



Noah and the Flood

Genesis 6-9

The descendants of **Seth** were called the sons of God—the descendants of **Cain**, the sons of men. As the sons of God mingled with the sons of men, they became corrupt, and by intermarriage with them, lost, through the influence of their wives, their peculiar, holy character, and united with the sons of Cain in their idolatry. Many cast aside the fear of God, and trampled upon his commandments.

But there were a few that did righteousness, who feared and honored their Creator. Noah and his family were among the righteous few. (*ISP* 66.1)

There were gold and silver in abundance.
The race of men then living was of very
great stature, and possessed wonderful
strength. The trees were vastly larger, and
far surpassing in beauty and perfect
proportions anything mortals can now
look upon.

The people used the gold, silver, precious stones, and choice wood, in building houses for themselves, each striving to excel the other. They beautified and adorned their houses and lands with the most ingenious works, and provoked God by their wicked deeds. They formed images to worship, and taught their children to regard these pieces of workmanship made with their own hands, as gods, and to worship them.

They prepared for themselves beautiful walks, overhung with fruit trees of every description. Under these majestic and lovely trees, with their wide-spread branches, which were green from the commencement of the year to its close, they placed their idols of worship. Whole groves, because of the shelter of their branches, were dedicated to their idol gods, and made attractive for the people to resort to for their idolatrous worship.

But if there was one sin above another which called for the destruction of the race by the flood, it was the base crime of amalgamation of man and beast which **defaced the image of God**, and caused confusion everywhere.

God purposed to destroy by a flood that powerful, long-lived race that had corrupted their ways before him. He would not suffer them to live out the days of their natural life, which would be hundreds of years. (*ISP* 69.1)

Noah and his family were not alone in fearing and obeying God. But **Noah was the most pious and holy of any** upon the earth, and was the one whose life God preserved to carry out his will in building the ark and warning the world of its coming doom.

After Noah had done all in his power to make every part of the work correct, it was impossible that it could of itself withstand the violence of the storm . . .

For seven days these animals were coming into the ark . . .

For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth . . . (Genesis 7:4)

An angel is seen by the scoffing multitude descending from Heaven, clothed with brightness like the lightning. He closes that massive outer door, and then takes his course upward to Heaven again.

And as the doomed race beheld the sun
shining in its glory, and the earth clad in
almost its Eden beauty, they drove away
their rising fears by boisterous merriment;
and by their deeds of violence seemed to
be encouraging upon themselves the
visitation of the already awakened wrath
of God. (*ISP* 72.1)

But upon the eighth day the heavens gathered blackness. The muttering thunders, and vivid lightning flashes, began to terrify man and beast.



More than one hundred years before the flood the Lord sent an angel to faithful Noah to make known to him that he would no longer have mercy upon the corrupt race. But he would not have them ignorant of his design. He would instruct Noah, and make him a faithful preacher to warn the world of its coming destruction, that the inhabitants of the earth might be left without excuse. Noah was to preach to the people, and also to prepare an ark as God should direct him for the saving of himself and family. He was not only to preach, but his example in building the ark was to convince all that he believed what he preached.

Noah preached to the people of his time that God would give them one hundred and twenty years in which to *repent* of their sins and find refuge in the ark, but they refused the gracious invitation. Abundant time was given them to *turn from their sins, overcome their bad habits, and develop righteous characters.* (4T 308.3)

The *class who professed a knowledge of God* were the ones who had the greatest influence and *took the lead* in making of none effect his word spoken to them by Noah. They not only rejected the message of the faithful preacher of righteousness themselves, but like their master the devil they sought *every means in their power* to prevent others from believing and being obedient to God. (ST December 20, 1877, Art. A, par. 7)

Before the flood there were immense forests. The trees were many times larger than any trees which we now see. They were of great durability. They would know nothing of decay for hundreds of years. At the time of the flood, these forests were torn up or broken down and buried in the earth. In some places large quantities of these immense trees were thrown together and covered with stones and earth by the commotions of the flood. They have since petrified and become coal, which accounts for the large coal beds which are now found. This coal has produced oil. (*ISP* 81.3)

God causes large quantities of coal and oil to ignite and burn. Rocks are intensely heated, limestone is burned, and iron ore melted. Water and fire under the surface of the earth meet. The action of water upon the limestone adds fury to the intense heat, and causes **earthquakes, volcanoes, and fiery issues**. The action of fire and water upon the ledges of rocks and ore causes loud explosions which sound like muffled thunder. These wonderful exhibitions will be more numerous and terrible just before the second coming of Christ and the end of the world, as signs of its speedy destruction. (*ISP* 81.3)

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- ✦ Earthquakes, volcanoes, fiery issues, loud explosions
- ✦ These wonderful exhibitions will be more numerous and terrible just before the second coming of Christ and the end of the world, as signs of its speedy destruction. (*ISP 81.3*)
- ✦ The earth quickly opens, and I saw villages, cities and burning mountains carried down together into the earth. (*ISP 82.1*)

- ✦ God controls all these elements; they are his instruments to do his will; he calls them into action to serve his purpose. These fiery issues have been, and will be, his agents to blot out from the earth very wicked cities.

These manifestations bear the special marks of God's power, and are designed to cause the people of the earth to tremble before him, and to silence those who, like Pharaoh, would proudly say, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice?" (*ISP* 83.1)

In the day of the Lord, just before the coming of Christ, God will send lightnings from heaven in his wrath, which will unite with fire in the earth. The mountains will burn like a furnace, and will pour forth terrible streams of lava, destroying gardens and fields, villages and cities; and as they pour their melted ore, rocks and heated mud, into the rivers, will cause them to boil like a pot, and send forth massive rocks, and scatter their broken fragments upon the land with indescribable violence. Whole rivers will be dried up.

The earth will be convulsed, and there will be dreadful eruptions and earthquakes everywhere. God will plague the wicked inhabitants of the earth until they are destroyed from off it. **The saints are preserved in the earth in the midst of these dreadful commotions, as Noah was preserved in the ark at the time of the flood. (1SP 84.4)**



The Time of Jacob's Trouble

Jeremiah 30:7; Daniel 12:1; Job 13:15a; Job 19:25

Alas! for that day *is* great, so
that none *is* like it: It *is* even
the time of Jacob's trouble; But
he shall be saved out of it.

(Jeremiah 30:7)

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. (Daniel 12:1)

Though he slay me, yet
will I trust in him: (Job
13:15)

For I know *that* my
redeemer liveth, And *that* he
shall stand at the latter *day*
upon the earth: (Job 19:25)

In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. (*9T* 19.1)

I saw the saints leaving the cities and villages, and associating in companies together, and living in the most solitary places. Angels provided them food and water; but the wicked were suffering with hunger and thirst. Then I saw the leading men of earth consulting together, and Satan and his angels were busy around them. I saw a writing, and copies of it scattered in different parts of the land, giving orders, that unless the saints should yield their peculiar faith, give up the Sabbath, and observe the first day, they were at liberty, after such a time, to put them to death. But in this time the saints were calm and composed, trusting in God, and leaning upon his promise, that a way of escape would be made for them. (*ISG 201.1*)

When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: Yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet. Be not afraid of sudden fear, Neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. For the Lord shall be thy confidence, And shall keep thy foot from being taken. (Proverbs 3:24-26)

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew
their strength; They shall mount up with
wings as eagles; They shall run, and not be
weary; *And* they shall walk, and not faint.
(Isaiah 40:31)

In some places, before the time for the writing to be executed, the wicked rushed upon the saints to slay them; but angels in the form of men of war fought for them.

Satan wished to have the privilege of destroying the saints of the Most High; but Jesus bade his angels watch over them, for

God would be honored by making a covenant with those who had kept his law in the sight of the heathen round about them; and Jesus would be honored by translating the faithful, waiting ones, who had so long expected him, without their seeing death. (*ISG 201.1*)

Soon I saw the saints suffering great mental anguish. They seemed to be surrounded with the wicked inhabitants of earth. Every appearance was against them. Some began to fear that God had left them at last to perish by the hand of the wicked. But if their eyes could have been opened, they would have seen themselves surrounded by angels of God. Next came the multitude of the angry wicked, and next a mass of evil angels, hurrying on the wicked to slay the saints. But as they would attempt to approach them, they would first have to pass this company of mighty, holy angels, which was impossible. The angels of God were causing them to recede, and also causing the evil angels who were pressing around them, to fall back. (*ISG 202.1*)

It was an hour of terrible, fearful agony to the saints. They cried day and night unto God for deliverance. To outward appearance, there was no possibility of their escape. The wicked had already commenced their triumphing, and were crying out, Why don't your God deliver you out of our hands? Why don't you go up, and save your lives? The saints heeded them not. They were wrestling with God like Jacob. The angels longed to deliver them; but they must wait a little longer, and drink of the cup, and be baptized with the baptism. The angels, faithful to their trust, kept their watch. The time had about come when God was to manifest his mighty power, and gloriously deliver them. God would not suffer his name to be reproached among the heathen. For his name's glory he would deliver every one of those who had patiently waited for him, and whose names were written in the book. (*ISG 202.1*)

I was pointed back to faithful Noah. The rain descended, the floods came, Noah, and his family had entered the ark, and God shut them in. Noah had faithfully warned the inhabitants of the old world, while they had mocked and derided him. And as the waters descended upon the earth, and as one after another were being drowned, they beheld that ark that they had made so much sport of, riding safely upon the waters, preserving the faithful Noah and his family. So I saw that the people of God, who had warned the world of his coming wrath, would be delivered. (*ISG 203.1*)

They had faithfully warned the inhabitants of the earth, and God would not suffer the wicked to destroy those who were expecting translation, and who would not bow to the decree of the beast, or receive his mark.

As the saints left the cities and villages, they were pursued by the wicked. They raised their swords to kill the saints, but they broke, and fell as powerless as a straw. Angels of God shielded the saints. As they cried day and night for deliverance, their cry came up before God. (*ISG 204.1*)

When the third angel's message closes, mercy no longer pleads for the guilty inhabitants of the earth. The people of God have accomplished their work. They have received "the latter rain," "the refreshing from the presence of the Lord," and they are prepared for the trying hour before them. Angels are hastening to and fro in heaven. An angel returning from the earth announces that his work is done; the final test has been brought upon the world, and all who have proved themselves loyal to the divine precepts have received "the seal of the living God." Then Jesus ceases His intercession in the sanctuary above. (*GC 613.2*)

He lifts His hands and with a loud voice says, “It is done;” and all the angelic host lay off their crowns as He makes the solemn announcement: “He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.” Revelation 22:11. Every case has been decided for life or death. Christ has made the atonement for His people and blotted out their sins. The number of His subjects is made up; “the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven,” is about to be given to the heirs of salvation, and Jesus is to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. (*GC 613.2*)



The Ark of Safety

Souls are perishing out of the ark of safety. Let **the standard of truth** be lifted up by the church members in their neighborhoods. Let ministers pitch their tent and preach the truth to the people with power and then move to another vicinity and preach the **truth** there. I pray that many at the close of this meeting may take their stand to work as they have never worked before for the spread of **a knowledge of present truth**. (*24LtMs*, Lt 94a, 1909, par. 27)

Our only safety is in preserving the ancient landmarks. “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” (5*T* 199.4)

Union with Christ and with one another is our only safety in these last days. Let us not make it possible for Satan to point to our church members, saying: “Behold how these people, standing under the banner of Christ, hate one another. We have nothing to fear from them while they spend more strength fighting one another than in warfare with my forces.” (8T 240.2)

Our Saviour claims all there is of us; he asks our first and holiest thoughts, our purest and most intense affection. If we are indeed partakers of the divine nature, his praise will be continually in our hearts and upon our lips. **Our only safety is to surrender our all to him, and to be constantly growing in grace and in the knowledge of the truth.**

(RH May 3, 1881, par. 17)

Our only safety is found in **obedience**
to God's word . . . (*CH* 290.2)

Faith in a lie will not have a sanctifying influence upon the life or character. No error is truth, or can be made truth by repetition, or by faith in it.

Sincerity will never save a soul from the consequences of believing an error. Without sincerity there is no true religion, but sincerity in a false religion will never save a man. I may be perfectly sincere in following a wrong road, but that will not make it the right road, or bring me to the place I wished to reach.—Letter 12, 1890.

(*2SM* 56.1)

The Lord does not want us to have a blind credulity, and call that the faith that sanctifies.

The **truth** is the principle that sanctifies, and therefore it becomes us to know what is truth. We must compare spiritual things with spiritual. **We must prove all things**, but hold fast only that which is good, that which bears the divine credentials, which lays before us the true motives and principles which should prompt us to action.

—Letter 12, 1890. (*2SM* 56.1)

We are living in **the most critical period** of this earth's history. (*12LtMs*, Lt 10, 1897, par. 26; September 2, 1897)

To the law and to the testimony: If
they speak not according to this word,
It is because there is no light in them.
(Isaiah 8:20)