

Hebrews 11:7

By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

Also read:

Genesis 6 (up to chapter 9 if time permits)

2 Peter 3:1-13

Community Group Study 17 Jan 2010

Introduction

In one way or another, just about all of us are familiar with the story of Noah. It encourages us to walk by faith, and foreshadows the saving work of Jesus Christ.

Noah is described in Genesis as a blameless, righteous man who walked with God. This set him apart in a world where everyone else was thoroughly and continually evil. His existing lifestyle must already have seemed out of place, but how much more so after he began building the ark!

Our faith must be an inward faith, like Noah's, that caused him to respond in "reverent fear". Noah took God's message at face value (Gen 6:22) and let his faith rule in his heart.

Noah also had practical faith, labouring on a seemingly foolish task for over 100 years. Many must have mocked him and God for not sending any flood for all that time.

In the end, Noah's faith and works condemned a wicked generation in that nobody had any excuse to say that faith and obedience to God was unattainable.

Discussion

>>What does it mean to a person if they accept or deny the biblical story of Noah as literal fact?

>>How does the story of Noah foreshadow the work of Jesus Christ?

>>Should every Christian appear foolish to those who do not believe?

>>What promises have God made to you that have not yet come true?

Explanation

>>What do the "events as yet unseen" refer to, and what "events as yet unseen" are we told to expect?

>>What is "reverent fear"?

>>How do we as Christians condemn the world around us? What are the expected results of this condemnation?

Application

>>How should we live our lives so that we obey Christ and look like fools to the world?

>>Remember the promises that God has made to you, both personally and in scripture, and tell Him that you have faith that he is a keeper of promises.

>>2 Pet 3:11-12, What sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God?