

“Noah: Total Faith” Hebrews 11:7

Introduction- We often look around and think we are living in the most wicked time in history!

Yet what about the days just before the flood?

Genesis 6:5 *And God 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.*

Genesis 6:6 *The Lord was grieved that He had made man on the earth.*

Genesis 6:7-50 The Lord said, *“I will wipe mankind whom I have created from the face of the earth. Men and animals and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air – for I am grieved that I have made them.”*

Genesis 6:8 But, there was one man that found grace in the eyes of the Lord! That man was NOAH. His name means rest. He is found here in Hebrews 11, God’s great Hall of Faith!

Noah was the sole ray of light in a very dark world!

Yet, he by *faith* (and so can we)
Saw his family saved
Witnessed faithfully to the world
Received a faith of righteousness

What kind of faith did Noah have? Noah had a total faith.

I. It Involved His Whole Person.

1. His mind (vs. 7)- *By faith Noah being warned of God of things not seen as yet.*

- God spoke to Noah and said, I am going to destroy all life on earth by a cataclysmic flood!
- Noah had never seen a flood!
Some say no rain (“*things not yet seen*”)

- Lesson: His mind believed God’s word even though He didn’t understand!
God’s way don’t always make sense. His way is not always clever. We don’t see.

- But, Noah saw by faith!

2. His emotions (vs. 7) *moved with fear or holy reverence.*

What does it mean *moved with fear*? Was Noah afraid of the flood?
No, Noah's fear was a Holy reverence for God!

Noah obeyed not because he dreads the consequences of disobedience, but because of the holy reverence he has for God.

Always at the very heart of a life of obedience there must be a devout reverence for God.

Why do you obey God?

3. His will (vs. 7) *prepared an ark.*

- Fueled by a reverent heart – Noah acted.
- True faith always acts; it is practical. **Illustration:** If you believe Jesus is coming soon.
- Wow, think about a big job that was! **Illustration:** Did he delay? Did he argue with God?
- He got to work. Faith works!

The ark was 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high.

To help you visualize, it would be one and a half football fields long, about as wide as a football field and about four stories high.

Noah had never seen a boat that big!

So, Noah's faith was a total faith; not the intellectual faith of the professor or the emotional faith of the fanatic. It was the balanced faith of a true believer.

- He received God's revelation in his mind.
- He was stirred in his heart by godly fear.
- He obeyed what God told him to do.

Genesis 6:9 – *Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God...*

How about that? Does your faith involve your whole person?

II. What were the Results of Noah's Total Faith?

1. He saw his whole family saved (vs. 7) – *to the saving of his house...*

This doesn't mean that a wife/our children can be saved by proxy: for each lost sinner must trust the Lord for himself! **Illustration:** Acts 16:31 – *and they house..*

But a total faith can help influence our family. I Corinthians 7 – children, unclean

Illustration: Contrast – Lot with Noah. Genesis 19

As Noah built the ark to save his family, so we by our godly living can build a home for children to grow up loving Jesus.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 *The Good Home*

“And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sitteth in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”

2. His faith indicted the whole world.

“By which he condemned the world.” (vs. 7)

In what sense did Noah condemn the world?

Two ways:

- His *lips* and his *life*
- His *words* and his *walk*

A. His words – II Peter 2:5 *..a preacher of righteousness*

Illustration: Jesus in Matthew 24:37-39 – they were involved in innocent, everyday, activities and completely ignored Noah's warning.

But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark.

And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

God will judge the world again – not by flood but by *fire!*

Jesus is coming back! Second coming!

B. His Walk

By the witness of His life, He profoundly exposed the darkness of their sin.
His faith exposed their belief as He built the ark. It made their guilt inexcusable!

C. He inherited faith's righteousness (vs.7) and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

This is faith's inheritance! The saving faith makes one heir to a grand inheritance.

Noah is the first person to be called righteous in the scriptures. Genesis 6:9

Note: How this righteousness came to him.
The righteousness which is by faith.

Illustration: the same as Abraham. Genesis 15:6

It is the only way to be righteous before God.

Our righteousness is as filthy rags.

We cannot keep the law.

Illustration: Paul - Philippians 3:9

This is imputed, or positional, in Christ.
Ephesians 2:8-9 *By Grace, through faith*

But, not only do we have imputed righteousness in Christ, we have imparted righteousness because Christ is in me and through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit I can now live a life of righteousness.

And one day we will inherit all things. *Heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ.*

And we will have a *Perfected Righteousness.*

Illustration: Even as Noah stepped out of the ark, he was the inheritor of a new earth.

One day, God's people shall inherit new heavens and new earth in which righteousness dwells.

We pray -- ...*Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done*

But for now we live in a dark world; getting darker all the time....

Let's:

- **Live by faith in the word of God.**
- **Believe Him with our minds.**
- **Fear Him in our hearts.**
- **Obey Him with our wills.**
- **Inherit the blessing of that righteousness that comes to us through faith in Jesus Christ!**

Ephesians 2:2-9 ?