



October 2010



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Dear Set-Apart Saints!

"But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 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, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be." (Matthew 24:37-39)

Lessons from Noah

Our focus this month is on Noah (*NO-ach* in Hebrew), which is also the name of the Torah portion, Parashah 2 (Genesis 6:9-11:32), read in synagogues around the world on Saturday, October 9, 2010. We live in times which are "as the days of Noah." Evil abounds. Tolerance is god. Political correctness rules. Sex sells. Good is called evil, and evil good. BUT GOD has prepared an ark for every person on the face of the earth, and His Spirit extends an Olive Branch of life, hope and peace to whosoever will: Yeshua, the Hope of the world, the Ark of our salvation, **The One on whom the Spirit of God found a place to rest (John 1:32)!**

The need for an ark in Noah's day began in the Garden of Eden with the fall of man. Sin entered the beautiful garden. Murder occurred as Cain slew his brother Abel. "Cain went into the land of 'Nod' — 'wandering,' 'flight,' 'unrest,' and his descendants, within a few generations, openly set aside almost every commandment and institution of God so that violence, lust and ungodliness prevailed on the earth." (Edersheim, **Bible History Old Testament**)

The corruption of mankind reached its highest point in the days of the *Nephilim* (giants), when there was universal prevalence of open, daring sin and rebellion against God. *"Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of the heart was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart."* (Genesis 6:5-6)

Man can grieve the heart of God! Do you see this happening today? We do. Let's strive to comfort our Father by becoming *"...blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world"* (Philippians 2:15).

The Birth of Noah

Yes, the earth was filled with violence and wickedness, **BUT GOD** gave Enoch's grandson a son whom he named Noah. *"And he called his name Noah, saying, 'This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the Lord has cursed'."* (Genesis 5:29)

The Hebrew name Noah means REST. It comes from the root **נוח** *nuach*, which signifies not only the absence of movement, but being settled in a particular place, with overtones of victory, security, finality and salvation. The Lord brought Noah as REST into the world at a time of great iniquity and restlessness. The first man born after Adam died, Noah, was destined to usher in the rest that Adam failed to enter. Noah came to show the inhabitants of the earth a better way, God's way, but they would have none of it. We can learn a lesson of rest from Noah, who found that the

only true place of spiritual rest is God, the God of our salvation. Noah would agree with the psalmist: *"Return to your rest, (m'nuchah) O my soul, for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you."* (Psalm 116:7) It is the Spirit of the LORD that causes man to rest (See Isaiah 63:14.), and Noah chose to follow that Spirit instead of the spirit of his age.

Righteous Noah

Yes, God was sorry that He had made man, *"But Noah found grace (chen in Hebrew) in the eyes of the Lord."* (Genesis 6:8) *"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."* (Hebrews 11:7) We read in 2 Peter 2:5, that God saved Noah, one of eight people, *"...a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly."*

The Bible tells us that God warned Noah of things he had not seen yet. What could those things be? First of all, many believe that it had never rained before the flood. This is a possibility since Genesis 2:6 tells us that *"...streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground."* The dew and the canopy of water that surrounded the earth may have kept creation watered. Another interesting point to ponder is the fact that Noah was 500 years old when he became the father of three sons (Genesis 5:32). He was 600 years old when the flood waters came upon the earth (Genesis 7:6). It appears that it took him 120 years to build the ark, during which time he preached righteousness to his scoffing, mocking contemporaries (Genesis 6:3). That means that Noah began to prepare an ark "for the saving of his household" 20 years before he had children!

Noah was righteous (*tzadik* in Hebrew) because of his faith, just like Abraham after him, and all true believers in the Messiah Yeshua. Noah found grace (favor) in the eyes of God. He was saved by grace, through faith. So are we. God's ways are eternal. (See Ephesians 2:8.)

The Bible says that Noah was perfect and that he walked with God. Perfect in Hebrew is *ta-MEEM*, and does not mean flawless, but spiritually upright, genuine, inwardly entire and complete, and one whose heart has a single aim. Yeshua, the Messiah, in His Sermon on the Mount, said to His talmidim, *"Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect."* (Matthew 5:48) Like Noah, we are to grow into complete maturity of godliness in mind and character, having reached the proper height of virtue and integrity. (**Amplified Bible**)

Noah walked with God. This same expression was used concerning his great-grandfather Enoch (Genesis 5:22). This is what we desire for our lives—to walk with God. If we *"walk in love"* (Ephesians 5:12), we will surely walk with God! Noah also obeyed God—radically. What God asked Noah to do made no sense in the natural. But Noah chose to endure the ridicule and unbelief of those around him, for the greater prize of pleasing God. *"Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did."* (Genesis 6:22)

The Days of Noah

"And the Lord said, 'My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.'" (Genesis 6:3) This is the second mention of the Holy Spirit in the Bible. The Spirit of God deals with the hearts of men; He convicts the world of sin, and of righteousness, and judgment. (John 16:8)

Sin abounded in Noah's day: *"The earth was depraved and putrid in God's sight, and the land was filled with violence (desecration, infringement, outrage, assault, and lust for power). And God looked upon the world and saw how degenerate, debased and vicious it was for all humanity had corrupted their way upon the earth and lost their... direction."* (Genesis 6:11-12; **Amplified Bible**)

There was no reason to tolerate this state of affairs, BUT GOD, in His great mercy, gave man

one hundred and twenty years to repent. Alfred Edersheim expresses God's forbearance as follows: *"Even so, 'the long-suffering of God waited' for one hundred and twenty years, 'while the ark was a preparing;' and during this time, especially, Noah must have acted as 'a preacher of righteousness'."*

Although we have not yet reached the extreme limit of human depravity, sin abounds in our day. There is no need to enumerate the manifold manifestations of evil of the 21st century. Just check your newspaper or the internet. Sin will scream at you. What should be our response? Like Noah, we should be preachers of righteousness, warning our contemporaries of the coming judgment. The Bible tells us in 2 Peter 3:3 that scoffers will come in the last days, and even mentions the flood (vs. 6). Nevertheless, our God is still longsuffering, *"...not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance"* (2 Peter 3:9). We must share the Good News that there is an ARK OF SALVATION—YESHUA—for all those who turn from their sin to serve the Living God. *"Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Messiah Yeshua."* (Colossians 1:28)

The Ark

When God told Noah that the end of all flesh had come before Him, since the earth was filled with violence (*hamas* in Hebrew!), He instructed Noah to make an ark of gopher wood (cypress), with explicit details for its construction. The ark would be the salvation of Noah and his family—eight souls in all. *"Then the LORD said to Noah, 'Come into the ark, you and your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation'."* (Genesis 7:1)

Consider this: God told the prophet Ezekiel that He would severely judge a land that sinned against Him by persistent unfaithfulness. However, men like Noah, Daniel, and Job would be delivered by their righteousness (Ezekiel 14:13-14). Noah's wife, his sons and their wives are not called righteous, yet God spared them anyway. Pure grace! God is a God of families. He longs to save entire families. (See Exodus 12:3 and Acts 16:31.)

Once the ark was filled with its human and animal cargo, God waited seven days (*shiva*—Did God mourn?) before *"the Lord shut him in"* (Genesis 7:16). Truly Noah's name meaning rest, security, finality and salvation, found fulfillment in this act of God. This has implications for us as believers. When we are "in Messiah" and really belong to Him, we are safe, secure, and God shuts us in! Yeshua said, *"My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand."* (John 10:29) Noah is definitely a picture of the Savior who delivers the world and gives lasting comfort and rest.

The Flood

Noah was not caught by surprise when the flood waters came, but the rest of his generation was. It will be the same with the return of Yeshua. We, as believers, must not be caught unaware, but be vigilant, redeeming the time for the days are evil. Judgment is coming.

Many nations of the world, widely separated and independent of each other, have preserved a tradition of a global flood (*ma-BOOL* in Hebrew). The Bible tells us that *"...the waters prevailed on the earth one hundred and fifty days"* (Genesis 7:24). The old world was buried in the flood. Destruction of all flesh was necessary for new life to begin. This death to life sequence is a pattern found throughout the Holy Scriptures. The flood in many ways mirrors God's original creation. It was like a re-creation, a new beginning. Remember that eight souls were involved, the biblical number of new beginnings. Picture the dove sent out from the ark hovering over a world of water, like a re-enactment of Genesis 1:1. A world washed clean. A *mikvah*? Jeffrey Feinberg, Ph.D., a Messianic rabbi and scholar, in his excellent book **Walk Genesis!**, points out the following: *"...The entire sequence of creation is repeated. To stop the flood, the deep is closed (Genesis 8:2, c.f. Genesis 1:2,6). Then the dry ground appears and the ark rests (Genesis 8:4, c.f. Genesis 1:9). Next, God commands all life to 'teem' upon*

the earth (Genesis 8:17, c.f. Genesis 1:28). Finally, God commands the people to multiply upon the earth (Genesis 9:1,7 c.f. Genesis 1:28)." There will yet be another creation, since the Bible speaks of a new heaven and a new earth (2 Peter 3:13). You will really enjoy this book. Order your copy today.

The Noahic Covenant

God said in Genesis 6:17-18, "...and everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish My covenant (b'rit) with you..." Once the waters of the flood decreased, the ark rested (*nuach* in Hebrew) in the seventh month on the mountains of Ararat (Genesis 8:4). Rest at last.

The first thing that Noah did upon exiting the ark was to build an altar (*miz-BAY-ach* in Hebrew) to the Lord. This was the first time that we read of an altar being built for sacrifices to God. Noah made God his first priority. So should we! The burnt offerings of clean animals were an expression of Noah's gratitude to God, his spiritual worship, and consecration of the new earth to the LORD. God smelled the aroma and was pleased. He promised to never again curse the ground for man's sake, nor destroy every living thing as He had done, **even though** the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth. He also promised that the regular order of the seasons would remain.

Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons, saying: "And as for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you... Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth. And God said: This is the sign of the covenant which I make between Me and you, and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth!" (Genesis 9:9-13)

This everlasting covenant between God and all humanity is still in effect. We still see the sign (OAT in Hebrew) of the covenant when a rainbow appears. God keeps His promises. No more global flood—of water. However, the earth is being flooded with evil. Rejoice if you're in THE ARK. Be wise as a serpent, especially on October 31. Witches, black cats, skeletons, haunted houses, ghosts, vampires and devils have no place in the Kingdom of God. Witchcraft is alive and well in our day. Halloween is a satanic high sabbath. Please do not expose your little ones to occult influences. Flee wickedness. Embrace truth. Love God. Get ready to be lifted up!

Agreeing with God as He says to you: "...My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest" (Exodus 33:14).

Love in Yeshua,

Melba Jamie

P.S. Paul Wilbur's NEW CD, Desert Rain, is available this month!

Jewish Jewels Television Airtime Schedule - October 2010

LOCAL TV STATIONS

AIRTIME:	STATE:	CITY:	STATIONS:
TUE 6:00 PM	AK	North Pole	KJNP TV 4
SUN 2:30 PM	FL	Tampa/St. Pete.	WCLF TV 22
THU 11:30 AM	FL	Miami/Ft. Laud.	WHFT TV 45
SUN 1:30 PM	FL	Tallahassee	WVUP TV 45
SAT 10:30 PM	FL	West Palm Beach	WFGC TV 61
SUN 2:30 PM	GA	Columbus	WYBU TV 16
SUN 1:30 PM	IA	Dubuque	KFXB TV 40
SUN 1:30 PM	MO	New Bloomfield	KNLJ TV 25
SUN 4:00 PM	NJ/NY	NYC/New Jersey	WMBC TV 63
SUN 12:00 PM	OR	Portland	K26GJ TV 26
SUN 12:00 PM	OR	Salem	K21GX TV 21

SATELLITE NETWORKS (EST)

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