

Title: **As It Was In The Days of Noah** Nov.1, 2020

Scripture: Genesis 6, Luke 17:22-35 !!! Where is Luke 17:36 ???

Intro: See also Matt.24:36-38

As teenagers, my friends and I loved Bill Cosby. Listen:

Bill Cosby Sketch: Noah

There's fella by the name of Noah

Built an ark

Everybody knows he built an ark.

You see

What Noah do? Well he built an ark

But very few people know about

The conversation that went on between the Lord and Noah

You see Noah was in his rec. room

Sawing away, he was making a few things for the home there.

He was a good carpenter

Whoompa, whoompa, whoompa, whoompa

Noah!

Somebody call?

Whoompa, whoompa, whoompa

Noah!

Who is that?

It's the Lord, Noah

Right!

Where are ja?

What you want? I've been good.

I want you to build an Ark

Right!

Whats an Ark?

You've watched the news. Bill went downhill since then.

Today we mark Freedom Sunday. We've learned it is a dark topic.

There is depravity there. Is it getting better or worse?

We read: **As it was in the days of Noah...**

NOT 'As it was in the days of David...' - days of victory over foes

NOT 'As it was in the days of Solomon...' – days of prosperity, growth

We are going to look at Noah as a way to understand how our days compare to those of our Lord's return.

Later, check tonight's news.

If these are, is it evidence that Jesus will return soon? Jesus

mentioned Noah in connection with His return.

Does this provide some evidence for His soon return?

Matthew 24³⁷ **As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.**

A. Jesus Said Noah's Days Were To Be Like Our Days

One day some religious people (Pharisees) asked Jesus when the Kingdom of God would be coming. Jews believed then the Kingdom of God was coming.

Do you believe the Kingdom of God is coming? Many people don't believe it or they think this world is getting better and better and will eventually be perfected.

News feeds: If we can just reduce carbon...if we can just elect the correct politician...if we can just usher in social justice...with such a better world, what's the point of heaven?

Jesus predicted the coming Kingdom of God.

So what will those days be like?

The Days of Noah are in Genesis:

Look in your Bible between the Fall of Man and just before the Flood followed even later by the Patriarchs and the Laws of Moses.

Here's what they knew in Noah's day, here are some "givens":

1. The power of evil was present in the universe opposed to God and His purposes. And:

There were NO 10 Commandments at that time. . Only after the Flood did God enacted some simple laws and man entered into a time of human government. Men were ruled by Conscience, the knowledge of good and evil.

(Dakes p.59) Man was tested to see if he would follow his own conscience. It could've be called the Age of Freedom.

2. And, there were some consequences for disobedience and disbelief in not doing the right things. It wasn't capital punishment, but Cain was banished for killing Abel. God had said to Cain:

Gen.4:6,7 "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

3. There were advantages to faith and confidence in God and His wisdom.

Gen.6 ⁹Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God.

⁸(KJV) Noah found **grace** in the eyes of the LORD.

*We certainly see that this advantage was a saving grace.
Aren't you increduled that only 8 were saved out of millions?
Is that like today?*

4. It was necessary to choose good and reject evil. Yet, they tended to choose evil. Voluntary righteousness failed. They were proven incapable of choosing the good.

2 Peter 2:5 "he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people,

Noah's days included those following soon after the Flood. A time of human government. The Tower of Babel and cities were built.

With these "givens" let's now ponder the Days of Noah as he passed his days before and after the Flood. These "givens" lead to certain things of interest to us today.

Why did Jesus say to us, if it is to us:

Matthew 24³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

B. What More Can We Learn About Noah's Days

AGE & POPULATION

Many Patriarchs were still alive during Noah's time. People lived very long lives! Perhaps your Bible has one of those graphs which show the overlap of the Patriarchs who lived hundreds of years, bore children, knew their grand-children, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

*Medicine and diet have increase our life-spans. We won't die at 650 like Noah, but we may get to see 100 like some today.
People today are ambitious to live long lives.*

In Noah's days "Social Media" was first-hand! They could ask Adam or Cain what really happened!! They were still alive!

*In our day, the Social Media of talking people is everywhere.
Talk, talk, text, text, message, video. Zoom, phone...*

Most of it uncertain and often unverifiable. What is "true"?

Racial distinction began with Noah. His three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, became the three main races of the human family. Humanity began as one family in Adam and passed through one man, Noah. Indo-European, African and Semitic peoples came from the three sons and their wives.

*We have God's children dividing into racial distinctions.
Today racial distinctions have reached a flashpoint.*

....is this how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man?

TECHNOLOGY & MUSIC

In Noah's day technology was increasing. Jabal fashioned metal. From metal they made tools and farm implements. This led to increased leisure time. It partially relieved the curse on the earth. They invented easier ways of making their living from the sweat of their brows. They reversed the Curse God spoke to Adam. Jubal made musical instruments. They had songs, music and entertainment. They could make weapons. They devised more efficient ways of killing each other. Violence increased.

We have so many guns now and sales are up. And never has warfare been so technically efficient.

In our day music is everywhere. Our play lists are the sound track of our lives. What is "good" music?

Our tools have provide more leisure than previous generations. We've got lots of time for entertainment.

Hollywood has pushed the boundaries of morality. We watch things that would make our Holiness forbears weep. We are the frogs in the kettle, and the water is now boiling hot.

....is this how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man?

BIBLE & KNOWLEDGE

In the Days of Noah people didn't read their Bibles. They didn't have Bibles to read. What would it contain? Adam & Eve, the Fall and what some things done until his day. There were no Hebrew people, no 10 commandments or OT Law or NT. The Words of God were remembered. Evenings after sawing boards or floating in the Ark after feeding the animals there was time to talk and recount the details of their history back to Adam.

Noah got his "Scripture" from what the patriarchs had told him, face to face.

Today, we get much of our Scripture through what others tells us, the difference being, of course, we could read it for ourselves.

CONSCIENCE

There were a few people around who had met God. Perhaps most had only heard the stories of God. Their moral compass had to be their conscience. And how did that go? Not well, remember, God sent a Flood to re-boot mankind on the planet. So, not good.

Today we are worried for the planet's survival and we place the blame at the feet of human-kind.

Once their consciences failed they entered a time of lawlessness. This time of violence and sensuality precipitated the Flood. Later, God would enact minimal laws when they left the Ark, but up to the Flood lawlessness increased until the breaking point:
Gen.6:5,6 The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. God's heart was pained more than Man's heart.

Has our Post-Christian age of conscience ushered in world peace in our world? People will testify that they know right from wrong without a reference to God's Word. There is also a Clash of Conscience today. Clashes of politics, personalities and priorities.

....is this how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man?

WALK & WORSHIP

In the days of Noah the population exploded. People lived hundreds of years and bore children over many years. Children of children

and so on. It might be getting difficult for people to have personal visits with God, who on occasion, still visited mankind.

Resourcing vast population growth is a great concern today. What resources will there be? We worry about scarcity whereas we have a God who has made us personal promised of sufficiency.

Noah had talked with God, even after Adam's sin. Cain chatted with God of his sin. God enjoyed chatting so much with Enoch He took him to heaven! Then Seth was born Gen.4:26b ."men began to call on the name of he LORD." Here is the plural of "man". Worship replaced walking with God.

We love worship! Great numbers of people worship God today and yet, God is still waiting to walk with us too.

....is this how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man?

MARRIAGE & SEX

Lamech took two wives. Marriage had been institute in Eden. Jesus re-affirmed it, "For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife." Not wives.

Polygamy is among us. Not just religions endorsing it but multiple partners, multiple relationships.

You have read: "The sons of God saw the daughters of men..." They had sexual union. Their children were the Nephilim. God-like men of renown.

I know some say angels could not mate with humans but the language is clear "sons of God" applies only to direct creations of God, not ancestors of Seth a "son of Adam."

The Nephilim were the giants. And they were not good, typically bad. Satan sought to corrupt the Godly lineage which would provide Christ through the Jewish race.

Sexual scandal is still Satan's go-to strategy to ruin Godly people.

As for Freedom Sunday, nowadays, is not the object of the female body splashed all over the Internet and media.

Desired as the apple in the Garden, the female form is to be seen, it is to be desired, then taken, and once taken, it is to be discarded. Then the process repeated.

Obsessive interest is assigned to "looks" over character.

The Nephilim were wiped out in the Flood and yet some re-appeared after the Flood in the Old Testament.

Today, our great men of renown are the rich and powerful. Sexual scandal follows. Richer than nations the power wielded by Tech Giants, and their likes make our governments tremble.

And what's with the endless entertainment preoccupation with the supernatural, Avengers and UFOs? Should we be expecting the union of mankind and the supernatural again?

....is this how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man?

Thus were the Days of Noah.

Would you say we've seen parallels to our day? If so, what may we expect?

Jesus said,

Luke 17 ²⁶ **"Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man.**

If so, is it evidence that Jesus will return soon? Jesus mentioned Noah in connection with His return. Was Jesus warning us? Does this provide some evidence for His soon return?

What can we take away from our time together today? You may find many parallels between today and Noah's but I think there is one over-arching parallel. GRACE.

Gen.6 ⁹ Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God.

⁸ But Noah found **grace** in the eyes of the LORD.

Benediction

**THE FIRST MENTION OF GRACE IN THE BIBLE IS WITH NOAH.
WE MAY BE IN A WORLD OF TROUBLES, AS IN NOAH'S DAY, BUT
WE ARE ALSO IN A DAY OF GRACE!**

Eph.2:8,9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.

Noah first believed then he built the ark. Noah took God at his Word and then worked. Noah did not work to earn his salvation.

1 Peter 3:19,20 “God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water”

God is waiting patiently today just as He did in Noah's day, not willing that any should perish.

2 Peter 2:5 “if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others” ... **2:9** “**if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials**”

These are difficult days. Where, or Who, is your Ark? Will you enter the Ark? So many didn't.

Jesus is our Ark. I am certain there is grace for Bill Cosby, because I have learned of God's grace for me. Also of His amazing patience.

For **Rom.5:20** “where sin increased, grace increased all the more.”

On this All Saints Day of 2020 are you among those saved by grace through faith? Jesus is your Ark in troubled waters.

AS I

Bill Cosby Sketch; Noah
Noah (3 skits)

There's fella by the name of Noah
Built an ark
Everybody knows he built an ark.
You see
What Noah do? Well he built an ark
But very few people know about
The conversation that went on between the Lord and Noah
You see Noah was in his rec. room
Sawing away, he was making a few things for the home there.
He was a good carpenter

Whoompa, whoompa, whoompa, whoompa
Noah!
Somebody call?
Whoompa, whoompa, whoompa
Noah!
Who is that?
It's the Lord, Noah
Right!

Where are ja?
What you want? I've been good.
I want you to build an Ark
Right!
Whats an Ark?

Get some wood build it
300 cubits by 80 cubits by 40 cubits
Right!
Whats a cubit?

Lets see a cubit...I used to know what a cubit was
Well don't worry about that Noah
When you get that done
Go out into the world and
Collect all of the animals in the world by twos
Male and female, and put them into the ark
Right!
Who is this really?

What's going on?
How come you want me to do all these weird things?
I'm going to destory the world
Right!
Am I on Candid Camera?

How you gonna do it?
I'm gonna make it rain for a thousand days and drown 'em right out
Right!
Listen to this, you'll save water
Let it rain for 40 days and 40 nights
And wait for the sewers back up
Right!

I just wondering,
What would be the effect of an Ark on the average neighbour?
Now, here's a guy going to work, 7 o'clock in the morning
Noahs next door neighbour and he sees the Ark.
Hey!
You up there!
What you want?
What is this?
It's an Ark
Aha
You wanna get it outta my driveway?
I gotta get to work

Listen, what this thing for anyway?
I can't tell you
Hahahahaha!
Well, I mean can't you give me a little hint?
You wanna a hint?
Yes, please
How long can you tread water?
Hahahah!

'Course Noah had a heck of a job really
He had to go out and collect
All the animals in the world, by two's
Two mosquitoes, male or female
And, uh, he had to keep telling the rabbits
Only two, only two, only two.
So we find Noah pulling up the last two animals
Two hippos and he's really in a hurry to get em up
Because hes afraid that the Lords gonna call him
And ask him to do something else
And his nevers are shot
This is one heck of a job for a man 600 years old

So we find him pulling up the two last hippos
And of course the Lord does call him there
Com'on fat hippos hurry up
Com'on will you please?
Noah!
What? What you want?
Gotta take one of those hippos out
And bring in another one
What for?
'Cause you got two males down there
And you need to bring in a female
I'm not bringin' nothin' in
You change one of em'

Com'on you know I don't work like that.

Well I'm sick and tired of this I've had enough of this stuff
I've been working all day
Working on it for days and days
I'm sick and tired of this
Noah!
Yeah?
How long can you tread water?

Yeah, well I got news for you
I'm sick and tired of this whole mess
The whole neighbourhood's out there laughing at me
They're all having a grand time
At good old old Noah there
I went out there at my best friend Larry
I've been talking to the Lord, Larry
Larry said
Oh, really
Yeah yeah
Lord, Larry, Larry, Lord
You walked off laughing
And I hear 'em all laughing at me
You know I'm the only guy in this neighbourhood with an Ark?
People around here laughing
Picket signs walking up and down
I'm sick and tired of this stuff here
People walking around here
How you doing Tarzan?
How's everything up there?.
Sick and tired of this mess here
You supposed to know all and see all
You let me go out there
And bring in a pregnant elephant
You give me no manual for delivery or nuthin'

Never told me the thing was pregnant
There's good old Noah waitin' underneath the elephant there
Brrrrrooooooooooom
Right on top
Sick and tired of this mess here
Had enough all this stuff
For you runnin' around
You supposed to know all and see all
Like I said before
You let me go out there and do all this stuff here
You never even looked in the bottom of that Ark
Have you looked down there?
No?
Who's gonna clean up that mess down there?
That's me
I tell you I've had enough of this stuff
I tell you what I'm gonna do
I'm letting all these animals out
And I'm gonna burn down this Ark
And I'm going to Florida somewhere
'Cause you haven't done nothin'
I'm sick and tired of all this mess
You foolin' around
And you haven't done nothing!

And you got it rainin'
It's not a shower is it?
Ok Lord me and you right
'Cause I knew it all the time

B. What More Can We Learn About Noah's Days

Clar.

In Noah's days things went from bad to worse. Yes, there were good times: eating, drinking and getting married.

But God saw what they were doing.

Ver.

Gen.6:5,6 The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain.

Amp.

As you read Genesis up to the Flood God has embedded evidences of Man's downward spiral.

Jesus predicted conditions which will lead to judgement and the lack of response to salvation that are to be present in the Days of Christ's Return.

Luke 17 ²⁶ "Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. ²⁷ People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all."

We can glean from Genesis evidences of the failure of the Season of Conscience.

As it was in the days of Noah...

(Pember, Earth's Earliest Ages, p.223)

1. A tendency to worship God as Elohim, that is, merely as the Creator and Benefactor, and not as Jehovah the covenant God of mercy, dealing with transgressors who are appointed to destruction, and finding a ransom for them.

Adam had walked with God. Cain was warned by God. After Seth was born Gen.4:26b ."men began to call on the name of he LORD."

Great numbers of people believe in God today and yet , how socially unacceptable is it to speak of sin, moreover, to even name a sin.

As it was in the days of Noah...

2. An undue prominence of the female sex, and a disregard of the primal law of marriage.

Gen.6:1,2 When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose.”

Gen.4:19 “Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah.”

Now days, is not the object of the female body splashed all over the Internet and media. Obsessive interest is assigned to “looks”. Like the apple in the Garden, it is to be seen, it is to be desired, then taken, and once taken, it is to be discarded. Then the process repeated.

As it was in the days of Noah...

3. A rapid progress in the mechanical arts, and the consequent invention of many devices whereby the hardships of the curse were mitigate, and life was rendered more easy and indulgent. Also a proficiency in the fine arts, which captivated the minds of men, and helped to induce an entire oblivion of God.

Jubal – musical instruments

Jabal – metal-worker, machines, weapons

As it was in the days of Noah ...

4. An alliance between the nominal Church and the World, which speedily resulted in a complete amalgamation.

As it was in the days of Noah...

5. A vast increase in population. Eg. $n = 2 \times 3^g$, g – generations.

Noah – his long life overlapped with many famous patriarchs

As it was in the days of Noah...

6. The rejection of the preaching of Enoch, whose warnings thus became a savour of death unto the world, and hardened men beyond recovery.

Jude 14,15¹⁴ Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about them: “See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones ¹⁵ to judge everyone, and to convict all of them of all the ungodly acts they have committed in their ungodliness, and of all the defiant words ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”

(Jude 1:15 From the Jewish *First Book of Enoch* (approximately the first century B.C.)

Rejection of Word of God in our time?

JC was never PC

As it was in the days of Noah...

7. The appearance upon earth of beings from the Principality of the Air, and their unlawful intercourse with the human race.

Sons of God married the daughters of men.

Application: