

Genesis 6:13-22 From Sermon 8.16.20

Read Genesis 6:13-22

Review from Sunday's sermon: This is the final portion of setup before God brings the judgment. God's interaction with Noah reveal to us, for the first time, the doctrine of progressive revelation (God disclosing His nature and plan piece-by-piece vs. all at once). While we don't know how long it God to fully reveal all things to Noah, we do know it took 120 years to build the massive ark. The Scripture is clear that God is sovereign and in control of all aspects of time, space, salvation, and wrath.

1. From Sunday, what does God's expression mean: "The end of all flesh has come before Me"? See also *Amos 8:2 & 1 Peter 4:7.* It is a figure of speech. In God's eternality and timelessness, His decrees and judgments are viewed as good as done. What He has determined will come to pass. There will no delay or avoiding the righteous judgment He's ordained.

1a. Compare that with what Paul preaches in *Acts 17:30-31*. What lesson is in there for us? <u>God has already passed judgment on our world/culture</u>. He's fixed a day in which Christ will return in glory and fire to destroy the ungodly and all of Creation. There will be no change, pardon, or reprieve.

2. If, just as in Noah's day, the verdict is in and the death penalty is immutable, what is the only variable remaining? <u>Only the individual can change their relationship with God and escape the inevitable wrath. The repentant person is the only variable remaining.</u> See also *Acts 2:36-39*

3. What part of the Noah story do you find most interesting? What new things have you learned already? <u>Various personal answers</u>.

4. Fun Facts about the Ark: Length: 450 feet. Width: 75 feet. Height: 45 feet. It was in a box design vs. narrowing floor/hull. It had no sails or rudder. It contained three levels. Inside was 1.5 million cubit feet of space = about 522 railroad boxcars. It is very likely that God drew baby or adolescent animals to Noah vs. full-grown elephants, giraffes, hippos...etc. A large portion of the space would have had to have been dedicated to food storage.

[Bonus question to ponder: How did kangaroos end up in Australia?]

5. Re-Read *verse 18*. What new word/concept is introduced here in Scripture? <u>The Covenant</u>

5a. On Sunday, what two terms were used to describe with Covenant God's enters with Noah? And, what does each term mean?

- U<u>nilateral</u>—The initiation, terms, and sustaining are all done by God
- Unconditional—There is nothing required of Noah. It is binding regardless.

5a. How is that a model of our New Covenant relationship? <u>God sovereignly chose us for salvation</u>, <u>long before we were ever born. It is He who sent Christ to die for our sins and reconcile us to Himself</u>. <u>God grants the faith needed for belief leading to imputed righteousness. We cannot lose our salvation</u>.

6. Technically, has God also entered into a Covenant with the lost? <u>Yes. All on His terms, based on His holy nature, God has a binding promise to judge and destroy those not in Christ. Except for degrees of punishment, the fate of the lost is predetermined and immutable.</u> See *2 Thessalonians 1:6-10*