

WALKING WITH GOD IN A WICKED WORLD

GENESIS 6:9 - 7:5



GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

While the ark itself is important, the focus of this passage is **God's saving grace** at work in Noah's heart as Noah stands against the unrestrained evil of his day.

The matter for us to take into our hearts this morning is that the saving **favor** of the Lord works in us to produce the saving **fear** of the Lord.

Because God chooses to **favor** us, we can choose to **fear** Him—to walk with Him in reverence.

Today's sermon highlights three aspects of **God's saving favor in Noah's heart** revealed in Noah's walk with God.

I. God Works **Righteousness** in Noah

Noah:

1. Found **favor** (saving grace) in his God (v. 8). This favor of God characterized or defined Noah's **lifestyle**.
2. Was **righteous** before His God (v. 9). Noah was upright and devoted to God from his **heart**.
3. Was **blameless** before His God (v. 9). Noah's attitude about life and approach to life reflected his spiritual integrity and **faithfulness**.
4. **Walked** with his God (v. 9). Like Enoch, Noah lived to **please** God so that he humbly pursued a sincere and pure life with God.

I. God Works **Righteousness** in Noah

“The righteousness of the blameless will make his way straight, but the wicked will fall by his own wickedness.” (Prov. 11:5)

Noah was a sinner saved by grace and was pursuing a life of pleasing God in all things.

I. God Works **Righteousness** in Noah

As we follow the narrative of Noah's life, we see the faithfulness of the Lord **working a response of faithfulness** in Noah's heart.

Noah is not defined by the world; he's **defined by God** and he's **responding to God**.

I. God Works **Righteousness** in Noah

“...when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah...” (1 Pet. 3:20)

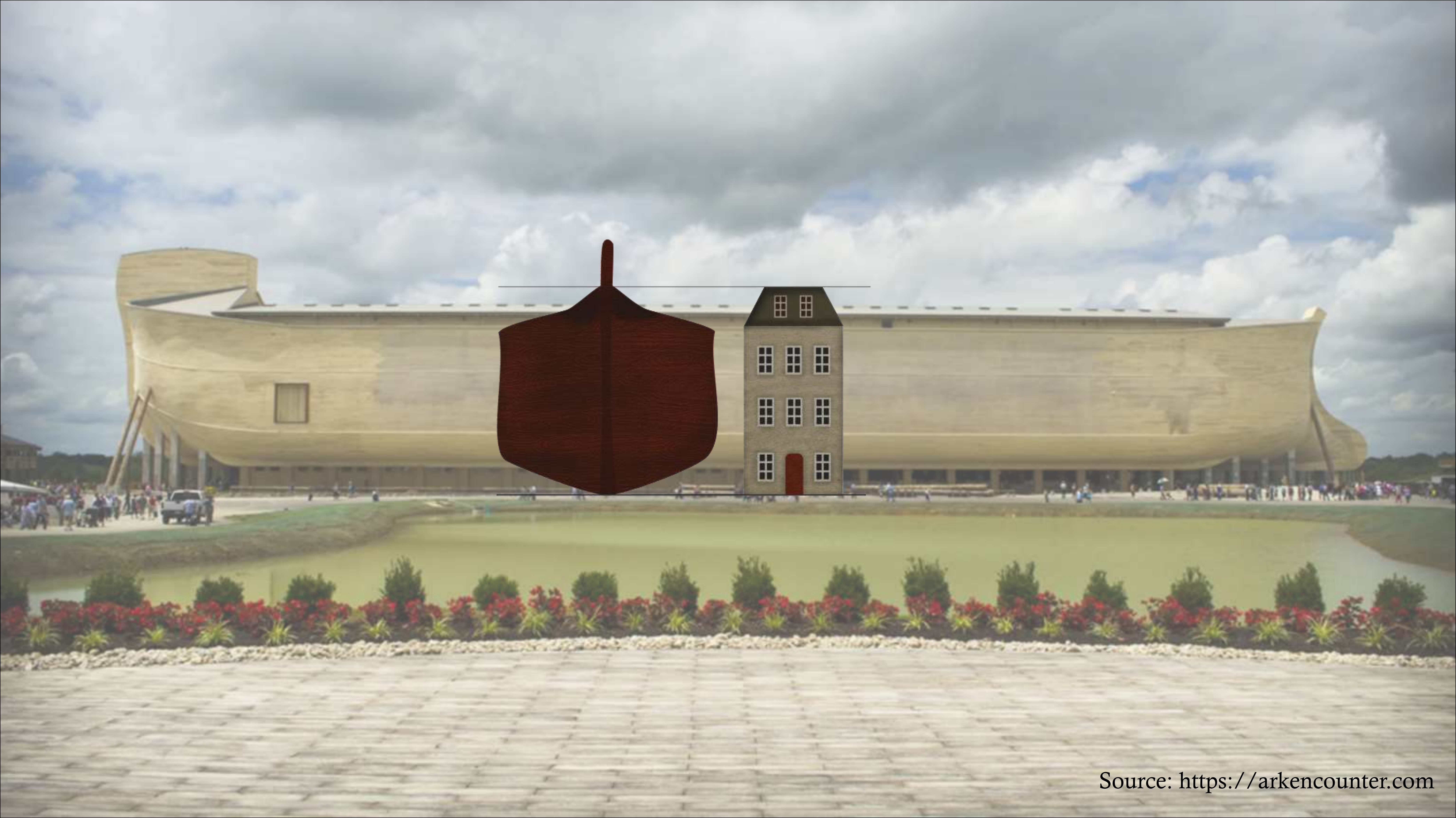
“[God] preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness” (2 Pet. 2:5)

II. God Works **Readiness** in Noah

*“...I am about to destroy them **with the earth.**”*







II. God Works **Readiness** in Noah

*“**But** I will establish **My covenant** with you...”*

This covenant is a **binding spiritual contract God initiates** with Noah. God obligates Himself to save and provide for Noah. God then calls Noah to fellowship and faithfulness by **telling Noah how to respond**.

*“**Thus Noah did**; according to all that God had commanded him, **so he did**.”*

This is saving faith responding in faithfulness. God tells Noah the truth, and Noah must now put that truth into practice.

But God makes clear the stakes of this obedience: *“...and you shall enter the ark—**you** and **your sons** and **your wife** and **your son’s wives** with you.”*

This is the human stake in Noah’s obedience.

II. God Works **Readiness** in Noah

What if Noah had looked to the world to define his priorities in life?

What if Noah had compromised heavenly-mindedness by setting his mind on earthly things?

What if Noah had rationalized worldly living by trying to baptize it with religion?

Answer: Noah would be a **hypocrite** and **useless** to God.

What kept Noah ready to hear from and obey God? Not what, but **Who**?

Noah walked with God, and **God kept Noah faithful to the truth.**

III. God Works **Repentance** in Noah

Noah's willingness to obey God is a reflection of his repentant heart.

III. God Works **Repentance** in Noah

What does it mean for you to *put on the Lord Jesus Christ*?

How do you *walk by the Spirit* so that you will not carry out the desires of your flesh?

III. God Works **Repentance** in Noah

This means we **nurture a lifestyle** of:

1. **Confessing** sin – recognizing and calling sin what God calls it.
2. **Forsaking** sin – turning away from the wrong to move toward the Lord in obedient living.
3. **Replacing** sinful unbelief and disobedience with faith and faithfulness. We strive in the grace of God to live by **faith**—we **choose to believe** God and His Word. And we strive in God's grace to live **faithfully**—**to obey Him** by keeping His commandments.

III. God Works **Repentance** in Noah

Noah is practiced in walking with God by faith; he is learning and growing in hearing and heeding God.

1. Noah has chosen to **listen** – he has **trained** his heart to **hear** the voice of the Lord. Today, God speaks to us through His written Word.
2. Noah has chosen to **believe** – he has **taught** his heart to **trust** God at His Word.
3. Noah has chosen to **obey** – he has **committed** his heart to **do** as God says with the eyes of faith.

A person is silhouetted against a night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The person is standing on a small rock or mound of earth, looking up at the stars. The Milky Way is visible as a bright, colorful band of stars stretching across the sky. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric, with a focus on the vastness of the universe.

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