

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday Bible Class - April/May 2024**

The Flood Bible Study

Introduction

- 1) The World Before the Flood
- 2) The Biblical Account of the Flood
- 3) Extra-Biblical Evidence for the Flood
- 4) The World After the Flood

**Part Two - The Biblical Account of the Flood**

- 1) The Genesis account gives us precise, but concise details of the lengths of time that elapsed from the time that God told Noah to take the animals into the ark until the Flood ended (read Genesis 7:1-24).

- How old was Noah when God decided that the days of humanity would be 120 years (Genesis 6:3)? How old was Noah when the floodwaters came (Genesis 7:6)?
- How many days passed after Noah, his family, and the animals entered the ark until “the floodwaters came on earth” (see Genesis 7:10)?
- What was the exact day (month and day) when the flood began (7:11)?
- For how many days did the rain fall (see 7:12)?
- For how many days did the “waters flood the earth” (see 7:24)? Why are different numbers of days given (compare 7:12 and 7:24)?

*It seems most likely that the floodwaters covered everything within the 40 days of rain, but the waters continued to rise until they covered even the highest mountains “to a depth of 20 feet” (see Genesis 7:20). The continuation of the rising water can be attributed to “the springs of the deep” still bursting forth (see 7:11). We learn that the water remained at that level for 150 days (7:24) before it began to recede. The statement “all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered” (7:19) is evidence that the Flood was a **universal deluge**.*

- 2) Although we could say that the Flood ended when the floodwaters began to recede, Genesis records other facts before Noah and his family were instructed by God to leave the ark. Read Genesis 8:1-22.
  - On which exact date (after 150 days of steadily receding floodwaters) did the ark come to rest on the mountains of Ararat? (see 8:3-4). Note that 190 days, more than half of a year, had passed by this time.
  - When did the tops of the mountains become visible? (see 8:5)
  - If 40 more days passed before Noah opened a window, sent out a raven, and then a dove, what date was that? (see 8:6). Is there any significance to the fact that Noah sent out two types of birds? How many times did Noah repeat this process (sending out a dove) and how many days elapsed between each time? What did Noah learn from the doves?

- When did Noah remove the covering from the ark to see the condition of the earth? (see 8:13) What did his observation indicate?
- On which date do we learn that the earth was completely dry? (8:14) What did God tell Noah to do on that day?
- On which precise date did God command Noah to leave the ark?
- How long was the duration of the Flood, including the “wait time” during which the waters receded and the drying time until God told Noah to leave the ark?
- For emphasis, what point does Moses repeat in Genesis 6:22 and 7:5?

*We should note that Noah did “everything” God commanded. This includes Noah’s patient wait for God’s direction to leave the ark.*

### 3) God gives direction and order to the post-Flood world.

- What was the first act of faithful Noah after he left the ark? (see 8:20) What was God’s response to this act? (8:21)
- What promise did God make at this time? (see 8:21)
- Even though the earth had been “cleansed” by the Flood, how do we know that the sinful nature still lived on in all of the Flood’s survivors? (see 8:21)
- What did God ordain and promise to continue “as long as the earth endures”? (8:22) Is there any unwritten significance we can connect to this promise regarding the origin of the seasons? Think of probable geological changes to the post-Flood world that still affect the world today.

### 4) God renews his covenant with Noah.

- What blessings first given to Adam and Eve at the time of the Creation did God give (repeat and renew) to Noah and his sons? (see 9:1 and compare to Genesis 1:28)
- Which other inspired writers of the Bible refer to the Flood and verify Moses’ record in Genesis?

*See the following references:*

*Job 22:15-16*

*Isaiah 54:9*

*Matthew 24:37-38*

*Hebrews 11:7*

*1 Peter 3:20 and 2:5*

- A quote from Rehwinkle is a good way to summarize the account of the Flood:

*“There cannot be any doubt that Moses and the other inspired writers, including our Lord Himself, regarded the Deluge as a **universal flood** and a great **historical fact**. To deny this means to question the infallibility of the Bible and that of Christ himself” (Rehwinkle, p. 95).*