

You Are Here – Part 3

God's Preliminary Judgment: *The Worldwide Flood!*

Genesis 6-7; 2 Peter 3 ESV

Second Sunday in Advent – 2012

December 9 → 8:00 & 10:45

Wednesdays (12/5, 12/12, 12/19): Services 11 & 7; Meals 12 & 6

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ, so far in the **You Are Here** series we have focused on ♦God's perfect creation; ♦mankind's fall into sin; and ♦God's promise to save.

For those who believed God – *the bad news that sin leads to hell and the good news that salvation was coming thru the Christ* – they are forever blessed! But many, *both long ago and today*, do not believe God's Word! How do I know? They show their unbelief by *continuing* to live without repentance (*without sorrow for sin and without faith in Jesus as Savior*)!

Therefore – *approximately 4,300 years ago* – God showed the world that He is *dead serious* about punishing those who *continue w/o repentance* by killing every person on earth, except Noah and his family! **Today**, as we focus on Genesis 6-7 and 2 Peter 3, may God help us to see how His *past PRELIMINARY judgment* points to His *future FINAL judgment!*

1. **Wickedness and Consequence – Genesis 6:** ⁵ The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was **great** in the earth, and that **every intention** of the thoughts of his heart was **only evil continually.** ⁶ And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him **to his**

heart [*very deeply*]. ⁷ So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them." // Think about these events: Perfect creation → fall into sin → God's promise to save; *all people SHOULD be sorry for their sins and rejoice in the Savior*, but, instead, many ♦ignore God's love and ♦roll around in the pigpen of sin!

2. **God Will Keep His Promise to Save – Genesis 6:** ⁹ ...Noah walked with God [*sorry for his sins and trusting in the promised Savior*]... ¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt **in God's sight** [*people tend to be blind to their sin*], and the earth was filled with violence... ¹³ And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them [*it's their fault*]. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth... ¹⁸ But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹ And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female... ²¹ Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up. It shall serve as food for you and for them." ²² Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him. // God wants us to know that out-of-control wickedness – *back then and today* – requires a super-strong response! God's will is not to destroy *but to save*, so He destroyed many in Noah's day so that many more – *in all the following years* – will learn, take heed, be sorry, receive Jesus, and be forever blessed!

3. **The Worldwide Flood – Genesis 7:**

- a. ¹ Then the LORD said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation [Noah did not live a sinless life, but by grace he believed God’s promise]. ² Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, ³ ...to keep their offspring alive on the face of **all the earth** [the flood was NOT local]. ⁴ For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.” ⁵ And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him....
- ¹⁰ And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth. ¹¹ ...all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. ¹² And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights....
- b. ¹⁹ And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered.... ²¹ And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. ²² Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. ²³ ...Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. // Again, God is *dead serious* about unrepentant sin!

4. **The Preliminary Points to The Final – 2 Peter 3:** These words of God describe today’s world:

- a. ³ ...scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. ⁴ They will say, “Where is the promise of *Jesus* coming? For ever

since **the fathers** fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation [*“the fathers” refer to “any and all Christians who are dead when the mockers point *mockingly*, at them.” (Lenski, 340).*”] ⁵ For they [the mockers] deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God [Genesis 1], ⁶ and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged [flooded] with water and perished [Genesis 7]. ⁷ But by the same word [the Word of God] the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire [in Noah’s day—water; when Jesus’ returns—fire], being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

- b. ⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as [like] a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. // The Lord’s perception of time is different than ours!
- c. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise *to return*, as some count slowness [since it was 4k from creation to Jesus, we shouldn’t be surprised it has been nearly 2k since He promised to return], but *the Lord* is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance [sorrow for sin and faith in Jesus as Savior]. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief... // Jesus will come when most are not expecting Him!

Conclusion: Now, seeing a parallel between *the worldwide flood* and *Jesus’ return*, let us, by grace, ♦be dead serious about sin and ♦ever-trust alone in Jesus as our Savior! **Amen!**