

UNDERSTANDING THE “ONE STORY” OF SCRIPTURE

Week 9 – JROC - A Worldwide, Catastrophic Flood? WHY?

July 6, 2026

Man is appointed to mortality and sorrow. **The blessed God shall come down teaching. His death** shall bring the despairing rest/comfort.”

His death? WHOSE death? “The Seed of the Woman”! JESUS!

In Gen. 3:15 God proclaimed, in the middle of judgment, that “the Seed of the woman” is the resolution for sin that entered the world! We are assured that in the midst of judgment and death, God’s grace prevailed...and continues to prevail!

How many of us have asked, “WHY such a catastrophic worldwide flood? We need to know that, WHILE the flood was a unique global catastrophic flood...which was an act of divine judgment against a sinful world...we need to HOLD ON TO WHO GOD IS – IN ALL OF HIS GLORY! AND SO then, in KNOWING WHO GOD IS, we can REST in His truth! ...AND, once again, in the midst of judgment and death, God’s GRACE prevails!

Have you ever wondered WHY God flooded the entire earth but rescued eight people and many animals? Are we realizing that it is for the sake of God’s name/His GLORY, His faithfulness to His promises. It is God’s desire to continue the “one story,” to fulfill His promises to the world, and to continue His plan for the world which includes REDEMPTION moving toward RESTORATION!

We need to be aware - that there are many, including believers, who do NOT take the record of the global flood in Genesis seriously. They consign the account to a moral lesson (“you sin, bad things will happen”!??) without regarding the narrative as actual fact – as truth! We need to know that spiritualizing the texts in Scripture...reducing the text to lessons we can learn in our individual lives for us is not understanding the context nor the authorial intent. Understanding authorial intent is comprehending what God intended for the people at that time to understand.

Spiritualizing is not understanding God’s word. What a moral lesson is to one person, is not a moral lesson to everyone else in the world that is reading the same passage in Scripture. Gleaning moral lessons for us is not going to cause us to understand God’s word, His message – the “one story” of Scripture!

We need to read the worldwide flood account in Genesis 6-8 as judgment against the backdrop of sin, a fallen world...always embracing the promise of redemption through the “Seed of the woman” Who will be born and destroy the adversary (Satan).

We need to read the worldwide flood against the backdrop of the context!! This is a huge backdrop of sin that constitutes a worldwide catastrophic flood!

Gen. 6:5-7 - Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.⁶ And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved (pained; God was hurt) in His heart. (God’s sorrow at man’s condition and the grief in His heart is striking! Knowing this

about God should spur us on to walk worthy and to please Him [II Cor. 5:9]). ⁷So the LORD said, 'I will destroy man whom I have created

2

from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry (I am grieved) that I have made them.'

Remember – God had already offered the promise of redemption! AND what have we discussed? God is faithful to His word...to His promises!

AND so we read...⁸ *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*

Noah's favor is not earned but GRANTED by GOD! God's grace fell upon Noah!

This was God's plan – a definite link in the "one story"....

Gen. 6:8 – *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*

This is the first time "grace" is mentioned in the Bible.

Then we read...Gen. 6:9 - *Noah was a just man* (a righteous man – in a right relationship with God), *perfect* ("complete" - from God's perspective) *in his generations* (perhaps one among THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS). *Noah walked with God.*

Genesis 6:8 provides profound insight into God's grace amid widespread wickedness. The world was in a state of great corruption, and humanity had turned away from God. Yet, in the midst of this darkness, the phrase "found grace" indicates an unearned kindness that God bestowed upon Noah. This grace doesn't speak of Noah's perfection, but rather God's willingness to show mercy – to give grace!

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. The verse stands as a hinge between universal corruption (6:5–7) and the narrative of deliverance on the part of God ALONE! It connects the "one story" which MUST include REDEMPTION – because God's Plan is ALWAYS – PLAN A! We see God's redemptive pattern. We are seeing God's grace, mercy, and gift of salvation in the midst of divine judgment!

What happened prior to Gen. 6:5?

Gen. 6:1-4 - *Now it came to pass, when men* (the Hebrew word means humanity) *began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them,* ² *that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.* ³ *And the LORD said, 'My Spirit shall not strive (plead) with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.'* It appears that God is giving 120 years to man to respond to His Spirit and to turn from wickedness – to repent. (Gen. 5:32 – Noah was 500 years old and he begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth; Gen. 7:11 – Noah was 600 when all the fountains of the deep were broken up and the windows of heaven were opened – when the flood waters began to accumulate)... ⁴ *There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.*

