

DELIVERANCE FROM GOD'S JUDGMENT

Genesis 7:1 Hebrews 11:7

Introduction: Think for a moment about the great flood and the ark which Noah built. First of all, why the flood? It was God's judgment upon the sin of that time, very similar to the coming judgment of our age.

Sin means judgment, no matter what age one happens to live in. We should never be deceived about sin for there is no such thing as sin escaping God's judgment. The only means of escaping the judgment of God in Noah's day was the Ark. There was no other way. There is no other means of escaping the coming judgment of God in our day than through Jesus Christ.

I. THE ARK WAS GOD'S MEANS OF REDEMPTION IN NOAH'S DAY

1. God said to Noah, "...*The end of all flesh is come before me...*" The sentence of death was passed upon the whole world.
 - We, too, are living in a condemned world.
 - There are many missionaries and programs trying to win the world to Jesus Christ but there is no hint in the scriptures that the whole world will ever be saved.
 - God has told us plainly that the whole world is under condemnation at this very moment.
 - This world of ours, this time and age of ours, is waiting for the coming of Jesus Christ.

2. The hardest thing that ministers have to contend with is trying to get people to believe what God says and that God means what He says.
 - Noah preached his whole lifetime and NO one listened to him. He warned them of the coming judgment of God but they didn't believe him.
 - Not only is it hard to win the lost, but the Christians do not make the task any easier.
 - They will not witness and they oft times do not live a life of testimony to Jesus.
 - The reason most people are not saved is because they absolutely refuse to admit to themselves that they are lost. When and IF you ever get a person to face themselves and admit that they are lost, then he/she is not far from the kingdom of God.

3. Denominations are teaching false doctrines.
 - Some are teaching that all one has to do is just bring up one's children in the church, in spite of what the Bible says about it: "...*Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me...*" "...*The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies...*"

 - They teach that one can make a Christian out of his/her children merely by raising them around religion. Children sometimes act like angels, but they are not. "...*Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God...*"

4. The world was condemned in Noah's day for the people were lost. This world of ours today is also condemned and all people are still lost.
 - "...*He that believeth not is condemned already...*"
 - That means us, our friends, our own families, everyone who is without the Lord Jesus.
 - That means every person, no matter how good or how clean, moral or fine.

II. THE ARK WAS GOD'S ONLY WAY OF DELIVERANCE

1. The Ark was the **ONLY** way for deliverance, for salvation, to be saved.
 - There is no doubt that many other methods were tried - rafts, boats, anything that would float, the dying world grasped.
2. Some people today have the idea that there are many ways to be saved from God's judgment.
 - Some believe that there are many streets leading into heaven.
 - Jesus said that there are only **TWO** roads in life. One is a broad road and it leads to death and destruction and the other road is the narrow road that leads to life and everybody is on one or the other of these two roads. There are no other roads or streets.
 - There are those who think that it doesn't make any difference in what you believe just as long as you are sincere.
 - God hasn't promised to save anyone on their sincerity.
 - God promised to save only souls on the merit of the shed blood of Jesus Christ.
3. Remember, everyone and everything outside the ark perished. Every air breathing creature that was not safely inside the ark died.
 - No doubt there were many good people outside the ark, there were children, but it made no difference for they were **OUTSIDE** the ark. They all perished.
 - The same goes for our age. There are many good people in our world, countless children, but if they are **OUTSIDE** Jesus Christ, they are doomed and are going to Hell.
 - There is no subject in the bible that God has taken so much care and pain to get us to understand than the fact that there is just **ONE** way to be saved.
4. When Adam and Eve sinned, God came down. He did not have to say to them, "**...if you'll be good and behave yourselves, and don't do this anymore, live by the Golden Rule, then I'll forget it this time..**" No, God did not say that. They heard God's judgment.
 - God made garments for them to wear with His own hands. Remember, they made garments of leaves but didn't do a very good job.
 - Man has tried to make his own covering of righteousness, but he hasn't done so good. God therefore, furnishes man's covering of righteousness.
 - God didn't tell Adam and Eve to take an animal and make clothes from it. **GOD DID IT, Himself.** God sewed every stitch Himself.
5. We must stand before God, clothed in the clothing of righteousness made by God's own hand and the unbeliever will stand naked, trying to cover him/self with his/her own making.
6. When God was ready to move Israel out of Egypt they people were told to take blood from a lamb and put it over their doorways.

"...And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you..."

 - Somebody probably said "I don't like blood, especially smeared over my doorway.
 - Those people could have placed diamonds and gold over their doorways but **IF** there was no blood, then there was death.

- There was just one way, **"...when I see the blood..."** Not when "I see how good you have been or how wonderfully you have lived or how fine you are, but, **"...when I see the blood, I will pass over you..."**

7. Remember Israel and the fire serpents? No matter what age a person was or his/her character or anything else, every one who was bitten by the serpents died and they cried out to Moses, **"...we have sinned, pray for us, and Moses went to God for them and God said, 'Make thee a firey serpent and set it upon a pole and it shall come to pass that everyone that is bitten, when he looketh upon it shall live....'"**

- No doubt there were those who tried other things beside looking at the firey serpent.
- Some family recipe, but all other things failed for there was just one way and it was God's way.

CONCLUSION:

1. Jesus said, **"...I am the way..."** Not "a" way, not a "good" way, not a "beautiful" way, nor the "best" way, or the "safest" way. Jesus said, **"...I am THE way..."**
 - **"...No man cometh unto the Father but by Me..."**
 - **"...I am the door of the sheep..."**
 - **"...He that climbs up any other way is a thief and a robber..."**
2. In the days of Noah there was only ONE means of escaping the wrath of God and that was the Ark.
 - Today in our time, once again, there is only ONE way of escaping the wrath of God and that is God's way, Jesus Christ.
 - No matter how good a person is, or how often one attends church, or how much he/she gives to charity or how moral one is, ALL are condemned to Hell this very moment if one is not a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. **"...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved..."** is God's only way of our escaping His judgment and Hell. There is no other way.
4. Believe in your heart and confess with your mouth unto salvation. That is how one becomes a Christian. There is no other way. Do it today!