

Noah's Ark

Years after Adam and Eve were removed from the Garden of Eden, mankind had multiplied and filled the earth. Cities were built, crops were cultivated, and animal-tending became the normal practice. But mankind did not follow Yahweh and He became very angry. There was violence everywhere and evil grew worse and worse.



Yahweh decided it was best to destroy the people and animals on the earth and start over with Noah and his family because Noah was a righteous man that feared Yahweh.

Yahweh instructed Noah to build a huge floating structure called an ark. Most artists show the ark as a

regular-looking ship, but it is more likely that the ark was a rectangular-shaped vessel. It was to be about 450 feet long—enormous! The ark would need a huge ocean to float and there was no water near Noah.



Yahweh built the ark as commanded and was told to fill the rooms with two of every animal, both a male and female. But there were 7 of each clean animal. Noah brought his family aboard and the doors were shut behind them. Then it began to rain just as Yahweh had promised.

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Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, and also seven of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth.

— Genesis 7:2~3 NIV

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It rained for 40 days and 40 nights. Not only did it rain, but flood waters were released from deep in the earth! Even the tall mountains were covered with water. It took many days for the waters to recede. By the 10th month, the tops of the mountains could be seen. After more time, Noah sent out a bird, but it returned indicating that no dry land was yet inhabitable.

Finally the dove did not return. So Noah opened the door and set the animals free. They had all lived for more than a year on the ark. The ark had come to rest on a mountain called Ararat in Asia Minor (in modern day Turkey). The land was very rich and fertile. So Noah and his family began their new lives. They grew crops and raised animals.



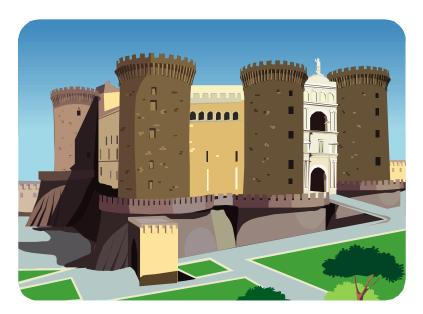
Yahweh made a promise to never destroy the earth by water ever again. He designated a rainbow to symbolize his promise. Whenever it rains we see a rainbow. This helps us to remember Yahweh's promise. It is a covenant that Yahweh made with mankind.

After the flood, Noah's three son's Ham, Shem, and Japheth had many children with their wives. Their families grew and spread across the earth, becoming many nations. In fact one of Noah's descendents was Nimrod. He became the king of Babel.

Nimrod was known as a mighty hunter and was remembered for his great power.

Babel became a mighty empire. The people learned to make bricks and build tall buildings. Eventually the people became very evil and trusted in their own knowledge. "Let's make a tower that reaches up to heaven," they declared. "We will be famous for this and everyone will be afraid of us!"

Yahweh did not like the sound of this. He recognized that the people were all speaking the same language and that would make it easy for them to accomplish whatever they set their mind too. So Yahweh took action and ruined their plans. He made them all speak different languages so that they could not understand each other. Because of this, the people could not work together so they split up and went to live with those who spoke the same language. This explains why we have many different languages in the world today.



Do You Remember?

- 1. Who did Yahweh save during the Flood?
- A. Noah and his family.
- B. No one. They all drowned.
- C. The Egyptians.
- D. The Disciples
- 2. Why did Yahweh destroy mankind in the flood?
- A. The Bible doesn't say.
- B. Mankind, except for Noah, was very evil.
- C. Yahweh was angry because the people did not follow Him.
- D. Both B and C.





- A. No sign is given.
- B. The sign was peace and prosperity.
- C. The sign was a rainbow.
- D. There are many signs.

- 4. Why are there so many languages on the earth today?
- A. Because Yahweh confused the languages of the people to prevent them from accomplishing an evil goal.
- B. People made up their own languages.
- C. When people speak different languages it is often harder for them to work together. Yahweh knew this and used it to ruin their plans.
- D. Both A and C



(Answers: 1-A, 2-D, 3-C, 4-D)



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If your parents have been in the faith for a long time, they probably already explained that Yahweh's new year really begins in the Spring time. Most of the world celebrates the new year on January 1st. But we know this is not correct, because Yahweh tells us that the new year is called Abib which occurs in either March or April. Do you see how the world does the opposite of what Yahweh wants? They start the new year in the dead of winter. But we start the new year when new life begins to grow on the earth. Leaves are beginning to grow on trees and flowers are starting to bloom. Birds and butterflies are also making their appearances. The days are getting longer and warmer and you probably are enjoying playing outside now. Aren't we so blessed to know Yahweh's ways?

