The Great Faith of Noah

Introduction

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

- 1. The building of the ark that saved Noah was an accomplishment made possible "by faith."
- 2. What were the characteristics of the faith that saved Noah?

Faith Caused Noah to Accept a Future Reality as a Fact

1. A thing is not necessarily "unreal" just because it is "unseen"
— in fact, the most important parts of reality are unseen.

2 Corinthians 4:18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

2. Faith is the mental faculty by which we deal with realities that are "not seen".

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

3. Noah had the faith to accept as real a future happening that had never happened before!

2 Peter 3:1-9

Faith Caused the Future Reality to Have a Practical Impact on Noah's Life

- 1. Most of us have a harmful tendency to postpone action on matters of great importance, waiting until "later" to act on questions that should be acted on immediately.
- 2. But saving faith calls for decisive action in the present.

 James 2:14-26
- 3. Faith is not merely something we think about it is a thing we do something about!

Faith Caused Noah to Endure Scoffing

1. Reproach for having obeyed God ought to be the least of our worries.

Matthew 10:25, 28

2. Like Noah — and like the Lord Himself — we must patiently endure scoffing.

Hebrews 12:1-4

Faith Caused Noah to Do Exactly What God Instructed, Without Modification

1. It is very important for us to do all things "according to the pattern."

Hebrews 8:5 who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "SEE THAT YOU MAKE ALL THINGS ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN SHOWN YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN."

- 2. Would Noah and his family have been saved from the flood if he had built the ark 301 cubits long?
 - A. God nowhere said not to do so.
- 3. God's silence is significant and must be respected. Hebrews 7:11-14

Faith Saved Noah from Destruction

- 1. The quality of faith exhibited by Noah is the only kind that saves.
- 2. Concerning Noah's obedience of faith, Peter wrote these words:

1 Peter 3:18-22

Conclusion

- 1. Are we, as Christians, guilty of acting as if we believed salvation were "by faith only"?
- 2. Noah's faith was an obedient trust in God.
- 3. Does our own faith have the characteristics of the faith that saved Noah?

Invitation

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