

Step By Step Through The Bible With Children

**"All thy children shall be taught of the LORD;
and great shall be the peace of thy children."**

(Isaiah 54:13)

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LESSON 13 -

NOAH WALKED WITH GOD

"But your iniquities have separated between you and your God."

Children, what do we call people who live without GOD? "Ungodly." What are people called who believe and obey GOD? "godly."

We will say together Isaiah 59:2. (Always have children repeat the reference first.) **"But your iniquities (repeat) have separated (repeat) between you and your GOD."**

Iniquity means sin, and sin separates people from GOD, so they cannot walk in GOD's way.

Last week we learned about a good man, whose name was Enoch, **"And Enoch walked with God: and he was not: for God took him."**

Today our lesson is about Noah, who **"was a just man and perfect (upright), . . . and Noah walked with God."**

"There were giants in the earth" in the days of Noah. The giants and the mighty men of that day filled the earth with violence, which means quarreling, fighting, hating, and killing, until the earth was no longer a fit dwelling place for little children, or even for men and women.

It was into such a world as this that Noah was born, and lived as a boy. Perhaps his father Lamech, and his grandfather Methuselah had left their tents and their life of wandering to dwell in the land where discoveries and inventions had made life easy and pleasant.

Lamech and Methuselah were among Seth's godly seed, and, no doubt, continued to believe in GOD and worship Him long after the rest of Seth's seed had turned away from Him.

It was from them that Noah heard about GOD when a boy, and he, too, learned to trust and obey

GOD, so that when he became a man, he was able to walk with GOD, when others walked in the "way which seemeth right unto a man," which means Satan's way.

Satan knew that some day the Saviour, whom GOD had promised, away back there in the garden of Eden (point to the garden, if you are using the pictures) would destroy all his works, and bruise his head so he could no longer be the GOD (a false god) of this earth. It was for this reason he tried to destroy all the godly seed, so the Saviour could not be born.

When all the godly seed, except Noah, had either died or followed in Satan's way, GOD looked down upon the earth and **"saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually . . . and it grieved him at his heart."**

"And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air." All except Noah! Because **"Noah walked with God,"** . . . and **"found grace in the eyes of the Lord,"** GOD saved him and his family.

GOD spoke to the ungodly about their wickedness and the punishment that was to come upon them, but they would not hear this warning. He said, **"My spirit shall not *always* strive with man."** There was still time for the ungodly to be saved, but some day it would be too late.

Because **"Noah walked with GOD,"** GOD talked with him about the flood, and said to him, **"Make thee an ark of gopher wood;"** . . . **behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh . . . and everything that is in the earth shall die, . . . but . . . thou shalt come into the ark."**

It was as if GOD said, "Noah, it is GOD speaking to you; yes, it is I; are you listening? I have spoken to the wicked, but they will not hear, I have waited long and patiently, but they will not believe; I will therefore destroy man whom I have created."

But, **"Thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee, and... two of every sort (of animals) shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee."**

Noah had never heard of a flood, and possibly had never seen it rain from Heaven, as you and I have. In its early days the earth was watered by a mist, like a very fine rain, which **"went up . . . from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground"** (Genesis 2:6), rather than by rain coming down from Heaven as it does now.

Nevertheless, **"By faith Noah, being warned of GOD of things not seen as yet, . . . prepared an ark."** GOD said He would send a flood, to destroy every living thing, both man and beast, but that He would save Noah alive, and Noah believed.

Noah stood upon GOD's Word, just as we are learning to do, here in Bible Class, when we sing our chorus which says,

The B-I-B-L-E,
Yes, that's the Book for me.
I stand alone on the Word of GOD,
The B-I-B-L-E.

Noah stood alone on GOD's word, when everyone else was against GOD and against His word. When there was no sign of a storm, not even a cloud in the sky, Noah stood on the word of GOD and did "**according to all that GOD commanded him.**"

How strange and foolish it must have seemed to the ungodly, to see Noah, an old man 500 years old, building a great boat on the side of a mountain, instead of at the water's edge, where boats belong.

No doubt, many boys and girls, as well as older people, gathered about the ark to see what Noah was building, and to ask questions. Then Noah could tell them about GOD whom he as a boy learned to trust, and how he was still standing on the sure Word of GOD.

In this way Noah preached to the ungodly people around about him, for 120 years. Perhaps he told them that the things of earth which they loved so dearly, would soon pass away, but that the things of GOD would never pass away. But their stubborn willful hearts refused to be warned by Noah, just as they refused to be warned by GOD.

GOD told Noah to make the ark three stories high, and to set a door in the side, and a window above. Perhaps, the window was in the roof, so Noah could look towards GOD without seeing the sorrow and trouble that was to come upon the earth.

Noah not only believed GOD, but he obeyed GOD by doing all that the LORD commanded. When the ark was finished and GOD's day of judgment was near, the LORD said to Noah, "**Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous.**"

How glad Noah must have been to hear the gracious invitation - Come, and live. No doubt, Noah often found it hard to believe in GOD, and to do right, when everyone else seemed to be having a good time doing wrong. But the end of Noah's way was to be life, while the end of the ungodly way was to be death.

Perhaps you children find it hard to do right when other children are doing wrong, just as Noah did. You may think it is hard to go to Church and Sunday School on the LORD's day while others forget GOD and spend the day in worldly pleasure.

You may think it is hard to stay at home, while your friends go to the movies, where they see and hear wicked things, which are not good for children to see and hear.

But, just as Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD for doing right, so children who learn to love the lasting things of GOD more than the passing things of earth, will please GOD and find grace or favor in the eyes of the LORD.

These things were written for our learning. The thing we are to learn, children, is that no one has

lasting pleasure, or true happiness, who lives without GOD. The wicked of Noah's day had pleasure in their sin, but not lasting pleasure.

Noah did not enjoy the sinful pleasures of the earth. He found true and lasting pleasure in doing right and walking with GOD, and the end of his way was life.

As the time drew near for the flood the LORD said, "**For yet seven days** (only seven days more, Noah), **and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.**"

And Noah and his family went into the ark, and two of every kind of beasts, cattle, fowl, and creeping thing, and the "**Lord shut him in,**" and Noah and all that were with him were perfectly safe from the judgment outside.

The story of Noah shut in the ark where death could not reach him is GOD's object lesson, to teach us that the LORD JESUS CHRIST is our Ark of safety. When we are warned by GOD's Word that we are sinners and need a Saviour, and we believe and receive the LORD JESUS into our hearts, we are in CHRIST and safe from eternal death, just as Noah was safe in the ark, because the "**Lord shut him in.**"

The ungodly, who shut GOD out of their hearts, were shut out of the ark. Today the sinners who shut the LORD JESUS out of their hearts will be shut out of Heaven.

When JESUS was here on earth, He said, "**I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me.**" When we are in CHRIST, we are in the way that leads us to the Father in Heaven. And like Noah, we are safe from the judgment which must come upon the ungodly.

Some of us know we are among the godly who are in CHRIST, the true Ark, because we are standing on the "**sure word**" of GOD which says: "**Believe on the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house**" (Acts 16:31).

There may be one here who is not sure whether he or she is on the outside or inside of CHRIST, the Ark, but would like to be sure you are safe like Noah. GOD has made the way so simple that the youngest child here may receive JESUS into his or her heart.

Is there one here who wishes to say, "I believe JESUS bore the punishment of my sin, on the cross, that I might live eternally. I now open my heart and receive Him as my Saviour. Amen." If so, you may bow your head and repeat the prayer after me. (Help the children repeat the above lines).

You children do not look much different to me now, but I know if you really meant the words you just said, that you are different, because the Word of GOD says, "**If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature.**" We get into CHRIST by taking the LORD JESUS CHRIST into our hearts.

If you said the prayer to please me, then GOD did not hear it, but if down deep in your heart, you

really want to be saved from sin and learn to walk with GOD, then you are on GOD's side, with the godly.

Note: If you are using Clarke's Chorus book, teach "One Door and Only One" (page 18) to the class before the lesson. Repeat the chorus, and the second time change the last line to, "I'm on the LORD's side. On which side are you?" Then at the close of the lesson, sing it again.

Lesson: Genesis 6.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11 :7. These "By Faith" verses are very worthwhile. Teach the whole verse if possible.

Story Illustrated. Make a simple figure to represent the ark, by cutting out an oblong square on which place a sloping roof. Make a door in the side, and window above, or in the roof. Cut around both the door and the window, so they will swing open. Make the ark double, and paste a small black figure of Noah (head and shoulders only) in the window, which will show when the window is opened (to be used later).

As you tell of Noah building the ark mount the ark on your board. Make two outline figures of four or five kinds of animals. Set them up back of one another, until you have quite a procession. Have the door of the ark open. Later take the animals down, and as you say the "**Lord shut him in,**" close the door.

Learn to use your objects without loss of time. Keep right on with your story. If possible, do not turn your back to your class. Know just where the figures belong, and how they are going to look, when placed on the board.

~ end of chapter 15 / Lesson 13 ~
