.*” “*The Ark had the same storage capacity as about 450 standard semi-trailers.*” Noah’s ark was constructed on a 1:6 ratio. Naval architecture reveals that this is the most stable ratio for an ocean-going vessel. It could have easily survived even big ocean waves and would be next to impossible to capsize.

Ge 6:17-18 And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein *is* the breath of life, from under heaven; *and* every thing that *is* in the earth shall die. **18** But **with thee will I establish my covenant**; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons’ wives with thee.

The evidence for a worldwide flood is overwhelming. An evolutionist believes in a principle known as Uniformitarianism which teaches that “*all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.*” 2Pet.3:3-7. This is unscientific given the vast fossil deposits, the origins of petroleum, the formations of canyons, etc. A bible believer believes in Catastrophism which teaches that a terrible crisis occurred at some earlier time (a worldwide flood). True science is based on empirical (observable) data. The earth is full of twisted rocks, mountains hurled upward, thousands of erupted volcanoes, glaciers moved from the poles, etc. A worldwide flood accounts perfectly for these phenomena and more.

In verse 18 we find the third covenant made with man, the Noahic Covenant. **The first** was the Edenic Covenant (in the garden, Gen.2:16–17). Man was innocent with no knowledge of good and evil. They only had one command of what not to do. **The second** was the Adamic Covenant (at the fall, Gen.3:14–19). Man was to live by all known good and refrain from all known bad as illustrated with Cain and Abel, Gen.4:7 *If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door...* **The third** was the Noahic Covenant. After the flood, some new commands were given. Man was now responsible for the governing of other men, Gen. 9:5-6.

Ge 6:19-22 And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every *sort* shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep *them* alive with thee; they shall be male and female...

As we studied in Gen. Chapter 1, the bible designates animals as “sorts” and “kinds” rather than species. There may be over 100 different breeds of a dog, but they are all still dogs – they don’t represent new species.