

THE GREAT FLOOD**Genesis 6 – 9**

Lesson Memory Verse: Romans 10:13 “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Lesson Aim: To show that God hates sin and will punish sinners who will not give up their sins; ~~but~~ also to show that God loves sinners and will save those who hate their sins and ~~will~~ ask Jesus Christ to be their Savior.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention): Billy's uncle promised to take him fishing on Saturday. Billy was really excited about fishing with his uncle. He talked about it all week. The thought never entered his mind that something might happen and he would not be able to go fishing with his uncle. He knew his uncle would come for him on Saturday morning and they would go fishing. But when Saturday came, his uncle called and said he had been in a car accident and did not know if he could go fishing with Billy, but he would try. Billy was disappointed, but his mother said that his uncle was a good man and would do his best to keep his promise. Billy tried to hope that his uncle would be able to keep his promise and went up to his room. An hour went by and the telephone rang again. It was Billy's uncle and he said he could go fishing after all. He got another car and he would stop by for Billy in fifteen minutes. And just as he had promised, his uncle was there, and off to the lake they went. And to top it off, Billy caught a big fish. Billy was very glad that his uncle had kept his promise.

HE (for Authority): Our memory verse for today tells of a very important promise that God has given to us. The promise is: “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” This promise may not seem too important until we learn that we have sinned and must be punished forever in Hell for our sin. But God says He will save us, if we trust His Son and call upon Him for His help. You see, Jesus Christ died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins. If we believe that and call upon Him to help us, He promises to save us from being thrown into Hell. You can count on God. He will never break His promises. Memorize His promise: “For whosoever” (you or anyone else) “shall call upon the name of the Lord” (shall ask Jesus Christ for His help) “shall be saved” (will not go to Hell).

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. In our story today we will see how God saved Noah and his family because they hated their sins and trusted Him, but also how He punished those who loved their sins and did not believe Him.

I. The Reasons God had for Destroying the World (6:1-13)

A. The people were thinking evil thoughts all the time (6:5).

God says that evil thoughts are as bad as evil deeds (Prov. 23:7a; I Jn 3:15).

B. The people were doing violent things to one another.

There was fighting and stealing and all sorts of wrongs being done (6:11).

C. The people had to be destroyed for their sin because they were so wicked (6:6, 7, 12, 13).

WE: God hates our evil thoughts and wicked deeds. His punishments should bring fear to our hearts and cause us to turn from our sins. The greatest of His punishments is Hell, which is the Lake of Fire.

II. The Reasons God Had for Making the Ark (6:14-21)

A. The ark was big enough to save everyone who wanted to be saved.

1. The ark was a large boat that was a city block long, a half-block wide (from the street to the alley), and higher than some of our tallest trees in the city (6:15).
2. The ark had one window which was at the top of the ark (6:16). When they looked up to the light it would remind them of God, Who was up in heaven. Then they would remember to thank God for saving them from the flood.

3. The ark had only one door which was on the side of the ark (6:16). God has only one way to be saved, not many. In that day salvation was by the ark, in our day it is by Jesus Christ (Jn 10:9; 14:6).

B. It was used to save the believers: Noah and his family (6:8).

1. Noah and his family were saved from the punishment of God because they believed God and got into the ark.
2. The unbelievers went to Hell for their sins because they did not believe God and refused to get into the ark.

C. It was used to save the animals (6:19, 20).

1. Animals were useful to people for work, for food, for clothing, and for protection.
2. Some animals were especially needed for the worship of God. When these animals were sacrificed for the sins of people they remind us of the death of Jesus on the cross for us (John 1:29; Isaiah 53).

WE: God used an ark to save Noah and his family from the great flood, but now He has sent His Son Jesus Christ to save us from the Lake of Fire. All we have to do to be saved by Jesus Christ is to hate our sins and call upon Him to save us, and He will keep His promise and save us.

III. The Reasons God had for Saving Noah and his Family (6:22 – 7:16)

A. Noah and his family did everything God told them to do (6:22).

Noah made the ark that God told him to build. Noah warned the people of the coming punishment of God. Noah gathered the animals which were to be put into the ark. All this showed that Noah believed God, and it was his faith in God that saved him (Heb 11:7).

B. Noah and his family went into the ark (7:7).

It would have done them no good to build the ark and then refuse to go inside. They went into the ark as they were commanded.

C. Noah and his family were inside the ark when God shut the door (7:16).

They did not wait outside when God told them to go inside. They obeyed the Lord immediately.

WE: When we obey the Lord, we show our faith in Him. When we obey right away, we show that we have no doubts at all in what He is saying to us. Obeying the Lord pleases Him very much. Have you obeyed Him by asking Jesus Christ to be your Savior? Do not wait because you may wait too long and miss the opportunity to be saved from the Lake of Fire.

IV. The Results of the Flood that God Sent (7:17 – 9:17)

A. Water covered the highest mountain by 22 feet (7:20).

God's punishment was greater than anyone imagined. It rained for forty days and nights. Water fountains under the earth also broke open. The whole earth was covered with water.

B. Water killed all of the people and animals outside of the ark (7:21-23).

The only safe place was in the ark where Noah and his family were.

C. The waters did not dry up for over a year (7:11; 8:14).

This gave Noah and his family plenty of time to think about God, His hatred for sin and His way of salvation. When they finally left the ark, they offered sacrifices to God to show their gratefulness to Him for saving them (8:20, 21).

WE: If we are saved, we, too, should show God our gratefulness by giving Him a gift. God will bless us when we do, just as He did for Noah (8:21-9:17). But if you are not saved, do not wait. You may wait too long and miss being saved. Then you will be punished for your sins forever in the Lake of Fire. The Lake

of Fire will be worse than anyone can imagine. In that Lake there will be fire everywhere and with no place to find rest. Call on the name of the Lord now and be saved forever from that place of suffering.

BE (for Action): If you had lived in Noah's day, would you have believed God's warning about the flood? Would you have gone into the ark if everyone laughed at you for doing it? I hope you would have done so, but how many people really did go into the ark? (Only eight) Many, many people did not believe what Noah was saying would really happen. After all, they had never seen a flood before. It really took faith to believe that God would send a flood. Most of the people did not believe what God told Noah and turned away from His warning. They laughed at his preaching, but later they died in the flood.

Today, God is warning sinners about the Lake of Fire. He says people will go to the Lake of Fire if they have sins in their record book. We must believe God's warning. He says we must believe Jesus paid the penalty for all of our sins. Then we must hate our sins and ask Jesus to remove all of them from our record book. If we do not do this we will go to this awful place. A lot of people laugh at this warning just like they laughed at Noah's warning of a flood. They laugh at and jeer the people who believe that Jesus Christ is the only One Who can save them from this Lake of Fire. What do you think? Do you believe sinners will go to a Lake of Fire without having Jesus Christ as their Savior? Do you believe you will go to the Lake of Fire without asking Jesus Christ to remove all of your sins from your record book? Have you ever asked Him to be your Savior? If you have not, do it now! Do not wait! The door of salvation may close at any time, and then it will be too late. Ask Jesus to be your Savior and He will save you now. Then you will never have to go to the Lake of Fire, but you will go to Heaven.