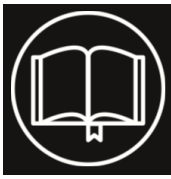
Sermon Devotional

Genesis 6:6-22

6 And the LORD was sorry that he had made humankind on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.
7 So the LORD said, “I will blot out from the earth the human beings I have created—people together with animals and creeping things and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them.” 8 But Noah found favor in the sight of the LORD.
9 These are the descendants of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
11 Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God saw that the earth was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted its ways upon the earth. 13 And God said to Noah, “I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; now I am going to destroy them along with the earth. 14 Make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. 15 This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. 16 Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above; and put the door of the ark in its side; make it with lower, second, and third decks. 17 For my part, I am going to bring a flood of waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. 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 kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. 20 Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive. 21 Also take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up; and it shall serve as food for you and for them.” 22 Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

Second Reading - Genesis 7:1-10, 16-17 (read online)



Learn

- There is debate over the extent of the flooding. In Genesis 7, it says “on the face of all the earth,” but there is also reason to believe it was a regional flood rather than the entire earth as we know it today. It is possible that God meant “on the whole world as you know it.”
- God told Noah to take two of all the unclean animals, but seven of the clean animals. This would allow Noah and his family to eat, to offer sacrifices to God after the flood, and still preserve those animals.
- The entire ark was probably about 150 yards long (one and a half football fields) and about three stories tall.

Reflect

- Why do you think God made Noah build the ark instead of providing it for him directly?
- There is no record of God speaking to Noah during the full year they were on the ark. Why do you think God was silent during this time?

Pray

Righteous and holy God, help me to trust you even when you are silent. Help me to trust you even when I cannot see you. Help me to trust you when I cannot feel you.

Live

- Where are you struggling to believe that God will show up? How can you remind yourself of God’s faithfulness?
- What is God calling you to do, even if it seems in the far distant future or doesn’t seem to make sense?