

Nov 11, 2018



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Safety in the Ark Genesis 7:1-10

Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson instructs, through the life of Noah and his family, that all who trust God will have safety just as Noah and those with him had **Safety in the Ark**. The study's aim is to understand that those who obey God will be safe. The study's application is to obey God even under difficult circumstances, for God will take care of us and keep us safe.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

Lesson Introduction and Background

One night when my husband and I were traveling, the rain was pouring down in sheets. The windshield wipers could hardly keep up with the deluge. We could barely see the taillights of the car in front of us. When I glanced at my husband, I could see the tight set of his jaw. We were driving through the mountains of Pennsylvania with a heavy load on the back of the semi. I could tell he was having a time keeping the machine safely on the road. I have rarely been so elated to pull over at a truck stop for the night. When we pulled into the spot, both of us looked up and thanked God for safety. We often take God's protection for granted. We go through our days without even thinking about the many times that we are saved from danger. Most of the time, we are probably oblivious to those occasions. It is only when we meet with something extreme that we are truly aware of His protection. That day in Pennsylvania, I could not help but think about Noah and his family. I pictured them standing on the deck of the ark, watching the rain come down. They could no doubt hear the screams of people who were drowning as they watched the ground disappear underwater. When the ark slipped its moorings and they felt it riding on the waves, what thoughts and emotions must have gone through them! I imagined that they were much like mine that night as I watched the other drivers continue down the highway. Although we were safe at the truck stop, they had not found refuge. While we found freedom from worry and the terrible storm, they continued to face it. We had rest; they would have to fight the weariness of their struggle. We often find ourselves facing storms in life. There may be a job loss, an unexpected illness, or perhaps a broken relationship. Suddenly the rains are swirling around us, and we cannot see clearly. We cry out in fear. We do not have to do that. As God's children, we are already protected. Scripture tells us that we dwell safely with God as our confidence (Prov. 3:23-26). He will preserve us when threatening things happen. Like Noah and his family, we will be carried through the floods in our lives. Unfortunately, there are many people who do not follow Jesus. If they do not turn to Him, they will not find protection; instead, He will cast them out (Luke 13:24-27). When that happens, they will be swept away eternally. There will be no second chances. Like those outside the ark, they will beg for rescue and not find it. They will meet with eternal destruction. Do you know people who need to be rescued? Perhaps they are unaware of their desperate need. As a believer, you have the opportunity to show them the way. If they turn to Christ, you will know that they too are safe inside God's refuge. Would that not be wonderful? Those of us already in Christ's refuge can give praise that we are safely sustained by His grace. Because of this, we, like Noah, can watch the flood waters rise and not fear. With Jesus as Savior, we are secure. We are not only protected on this earth but into eternity. How wonderful that is!

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

Because God never sleeps, we can sleep in peace

POEM FOR THE WEEK:

Before you sleep, just gently lay
Every troubled thought away;
Drop your burden and your care
In the quiet arms of prayer. —Anon.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

*I will both lie down in peace, and sleep;
For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety*

(Ps 4:8 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Apr 1, 2001)

New Series: Beginnings

UNIT: Cataclysm and a New Beginning

NEXT WEEK

**The Great Flood
(Gen 7:11-24)**

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Safety Invitation (Gen 7:1-4)

Invitation of the righteous (1)

- Righteous because of the cleansing by Jesus' sacrifice (Heb 9:12-14)
- Righteous because of the power of Jesus' blood (Heb 12:24)
- Righteous because God chose Christians to be holy and blameless (Eph 1:4)
- Righteous because of reconciliation (Col 1:22)
- Righteous because God enables His people to live holy lives (1 Thess 4:7)

Invitation because of cleanliness (2-3)

- Cleansed by coming near to God (James 4:8)
- Cleansed by focusing on and doing righteousness (Isa 1:16-17)
- Cleansed by the word of God (1 Tim 4:5)
- Cleansed by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 6:11)
- Cleansed by my heart being sprinkled by God through faith (Heb 10:22)

Invitation before destruction (4)

- Destruction because of the evilness of the wicked (Prov 5:22)
- Destruction because it is the destiny of the enemies of the cross (Phil 3:18-19)
- Destruction because of sowing to please our sinful nature (Gal 6:8)
- Destruction because of not knowing or obeying God (2 Thess 1:7-10)
- Destruction because of following false teachers (2 Peter 2:1-3)
- Destruction because of being ungodly (2 Peter 3:7)

Safety through Obedience (Gen 7:5-10)

Obedience to God's commands (5-6)

- Obedience to God's commandments by remaining in Jesus' love (John 15:10)
- Obedience to God's commandments by loving Jesus (John 14:15)
- Obedience to God's commandments by offering ourselves as God's slave (Rom 6:16)
- Obedience to God's commandments to show love for God (1 John 5:3)
- Obedience to God's commandments by walking in obedient love (2 John 6)

Obedience of the household (7-9)

- Because the household is bound by God's commands (Gen 19:17, 23-26)
- So that the household prayers will not be hindered (1 Pet 3:7)
- Because the household is in an intimate home arrangement (Exod 20:9-10)
- Because the household involves all in the sphere of our influence (Deut 16:11)

Obedience rewarded (10)

- Reward of an inheritance from God (Col 3:24)
- Reward of passing the test (Rev 2:10)
- Reward of the crown of life (James 1:12)
- Reward of preservation (Psalm 31:23)
- Reward of being richly blessed (Proverbs 28:20)
- Reward of salvation (Matthew 10:22)