



Genesis – Chapter 8:6-9:17  
“Go Out From The Ark”  
(Lesson #16)

*8:1 But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided. 2 The fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, 3 and the waters receded from the earth continually. At the end of 150 days the waters had abated, 4 ¶ and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. 5 And the waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen.*

*6 At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made 7 and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. 8 Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground. 9 But the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. 10 He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. 11 And the dove came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. 12 Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore.*

Vs 6 - This would have been **40 additional days**, and Noah opens the window of the ark.

This would have been **day 263**, this would have been the **600<sup>th</sup> year the 11<sup>th</sup> month, the 11<sup>th</sup> day**.

We talked about a window or multiples windows before. After opening the **window** we see in verse 7 that Noah sends forth a raven, and it flies to a fro, likely lighting on floating debris, but it is able to survive outside the ark and thus it does not return.

Vs 8-9 - Then he sent forth a dove, when we initially read this it sounds like it is the same day.

But when we read ahead in **verse 10** it says: *He waited another seven days...*

So, it seems likely that he sent forth a raven, **he waited seven days** and it did not return. At that point he sent forth a dove.

It is possible he did the raven and the dove on the same day, but I believe, based on the use of “**another**” in verse 10, that Noah waited seven days between the raven and the first dove here in verse 8.

Notice Noah sent forth a dove, with the express purpose **of seeing if the waters had subsided** from the face of the ground.

The Hebrew word translated “**subsided**” is **קלל (qalal)**. This is the first time this Hebrew word is used. It will be used again in **8:11**.

Vs 9 – Here we read that the dove found no place to land, so she returned to the ark, because the waters were still on the face of the earth.

We see that Noah reached out and took her into the ark.

Chronology... This would be day **270**, the **600<sup>th</sup> year, 11<sup>th</sup> month, and 18<sup>th</sup> day**.

**Vs 10** - So Noah waits **another 7 days**. Again, this seems to imply that there was an initial seven days. The Hebrew word is used **166 times** and means **another** or **other**.

Chronology... This would be day **277**, the **600<sup>th</sup> year, 11<sup>th</sup> month, and 25<sup>th</sup> day**.

After another **seven days**, Noah sends out a dove. This dove comes back that evening and behold, in here mouth is a freshly plucked **olive leaf**.

We know that the waters, have **“subsided”** from the earth.

**Vs 12** - Then Noah waited an additional seven days and sent forth another dove. This would be the third dove each separated by seven days.

This would have been day **284**, it would have been the **600<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> month, 2<sup>nd</sup> day** of the month.

This dove sent out on **day 284** of the global catastrophe did not return to Noah. It found a place to land and begin its new life back here on planet earth.

A planet that was originally **created out of water**, was then **plunged back into water**, and then **resurrected out of water**.

This is a picture of baptism, this is also a small **picture of the New Heavens and the New Earth**. Prepare for Noah on those on the ark by God.

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*13 In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. 14 In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. 15 Then God said to Noah, 16 "Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. 17 Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh — birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth — that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." 18 So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him. 19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out by families from the ark.*

**Vs 13** - Here again we find out next time stamp it is the 601<sup>st</sup> year, the first month, the first day of the month.

Looking at our chronology, this would be **day 314** and it would be an additional **14 days** after the waters are said to be **abated (150 +150)**. **It has been a month since Noah sent forth the dove**.

Here two weeks later we are told that **“the face of the ground was dry.”**

Then Noah, removed **“the covering”** of the ark.

So up until now Noah had been working through a window and as best we can tell from the language, he could not see down enough to tell what was happening on the ground.

At this point, **day 314** he removes the “**covering**” from the ark and sees the ground.

The Hebrew word used here for covering is **מִכְסֵה (mikceh) (mik-seh’)**, it is always translated covering.

This is the **first use** of this word and **indeed the only use** in the entire book of Genesis.

It is used a total of **16 times**, let me show you the other ways:

In exodus the word is used to describe the **coverings that covered the tabernacle and the coverings they used when they moved the holy items WHEN THEY MOVED THEM.**

*“And you shall make for the tent a covering of tanned rams’ skins and a covering of goatskins on top.” (Ex 26:14 ESV)*

This covering may have been the roof that was above the window, something similar to the model at the Ark Encounter. It seems this gave them access to the deck and the ability to see further and clearly to the ground around them.

Now I want you to see something else. Here in verse 13, the Hebrew word that is translated “**dried**” and “**dry**” that is used is **חָרַב (charab)**.

Its more common translation is words like **waste** and **desolate**.

**Maybe** we should read this like this: **Vs 13 In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were desolate from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was laid waste.**

**Vs 14** - Here is another **time marker**, in this case it is the **601<sup>st</sup> year of Noah’s life**, the **27<sup>th</sup> day** of the **second month**.

This would equate to **56 days later**, after Noah saw the dry ground.

Noah and his family stayed on the ark for an additional almost 2 months. We can imagine, the earth was wrecked, and they were in no hurry to exit the ark.

A planet that was teeming with vegetation and life is now a desolate treeless, wilderness.

Notice, ***the face of the ground was dry***, here in vs 14, the earth had dried out.

But it is a **desolation**, the old world has **perished**, it has been **annihilated**, it is a drastically different planet.

**Vs 15** - This is the **third time**, recorded in the scriptures that **God has broken down the barrier** between the natural and the supernatural and spoke with Noah.

**The first time** in Genesis 6:13-21, Yahweh informed Noah that he intended to destroy man by sending a flood from off the face of the planet because man was so evil, thus Noah was to build an ark.

Noah likely labored and preached for decades while God was silent.

**The second time**, in Genesis 7:1-4, God tells Noah to board the ark and load the animals for in seven days God intends to bring rain on the earth for 40 days.

I told you then, it is possible that man had never seen rain.

Regardless of that, it is likely that Noah and his family looked like idiots.

**APPLICATION:** Sometimes following God causes you to look foolish to a world who has rejected God.

**Here is the third time**, as best we can tell **for 377 days**, through the flood, through the catastrophe, through what appeared to be Noah and the ark **aimlessly adrift, God was always with them**, although as best we can tell he never said a word.

He was there protecting, guiding, and superintending, but He was very quiet.

**APPLICATION:** God may not say (verbally, with His outside voice) anything to you today, but you have His complete word, He is with you, and like **Noah he is working all things together for your good and His glory!**

Even when He is quiet we can trust our sovereign God!

**Vs 18** - We are not told what this looked like or how it was accomplished.

Notice they **went out by families**, we can imagine them leaving the ark as they had been loaded by their kinds, with the mandate to fill the earth once again.

**Thus the flood is over**, but let's quickly walk back over the details and consider...

An event that lasted **370 days or 377 days** if you count the 7 days of final preparation is finally over.

**Man** - (eight men and women) are placed back on the earth, but it is a much different place.

Consider how many have perished under the judgment of God. Think for a moment how many friends and relatives of the eight have perished. We can only imagine how this broke Noah and his surviving family's hearts.

*"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." (Re 21:4 ESV)*

**Canopy** – if the earth had one is gone.

**Rain** – If it had a canopy and it had not rained before, it rains now. At times these rains can bring local catastrophes.

**Massive oceans** – A planet that was likely more land than water on the surface is now more water than land on the surface. (Is 45:18).

*"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more." (Re 21:1 ESV)*

**Lush vegetation** – It is now a desolation, with only very small plants and trees sprouting out.

**You and I** will one day be placed back into the lush paradise that was Eden!

**Long life spans of man and animals** – This is over. Men and animals will now live very abbreviated lives. Man who averaged 912 years old pre-flood will now be lucky to live 100 years. (A tenth!)

**Massive animals** – The massive dinosaurs will go extinct due to climate change and likely competition with man.

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**8:20** Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. **21** And when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, the LORD said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done. **22** While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

**Vs 20** - This Hebrew word will be used a total of 402 times in the Hebrew Bible, this is the first time this word is mentioned.

Had Noah built an altar before, had Shem offered his animal sacrifices on an altar? We do not know, but see here, that Noah, builds an altar to Yahweh.

He then, and listen to this language, ***“took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.”***

Now when I read that, it sounds like Noah offered a number of animals, there on this altar as he worshipped Yahweh, thanking Him for deliverance, and for bringing them back here on solid ground.

Notice **“burn offering”** this is the first time this Hebrew word is used.

**The next time:**

*“2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." 3 ¶ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.” (Ge 22:2-3 ESV)*

**Vs 21-22 - Smelled...** what Moses is trying to convey is that God **heard** and **respected the worship and faith of Noah**, represented by the smoke of the offering rising to God of the burnt offerings.

We see a similar picture in the Revelation where we read:

*“3 And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne, 4 and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel.” (Re 8:3-4 ESV)*

You see it is the prayers of God's people to God that have always been a pleasing aroma.

Noah's faith resulted in Noah responding to God. Noah believed God and he acted. He believed God and he built the ark. Noah's worship mattered, because he responded in faith. He believed God, he responded to God by faith.

**APPLICATION:** *"Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?" (Jas 2:20 ESV)*

Next, we have recorded, what God thought, what He said in His heart.

Notice what he says, in His heart: ***"I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."***

Notice, the flood has not "fixed" the problem. Man is stilled **shaped in iniquity** and **filled with evil**.

The global catastrophe could not reverse the effect of the fall. And even if you boil the planet down to 8 righteous people, because of the nature of sin, it will go south again!

**But the Lord purposes in His heart, I will never do this again!**

- 1) I will never again curse the ground because of Man.
- 2) I will never strike down every living creature
- 3) Rather... ***While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."***

Rather, God establishes what modern science call uniformitarianism, rather things will advance, uninterrupted, as long as the earth remains.

Notice that little phrase, as long as the earth remains.

This reminds us that a final judgment day is coming. The earth in its present state and man in his present state will not carry on indefinitely.

**Although it will not be destroyed in a flood, there is a final cleansing that will occur:**

*"But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed." (2Pe 3:10 ESV)*

*"12 When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, 13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. 14 The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place." (Re 6:12-14 ESV)*

**9:1** And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. 2 The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. 3 Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. 4 But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. 5 And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man. 6 "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image. 7 And you, be fruitful and multiply, increase greatly on the earth and multiply in it."

**Vs 9:1** Here is a renewed earth of sorts, a resurrected earth.

Here, the blessing that was originally given to Adam and Eve is repeated to Noah and his sons, and by extension, their wives... *Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.*

*"27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.""* (Ge 1:27-28 ESV)

**Vs 2** - As Yahweh continues on with this blessing He is pronouncing upon Noah and his family, it changes from the blessing upon Adam and Eve.

Here rather than being told (as Adam and Eve were) subdue it and have dominion over it.

Noah is told: *"The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered."*

Following the flood man's relationship and dominion over the creation is changed.

The animal kingdom will now have a "fear" of man, this is the first place this word is used in the Hebrew bible. There will not just be a fear, there will also a dread, a terror, a shattering dismay.

**This fear and dread of man**, will be upon every beast of the earth, every bird, everything that creeps on the ground, and even the fish.

For God has delivered them all into man's hands! This has a different feel and ring than dominion and subduing.

**Vs 3** - This is a brand-new charge and a brand-new option. As God had previously given plants to be consumed by man, He now adds things that move.

**Vs 4** -Here we see, following the flood and the allowance to eat flesh, is the probation against eating or drinking blood.

For the life of living creatures is in their blood and man is not to eat or to drink blood. This will be codified many years later in the clear laws given to Moses.

But here following the flood it is given to Noah.

**Vs 5** - From your lifeblood, I will require a reckoning. Here it seems that God is warning against murdering other humans or members of the human race.

If someone (or even an animal) takes the life of a man or woman, God will require a reckoning!

**Vs 6** – Here capital punishment is introduced: *"Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.*

An the explanation of why killing a man or woman is so bad. For God made Adam (humankind in His own image)!

**Vs 7** - To Noah and his family: Be fruitful, multiply, increase greatly on the earth, multiply in it!

**IMPORTANT POINT TO PONDER:** If the flood in Noah's day was local than God has broken this covenant promises hundreds, indeed thousands of times. If global – never again.

This is yet another reason that the flood in Noah's day had to be global!

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*8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 9 "Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, 10 and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. 11 I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." 12 ¶ And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: 13 I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. 14 When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, 15 I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." 17 God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth." 18 The sons of Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.)*

**Vs 8** - There appears to be a break in God speaking to Noah, and then once again, God breaks down the barrier between the natural and the super-natural and speaks to man again!

Here God enters into an unconditional covenant with Noah, his immediate family, and his offspring (you and I). But it is also with all the living creatures, it is with all the beasts of the earth. This is an unconditional covenant. God is going to set limits on Himself regardless of how man responds.

**Vs 9** - As I mentioned when we were there in Genesis 6, God established a covenant with Noah. I told you that would come back around in Genesis 9.

Here it is the **second use** of this Hebrew word “covenant” in the Old Testament. The Hebrew word is **ברית (b'riyth)**. It is use over 280 times in the Old Testament. **It will be used again in verses 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 17!**



**Vs 11 - Here is the covenant:**

- Never again, will God send a flood to cut off all flesh.
- Never again, will God send the flood waters to destroy the earth.
- Did you catch that second one, never again.... Destroy the earth.

Now, we know that one day God will judge the world, but He will never again send a global deluge.

**Vs 12** - God speaks again, and provides a sign of His unconditional covenant between man and every living creature for future generations.

So you know, you have seen this particular Hebrew word a two other times now, the Hebrew word is **אוֹת** (**'owth**) (**oth**). It means sign, token, or mark.

Here the rainbow as serving as a sign, as a banner, as a token.

But this word was also used:

*"And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years," (Ge 1:14 ESV)*

*"Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him." (Ge 4:15 ESV)*

This sign is also for all "future generations." A promise that God will never do this again.

**Vs 13** - The **rainbow** will be the sign of the **covenant**.

Now, for those who believe there was a canopy, they might here say, see this new thing (rainbow) now that there is no canopy, is to serve as the sign.

Well, the rainbow is to be the sign, but that does **not necessarily mean that the rainbow did not** exist before. But I would tend to think it seems more likely that the rainbow was a **NEW** thing.

**As you think about this a few things should catch your attention:**

- 1) The covenant, that God will never again do what he did here when he wiped out, when he blotted out everything on the plant that had the breath of life, is a big deal with God. He will mention it 8 times. In fact 7 times in 9 verses.
- 2) It will remind God, the God who needs no reminding. Again, anthropomorphic language.
- 3) It is an "everlasting covenant" that is not conditioned on anything we do.
- 4) The promise never again to "flood the earth" with water.
  - a. If this is a local flood God has lied.
- 5) **It is interesting that the rainbow is the symbol that the LGBTQ++++ community.**

**Vs 16** - **Now this is interesting...** God will see it and remember His everlasting unconditional covenant.

Now obviously God does not need to be reminder, he does not forget, and once again we see anthropomorphic language, words written on our behalf to help us.

**TODAY:** The real significance has lost the meaning. Can you imagine what went through Noah's mind each time he saw the rainbow?

**The rainbow appears only three more times in scriptures:**

- 1) The first is Eze 1:28 and the rainbow surrounds the throne of God.**
- 2) It is God's throne again: Rev 4:2-3:**

“**2** At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. **3** And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald.” (Re 4:2-3 ESV)

- 3) Then finally, we see it again:

“**1** ¶ Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, and his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire. **2** He had a little scroll open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea, and his left foot on the land, **3** and called out with a loud voice, like a lion roaring. When he called out, the seven thunders sounded.” (Re 10:1-3 ESV)