

ONE in the word

“Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me (Jesus).” (John 5:39)

January 4

TODAY’S READING: Genesis 7-9

OVERVIEW: Noah, his family, seven pairs of clean and one pair of unclean of every living creature enter the ark as God had commanded; the great flood; the Rainbow Covenant; the new beginning; the curse upon the descendants of Ham (the Canaanites).

HIGHLIGHTS & INSIGHTS: “The LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark” (Genesis 7:1). The ark was God’s secure refuge from the judgment that was to come. In Matthew 11:28, Jesus said, “Come unto me... and I will give you rest.” In Acts 16:31, Paul said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.” Just as Noah was saved from the wrath to come, and found rest within the ark, Colossians 3:3 says to those of us who have called upon the name of the Lord, “...your life is hid with Christ in God.”

The fact of the flood is proved by God’s record of it here in Genesis through Moses, as well as by the Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 24:37-39; Luke 17:36), the prophets (Isaiah 54:9), and the apostles (1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 2:5).

The flood teaches us that God will punish sin, and that there must be death to the old before He will establish the new. God begins again with eight souls (Noah, his three sons, and each of their wives). Note that from this point in the Bible, eight is the number of “new beginnings.”

In chapter 9, verses 8-17, God enters with Noah what verse 16 describes as an “everlasting covenant.” This is the first of five covenants in the Bible that God refers to as “everlasting.” The other four “everlasting covenants” include:

- 1) The Abrahamic (Genesis 17:7);
- 2) The Priestly (Numbers 25:10-13);
- 3) The Davidic (2 Samuel 23:5);
- 4) The New (Jeremiah 32:40).

As God replenishes the earth through Noah’s three sons (9:18-19), note that through Shem come the Asians, through Ham come the Africans, and through Japheth come the Europeans.

CHRIST IS REVEALED:

- Through the ARK – Genesis 7:1, 7 (Acts 4:12; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 Thessalonians 1:10)

Note: To be delivered from the wrath of God to come, you must be “in Christ” the only “Ark” of safety.