



Thank you for downloading the
CQ Rewind - Summary Only Version!

Each week, the **Summary Only** version provides you with approximately 4 pages of brief excerpts from the program, along with Scripture citations.

If you would like to receive the
CQ Rewind FULL EDITION at no charge, simply sign up at
www.ChristianQuestions.com.

The **FULL EDITION** of approximately 10-12 pages includes comprehensive excerpts from the program, fully quoted Scriptures, graphics, illustrations, and even extra study points that time prevented us from covering during the live program.



What Can We Learn From Noah? (Part II)

Genesis 6:9: (NASB) *Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.*

Several weeks ago we looked into the life and times of Noah, the righteous man of God who built the Ark upon dry ground in obedience to the will and direction of God. The flood came and destroyed a world that had not only become a society without God, it had become a society that *destroyed* God. Spirit and human beings alike took the goodness of God's creation, mixed it into a forbidden hybrid formula of intelligence and form that may have resembled God's intentions on the outside, but on the inside was a force that rebelled against all that God stood for. The Bible tells us that the resulting destruction was a preview of future destruction to come...has the full length feature of that preview arrived?



We know the original sin of Satan (named Lucifer at that time) was that of pride and covetousness. He was not content with the glory and power he had been given; he wanted the glory and power of the most high.

Satan in his power influenced other "sons of God" towards rebellion - the same rebellion that he himself had navigated: Genesis 6:1-5: (ASV) ¹And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the ground, and daughters were born unto them, ²that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all that they chose. Notice, the "sons of God" (not "angels" or "cherubim") were dabbling in the lives of mankind of their own accord (desires) - not sanctioned by God, and were *not* acting as messengers from God. ³And Jehovah said, My spirit shall not strive with man for ever, for that he also is flesh: yet shall his days be a hundred and twenty years. ⁴The Nephilim were in the earth in those days, and also after that, when the sons of God came unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them: the same were the mighty men that were of old, the men of renown. They acted against not only *the will of God* but *the design of God*. They mixed spirit with flesh and bore a hybrid, unintended race that did not belong. ⁵And Jehovah 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. This action brought the permeation of evil throughout humankind - an evil founded in not only *disobedience*, but also in *defiance* of the God-ordained order of creation, bringing their dismissal.

Once dismissed, where and how do these fallen sons operate? Jude 1:6: The fact that these demons are *restrained in chains of darkness* and their power and influence are under constant guard indicates that they have absolutely no power for good, for they are locked out of the source of all good.

They may not have light, but they still have dark power and influence! Ephesians 6:11-12

The purpose of the flood was to remove the corrupted human race off the scene. Can the time of the flood help us to understand the Time of the End?

Why would God destroy when He really wants to create and preserve?

God knows that for humanity, the length of eternity requires the value of extreme experience to crystallize the human heart and mind in righteous obedience. Destruction is therefore a tool in the hand of God to build perfection. We will suggest four steps to this process that are in place by God to show us the parallel from the time of the flood and destruction of the world then to the time we are approaching - the time of Armageddon and the destruction of the world now. In both cases, by "destruction," we do not mean the physical destruction of the entire earth but rather the destruction of the social order.

STEP 1: SECURE RIGHTEOUS SHOULDERS UPON WHICH TO LAY THE PUBLIC WEIGHT OF SEPARATING GOOD AND EVIL.

God in His wisdom at the time of Noah looked for a man who would be able to be faithful to Him in the context of all of that mess: Genesis 6:9-10: Noah actually *lived* his righteousness, which was born out over years and years of selfless service to God's plan.



2 Peter 2:4-5: The righteousness of Noah surpassed that of some "sons of God," therefore he and his family were spared.

This really describes the character of Noah: Proverbs 4:18

Ezekiel 14:14: Noah, Daniel and Job are described as godly men in their times, but their godliness could only deliver themselves, unlike Jesus.

Noah was the deliverer of his day; Jesus is the deliverer of all mankind. Jesus was and is the standard of righteousness, though his role is actually defined in two parts:

First part: Buy back the sinful world through his life, death and resurrection: Luke 2:49-52: Jesus grew into the perfect man required to shoulder sin...Isaiah 53:10-12

Second part: Return to claim that which he bought - finish what was started: 1 Timothy 2:6
2 Timothy 4:6-8

Noah's righteousness saved humanity through the flood; Jesus' righteousness will save humanity through Armageddon.

What exactly did God set out to destroy?

STEP 2. CLEARLY IDENTIFY THE TARGET OF THE NECESSARY DESTRUCTION AND REMOVAL.

What was the target in the Old Testament? The world as it was, for dark spiritual forces came to rest in that world and needed to be removed. Genesis 6:11-13: God is defining the object of destruction - the world - the social order of that age led by the hybrid race that had no right to life.

This next verse verifies the removal of the fallen "sons" from God's light to a prison of darkness: 1 Peter 3:18-20: The ark can easily in this picture show our life reliance on the justification through Jesus. Baptism is the releasing of our life rights on and of the earth to be justified and carried in him. This "good news" picture for the true followers of Christ takes place alongside the target of destruction. There is preservation in the context of great destruction.

God allows free will for both His human and spirit creation for the purpose of eternal lessons.

What was the target in the New Testament? It was (and is) the world as it is, this time *including* the world of spiritual dominion and darkness, for this is an even more thorough cleansing! Luke 21:33: (NKJV) *Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.* Not a literal destruction. *Heaven* meaning spiritual order as it relates to earth will be destroyed.

Here is what this period of spiritual darkness produces, even after the iron rule of Christendom (the "Dark Ages") is diminished: Matthew 24:29: (NASB) *...the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,*

The light of truth now begins to be obscured by the new "science" of evolution, which inherently removes the ransom price of Jesus. Also, the light of the Mosaic Law now begins to be obscured by the idolatry of our modern day that essentially says, "I am my own god."

and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

The stars are the spiritual leaders falling to their own hypocrisy and the ecclesiastical powers being shaken: Hebrews 12:26: (NASB) *And His voice shook the earth then, (during the flood) but now He has promised, saying, Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heaven.*

What humanity previously relied upon for its spiritual sustenance will fall apart. Those once in control were sinful and hypocritical. Only God's true kingdom will reign. The flood was a small step, a small shaking to bring people back to God. Now we are facing Armageddon.

Luke's account fits in here to help verify that the target is during the great time of trouble:

Luke 21:25-26: *Powers of the heavens* - spiritual guidance and direction that has gone awry. The target of destruction for the flood was the earth and the social order. The target of the coming destruction is more than just the earth's social order, it is the earth's spiritual order as well.



With the first two steps in place, the planned destruction can be carried out:

STEP 3. (THIS STEP ACCOMPLISHES TWO THINGS SIMULTANEOUSLY) DESTROY! YET, EXECUTE THIS DESTRUCTION WITH IMMEDIATE DELIVERANCE FOR THE FAITHFUL, FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE FUTURE REDEMPTION OF THE SINFUL!

First a look at that which is destroyed: Old Testament Genesis 7:17-20,22-23: (NASB) (Selected Verses) ...¹⁷*Then the flood came upon the earth for forty days, and the water increased and lifted up the ark, so that it rose above the earth.* ¹⁸*The water prevailed and increased greatly upon the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water.* ¹⁹*The water prevailed more and more upon the earth, so that all the high mountains everywhere under the heavens were covered.* ²⁰*The water prevailed fifteen cubits higher, and the mountains were covered...* ²²*of all that was on the dry land, all in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, died.* ²³*Thus He blotted out every living thing that was upon the face of the land.*

Sin always has unintended consequences. The sin of that world required that the slate had to be wiped clean. God's plan has the *intended* consequence of redemption. In spite of unintended consequences and collateral damage, God has this covered!

The parallel comparison made by Jesus: Matthew 24:37-39

A look at that which is destroyed: New Testament --Jesus returns to bring an end to this corrupt world. (Should we be trying to save this corrupt world or should we let Jesus do his work?)

2 Peter 3:9-10: We believe the fire is symbolic and not physical. There is a destruction of the spiritual order this time.

--Jesus returns to cast out Satan. John 12:31: (NASB) *Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.*

Are we seeing the very circumstances of this next text? 2 Peter 3:3-7

A look at that which is immediately delivered: Old Testament Genesis 7:23: In one way Noah may represent Christ, as he is the builder and commander of the ark of safety and the seven others may show the true followers of Christ - all of it through the seven stages of the church shown in Revelation. If you look at how the stages operate, they continually get closer to the return of Jesus. In the last stage, he is already here. Genesis 8:18-21

Free at last! What is the first thing you would do after being delivered from incredible destruction? ...²⁰*Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.* ²¹*The LORD smelled the soothing aroma; and the LORD said to Himself, I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done.*

A lot of Christians believe there will be a literal fire that will burn up the earth. This describes one of the reasons we believe that is symbolic: God promises here that *He will never again destroy every living thing*. This kind of destruction is not going to happen again.

Noah and his family were now established again with dominion in all the earth. They "inherited" the earth.

Massive destruction produces small deliverance

A look at that which is immediately delivered: New Testament

Matthew 5:5: (KJV) *Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.*

--Jesus returns to gather his followers. John 14:1-3

Massive destruction produces initially a small deliverance; then a deliverance for the whole world.

The great destruction to end this age is the very context of the deliverance of the true church! Matthew 24:21-22 Daniel 12:1-4: Two classes are awakened: 1. True followers of Jesus awaken to everlasting life; 2. "Everybody else" awaken to judgment. Here is the hint of when this would be understood: *Many will go here and there to increase knowledge. When you*



look at the entire history of the world, around the middle of the 1800's begins a bell curve where knowledge spikes way up. Now the amount of knowledge in the world doubles every seven years.

So, what is the end result, the purpose of this massive age-ending destruction?

STEP 4. RECOVER THAT WHICH WAS LOST. IN SO DOING, THE TRUE REASON FOR AND WISDOM BEHIND THE DESTRUCTION IS MADE MANIFEST!

The wisdom is exemplified in the fact of recovery of all mankind back to God - not just the deliverance of Noah's family or of the true church. Genesis 9:12-15: The rainbow is a sign to all living things, all generations of mankind and the earth. This tells us that God is a God of promise and integrity. God is a God of the future. Through the sacrifices and justice He planned recovery for the human race. So, if the rainbow was a symbol of God's everlasting promise, then how much more powerful is the redemptive power of Jesus' blood?

His blood redeemed the earth: Luke 22:44: Jesus was redeeming the earth itself, along with all mankind. **And all things:** 1 John 2:2

There is a recovery in place, which helps us understand why the destruction is necessary.

Remember what we said earlier: God knows that for humanity, the length of eternity requires the value of extreme experience to crystallize the human heart and mind in righteous obedience. Destruction is therefore a tool in the hand of God to build perfection.

Man will have had enough time to try things his own way and realize it just does not work. There is great glory after all of this destruction, because God's plan is bigger than the destruction. We can rejoice even though there are dark times ahead. We can see the bigness of the power of God. He will recover what was lost!

Water and fire were tools - symbols of destruction - for the ending of the two great ages of human history. The "world that was" before the flood had to end so the next stage of God's plan could begin. For this "present evil world," Jesus' blood is the tool - the symbol of redemption - the power to recover that which was lost to the power of sin! Both of those ages had to come to an end so the next stage of God's plan could begin.

The ransom price of Jesus was paid over 2,000 years ago, but God is very patient. He allows things to happen so that when the time is right for the extreme learning experience of sin and wickedness to have taken full root, then God will usher in the new world.

2 Peter 3:6-7: This is a symbolic fire because the symbolic heavens are destroyed as well.

So what about this Day of Judgment - haven't we had enough with all the trouble?

⁸But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. Never forget that GOD WILL DELIVER IN HIS OWN TIME!!!

Psalms 46:6-11: (NASB) ⁶The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered; He raised His voice, the earth melted. ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah. ⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD, who has wrought desolations in the earth. (It is all about destruction! Then it is all about destroying the destruction and recovery!) ⁹He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariots with fire. ¹⁰Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth. ¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah. You can't have God exalted in the earth if it was literally burnt up!

The story of Noah and the flood is a very significant template for us to understand the destruction and deliverance at the end of this age that is almost upon us. We believe the Bible teaches deliverance and how it leads to the recovery of all mankind. The blood of Jesus is the tool of the ransom for the sin of Adam so mankind can have the opportunity for life. It is all for the purpose of bringing life eternal.

**So, what can we learn from Noah?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions,
Think about it...!**