

The Floods of Life

1. **Floods are markers of time. Gen 10:1**

Now these are the records of the generations of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah; and sons were born to them after the **flood**.

2. **Floods can come from the inside or outside or both and can take many forms.** (Big tests that are fast and furious)

A. **External. Dan 9:24-27**

"Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy place. 25 "So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. 26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a **flood**; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

B. **Internal. Prov 27:4**

(Anger can flood our souls, but jealousy is a bigger problem.)

Wrath is fierce and anger is a **flood**, But who can stand before jealousy?

C. **Satan unleashes floods seeking to destroy the saints.**

Rev 12:14-17

But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. 15 And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the **flood**. 16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth. 17 So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

3. **Floods in life are often the result of personal and/or corporate sins. Psa 69:1-6**

- 1 Save me, O God,
For the waters have threatened my life.
- 2 I have sunk in deep mire, and there is no foothold;
I have come into deep waters, and a **flood** overflows me.
- 3 I am weary with my crying; my throat is parched;
My eyes fail while I wait for my God.

4 Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head;
 Those who would destroy me are powerful, being wrongfully my enemies;
 What I did not steal, I then have to restore.

5 O God, it is You who knows my folly,
 And my wrongs are not hidden from You.

6 May those who wait for You not be ashamed through me,
 O Lord God of hosts;
 May those who seek You not be dishonored through me,
 O God of Israel,

4. Wickedness has no defense against a flood so fear to the point of terror is the portion of the wicked. Job 27:13-20

13 "This is the portion of a wicked man from God,
 And the inheritance which tyrants receive from the Almighty.

14 "Though his sons are many, they are destined for the sword;
 And his descendants will not be satisfied with bread.

15 "His survivors will be buried because of the plague,
 And their widows will not be able to weep.

16 "Though he piles up silver like dust
 And prepares garments as plentiful as the clay,
 17 He may prepare it, but the just will wear it
 And the innocent will divide the silver.

18 "He has built his house like the spider's web,
 Or as a hut which the watchman has made.

19 "He lies down rich, but never again;
 He opens his eyes, and it is no longer.

20 "Terrors overtake him like a **flood**;
 A tempest steals him away in the night.

A. Especially the Flood of the Lord's final vengeance. Nah 1:1-9

1 The oracle of Nineveh.
 The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

2 A jealous and avenging God is the Lord;
 The Lord is avenging and wrathful.
 The Lord takes vengeance on His adversaries,
 And He reserves wrath for His enemies.

3 The Lord is slow to anger and great in power,
 And the Lord will by no means leave the guilty unpunished.
 In whirlwind and storm is His way,
 And clouds are the dust beneath His feet.

4 He rebukes the sea and makes it dry;
 He dries up all the rivers. Bashan and Carmel wither;
 The blossoms of Lebanon wither.

5 Mountains quake because of Him
 And the hills dissolve;
 Indeed the earth is upheaved by His presence,
 The world and all the inhabitants in it.

6 Who can stand before His indignation?
 Who can endure the burning of His anger?
 His wrath is poured out like fire
 And the rocks are broken up by Him.

7 The Lord is good,
 A stronghold in the day of trouble,
 And He knows those who take refuge in Him.

8 But with an overflowing **flood**
 He will make a complete end of its site,
 And will pursue His enemies into darkness.

9 Whatever you devise against the Lord,
 He will make a complete end of it.
 Distress will not rise up twice.

B. In the last days mankind will be as involved in evil as they were before the Flood of Noah, so fear will be rampant. Matt 24:37-42

For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. 38 "For as in those days before the **flood** they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and they did not understand until the **flood** came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 "Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. 41 " Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. Be Ready for His Coming 42 "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.

5. The floods of discipline we witness should encourage us to seek wisdom. Psa 90:1-5 (Prayer of Moses)

1 Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.
 2 Before the mountains were born
 Or You gave birth to the earth and the world,
 Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

3 You turn man back into dust
 And say, "Return, O children of men."
 4 For a thousand years in Your sight
 Are like yesterday when it passes by,
 Or as a watch in the night.

5 You have swept them away like a **flood**, they fall asleep;
 In the morning they are like grass which sprouts anew.
 6 In the morning it flourishes and sprouts anew;
 Toward evening it fades and withers away.
 For we have been consumed by Your anger
 And by Your wrath we have been dismayed.

8 You have placed our iniquities before You,
 Our secret sins in the light of Your presence.
 9 For all our days have declined in Your fury;
 We have finished our years like a sigh.

10 As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years,
 Or if due to strength, eighty years,
 Yet their pride is but labor and sorrow;
 For soon it is gone and we fly away.
 11 Who understands the power of Your anger
 And Your fury, according to the fear that is due You?
 12 So teach us to number our days,
 That we may present to You a heart of wisdom.

6. Pray to not become a casualty in the floods of your life. Psa 69:13-18

13 But as for me, my prayer is to You,
 O Lord, at an acceptable time;
 O God, in the greatness of Your lovingkindness,
 Answer me with Your saving truth.
 14 Deliver me from the mire and do not let me sink;
 May I be delivered from my foes and from the deep waters.
 15 May the **flood** of water not overflow me
 Nor the deep swallow me up,
 Nor the pit shut its mouth on me.
 16 Answer me, O Lord, for Your lovingkindness is good;
 According to the greatness of Your compassion, turn to me,
 17 And do not hide Your face from Your servant,
 For I am in distress; answer me quickly.
 18 Oh draw near to my soul and redeem it;
 Ransom me because of my enemies!

7. Enduring floods requires a solid foundation. Luke 6:46-49

"Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? 47 " Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a **flood** occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. 49 "But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."

**A. The Lord is the sovereign ruler over even the largest flood.
 Psa 29:10-11**

10 The Lord sat as King at the **flood**;
 Yes, the Lord sits as King forever.
 11 The Lord will give strength to His people;
 The Lord will bless His people with peace.

B. No flood can escape the Lord's control. Job 38:25

"Who has cleft a channel for the **flood**, Or a way for the thunderbolt,

**C. The Lord preserves the godly in and through the floods of life.
 Psa 32:4-6**

4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;

- My vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer. Selah.
- 5 I acknowledged my sin to You,
And my iniquity I did not hide;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord";
And You forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah.
- 6 Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You
In a time when You may be found;
Surely in a **flood** of great waters they will not reach him (**the godly**).
- D. Floods are powerful but still no match for God's promises. Isa 54:7-10**
- 7 For a brief moment I forsook you,
But with great compassion I will gather you.
- 8 "In an outburst of anger I hid My face from you for a moment,
But with everlasting lovingkindness I will have compassion on you,"
Says the Lord your Redeemer.
- 9 "For this is like the days of Noah to Me,
When I swore that the waters of Noah
Would not **flood** the earth again;
So I have sworn that I will not be angry with you
Nor will I rebuke you.
- 10 "For the mountains may be removed and the hills may shake,
But My lovingkindness will not be removed from you,
And My covenant of peace will not be shaken,"
Says the Lord who has compassion on you.

8. A Lifeboat, an Ark, is needed to endure the floods of life.

(Three Arks are mentioned in the Word. Noah, Moses, Ark of Covenant)

A. It begins with doing the little things necessary to build a ship.

1 Peter 3:18-22 (Plans, gather materials, assemble, cover, furnish)

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; 19 in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, 20 who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the **ark**, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. 21 Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you — not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience — through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.

B. Faith will furnish the ship, namely by knowing and believing the promises of God. Heb 11:7

By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an **ark** for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

C. We are truly helpless inside this ship and still fully dependent upon the Sovereignty of the Lord. Moses: Exo 2:1-3

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a daughter of Levi. 2 The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was beautiful, she hid him for three months. 3 But when she could hide him no longer, she got him a **wicker basket** and covered it over with tar and pitch. Then she put the child into it and set it among the reeds by the bank of the Nile.

D. The ship must be furnished with a pot of manna, the tablets of the Law and Aaron's rod that budded. Exo 25:10-30

- 1). **The manna refers to the appreciation of Divine Provision.** (This is the day...)
- 2). **The Law refers to respect for the Sovereignty of God.**
- 3). **Aaron's rod infers having an eternal perspective. Rev 11:19**

And the temple of God which is in heaven was opened; and the **ark** of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

9. Entering the Ark means that you put your trust in the Lord's plan as well as His person.

10. The anchor needed to stabilize the craft is Hope. Heb 6:16-20

For men swear by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath given as confirmation is an end of every dispute. 17 In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the **unchangeableness of His purpose**, interposed with an oath, 18 so that by two unchangeable things in which **it is impossible for God to lie**, we who have **taken refuge** would have strong encouragement to **take hold of the hope** set before us. 19 **This hope we have as an anchor of the soul**, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which **enters within the veil**, 20 where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Floods of Life 2

Summary of The Floods of Life

1. **Floods are markers of time. Gen 10:1**
2. **Floods can come from the inside or outside or both and can take many forms.**
 - A. **External, Physical or Spiritual. Dan 9:24-27**
 - B. **Internal. Prov 27:4**
3. **Floods in life are often the result of personal and/or corporate sins. Psa 69:1-6**
4. **Wickedness has no defense against a flood so fear to the point of terror is the portion of the wicked. Job 27:13-20**
5. **The floods of discipline we witness should encourage us to seek wisdom. Psa 90:1-5**
6. **Key Defense: Pray to not become a casualty. Psa 69:13-18**
7. **Enduring floods requires a solid foundation. Luke 6:46-49 (Sovereignty of God and His promises)**
8. **A Lifeboat, an Ark, is sometimes needed to endure the floods of life.**
9. **Entering the Ark means that you put your trust in the Lord's plan as well as His person.**
10. **The anchor needed to stabilize the craft is Hope. Heb 6:16-20**

11. Three Strategies to deal with the Floods of Life.

Lord Of The Compost Heap

O Lord of the compost heap, You take garbage and turn it into soil, good soil, for seeds to root and grow with wildest increase and flowers to bloom with brilliant beauty. Take all the garbage of my life, O Lord of the compost heap, turn it into soil, good soil, and then plant seeds to bring forth fruit and beauty in profusion.
Joseph Bayly

J.I. Packer in his book, Knowing God, writes, "It is often the case, as all the saints know, that fellowship with the Father and the Son is most vivid and sweet, and Christian joy the greatest, when the cross is the heaviest."

A. When necessary, move to higher ground. Josh 2:15-16
(Deal with the rising water in the conflict while outside your "house." The common rains that come and go. Sidestep the puddles. Do not drive into water where you can't see the bottom. Tests, temptations.)
15 Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the city wall, so that she was living on the wall. 16 She said to them, "Go to the hill country, so that the pursuers will not happen upon you, and hide yourselves there for three days until the pursuers return. Then afterward you may go on your way."

I-C-E-D

- 1). **Identify the problem area.**

- **Problem defined by God's standard's, not society's.**
- **if you don't see anger as wrong you will embrace it, etc.**
- **Anger is not just the mouth but the mind, not just the word but the wisdom behind them.**
- **Ambition at the expense of others.**
- **Fear, Doubt, Grumbling.**
- 2). **Confess the sin(s).**
- 3). **Exchange the lie for the truth of God.**
 - **set sights on things above. WWJD?**
 - **deals with the little problems.**
 - **claims promises.**
 - **change bad attitudes and keep good ones.**
- 4). **Deny power to the problem. Heb 2:14**

An unknown Chinese Christian once said, "A wise man seeks opportunities in difficulties and a fool finds difficulties in opportunities. We are born to overcome difficulties through the power of the Holy Spirit."

B. Build your house on The Rock. Luke 6:46-49

(Deal with everyday life and the downbursts and strong winds.)

"Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? 47 " Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a **flood** occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. 49 "But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."

- 1). **Find the right Rock to build on. Matt 16:18, Psa 18**
- 2). **Plan your life with flexibility, adjusting to the Lord's plans. Prov 16:3 Commit your works to the Lord And your plans will be established.**
- 3). **Gather the building materials.**
- 4). **Assemble. Heb 3:4 (put raw materials into use) For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.**
- 5). **Furnish the structure. (have a clean house, without any leaven; place to eat, sleep)**

C. Prepare an Ark. Matt 24:37-42 (Room with more houses)

(Prepare for the worst, Hope for the best.)

(ABC's of spiritual growth: Adversity Builds Character.)

"For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. 38 "For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 "Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be

left. 41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. Be Ready for His Coming 42 "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.

- **like a house, but the need to be waterproofed.**
- **Sealing. Keep out unwanted moisture.**
- **waterproofing attaches to what is to be protected and repels that which it is to be protected from.**
- **it is of a different material.**
 - 1). **Begins with Salvation.**
 - **new creation.**
 - 2). **It is secured by the Sealing of the Holy Spirit.**
 - 3). **It is your deliverance from the major tests of life.**
 (Deliverance is first and foremost from sin not circumstances)
 from Matt 24; 70 A.D. protection from fear of adversity, destruction thus courage; false messiahs/doctrine; persecution; lack of love; endurance; witness; fear of last days; thieves; responsibility, commitment
- **intent: deliver those you can. Live love even in difficult times.**
- **preach righteousness.**
- 4). **More than any other factor, your "Ark" is built by faith.**