

Daniel Perrin – L10: Upon Whom the Ends Have Come – Monday, June 2: Noah's Evangelism

1. Flood is related to Second Coming
 - a. A REAL event, but a PROPHETIC event
 - A worldwide destruction because of sin, when the wicked perished and a righteous remnant were saved by faith
 - b. Flood is a real thing
 - It makes a difference what you believe about fossils and where they came from.
 - Record of millions of dead things buried in rock layers by a water event all over the earth.
 - If you don't accept the flood, you accept an evolutionary model: death before sin — no salvation
 - By rejecting the flood: we also reject the reality to which the prophetic event points: the Second Coming and the end of sin
2. Learning about the flood often makes someone ask, "How is the flood loving?" / How could a loving God ...
 - a. God is a good Designer
 - He created a world that was so well-constructed that even with the introduction of sin, the environment continued to support 900+ lifespans
 - With minds more powerful than ours, men and women who turned themselves over to Satan had a lot of power to do evil.
 - As the result of their centuries of perfected sinfulness spread, it threatened to destroy righteous humanity completely from the earth and erase every evidence of God's promise of salvation.
 - b. If that happened, there would be no seed through which the promise of a Savior would come.
 - Out of love for humanity, God intervened by rescuing the righteous remnant (just 8 people in the entire planet)
 - Handicapping the spread of wickedness by adjusting the earth's capacity for supporting life — following the flood and the changes God allowed in the human diet, lifespans began to decrease rapidly.
 - The flood preserved the promise of a Savior
 - And the flood restricted the spread of sin by physically weakening humanity.
3. Jesus directly ties the flood to the Second Coming so that WE who are looking for Jesus' return can prepare *for it* by studying the time of the flood.
 - a. **Matthew 24:37–39** – *But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.* ³⁸ *For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*
 - b. **Luke 17:26–27** – *And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: ²⁷ They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.*
 - c. The times before the flood were characterized by so-called "Normal Life."
 - Destruction was AT THE DOORS, and people were planning for the future as if life would carry on forever.
 - They were partying as if today's pleasure was the top priority.
 - The world was about to be destroyed ... and they were investing all their strength in the world.
 - d. There is nothing evil about eating and drinking — after all, God provided healthy food ... and water to drink.
 - But the acts of eating and drinking become a sin when we disconnect ourselves from God and pursue our own perverted appetites.
 - They took eating and drinking to excess

- Have WE ever done that – in the name of a holiday to celebrate God’s love? / Do we gratify our own appetites to the destruction of our bodies — and very importantly OUR MINDS?
 - We may claim this: I only damage my body in moderation / or when there is a birthday celebration / or when I go to a restaurant
 - In other words: I only reject God’s plan for me ... *a little bit*.
 - APPETITE had taken control, and the mind had become a slave to the desires of the flesh.
- e. The same thing could be said about marrying and giving in marriage
- God instituted marriage...
 - But the antediluvians had turned God’s gift into something evil: a tool of selfish pleasure
 - We do that today when we seek someone to “MAKE US HAPPY”
 - Lives and futures are destroyed because of wrong marriages that God did not ordain.
 - One person links their destiny to another who is not linked to God, and both pull each other to ruin.
- f. **Genesis 6:5** says it this way – *Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*
4. SO, God instructs one righteous man to PREPARE — GET READY
- a. Here’s where the story from the past REALLY involves YOU in the present:
- The end WILL come! — Will you be ready?
- b. **Hebrews 11:7** – *By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.*
- c. For 120 years (**Genesis 6:3**) Noah did TWO THINGS:
- d. FIRST, He preached. — **2 Peter 2:5** calls Noah a “Preacher of Righteousness”
- e. He boldly warned the world of God’s coming judgment.
- f. HE DIDN’T STOP WITH PREACHING — even when the time was very close
- He built a refuge according to God’s instructions
 - He didn’t build it smaller or according to what was reasonable or “doable.”
 - The construction of this massive structure CONDEMNED THE WORLD
 - The more Noah lived by faith in God’s Word, the more the world hated him
 - This was LIVED-OUT evangelism.
 - **PP 95** – *While Noah was giving his warning message to the world, his works testified of his sincerity. It was thus that his faith was perfected and made evident. He gave the world an example of believing just what God says. All that he possessed, he invested in the ark. As he began to construct that immense boat on dry ground, multitudes came from every direction to see the strange sight and to hear the earnest, fervent words of the singular preacher. Every blow struck upon the ark was a witness to the people.*
- g. Do you want to save your household — and any others who come out of Babylon?
- There is a time of plagues coming, and a Time of Trouble
 - Preparation has to be made BEFORE The crisis comes.
 - Getting out of the city.
 - Planting a garden. Angels will feed God’s people when they are forced to flee to the mountains.
 - BUT before then, when people are losing their jobs and homes ... you have learned to live with less so you can faithfully pay off your property so you can be a refuge for others.
 - You’ve learned medical missionary work and can teach others.
 - You know how to pray and how to labor for souls.
 - You have practiced stepping out in faith personally so you can publicly lead others in stepping out in faith.
 - When people are looking for a refuge ... will you have one in you ... made after God’s pattern?
 - Will you separate yourself from worldliness right now: worldly parties / music / diets / lifestyles?

This will take ALL you possess

This will take you completely away from the world's pattern

Adventist Home, p.121 – *It was lawful to marry in the time of Noah, and it is lawful to marry now, if that which is lawful is properly treated and not carried to sinful excess. But in the days of Noah men married without consulting God or seeking His guidance and counsel.... The fact that all the relations of life are of a transitory nature should have a modifying influence on all we do and say. In Noah's day it was the inordinate, excessive love of that which in itself was lawful, when properly used, that made marriage sinful before God. There are many who are losing their souls in this age of the world by becoming absorbed in the thoughts of marriage and in the marriage relation itself.*