



## DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

*Saving Grace ... by Gareth*

READ GENESIS 6: 8-16

### ● Saving Grace

- *Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord - Genesis 6:8.* "Unless we are saved by grace, we cannot be saved at all."
- *Eph 2:8-9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." "not of works, lest anyone should boast" (KJV)*
- When anyone like Noah finds "grace in the eyes of the Lord," he not only thanks God for the miracle of grace in his own life, but will take the message of grace to others that they, too, will enter into the ark Christ Jesus and be saved from the judgment to come.

### ● Looking on the Blood

- Pitch it within and without with pitch - *Genesis 6:14.*
- Every detail of the ark's construction (*Gen 6: 14-16*) was divinely given. In *Genesis 6:14*, Noah was commanded by God to "*pitch it within and without with pitch.*" The Hebrew word *kaphar*, which is translated "*pitch*," is the same word as is translated "*atonement*". "*It is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul*" (*Lev. 17:11*). The "pitch without" was for the eye of a holy God. When God looked upon the ark, He saw the covering that spoke of the atoning blood of Christ, which alone could satisfy the claims of divine justice and save Noah and the souls who went with him into the ark. The "*pitch within*" was for the eye and faith of Noah and his family resting securely within the ark. What a perfect cover Noah and his loved ones had. It covered them from the wrath of a sin-hating God, and yet at the same time covered them from seeing the judgment of God.
- We are saved by looking to Christ (*John 1:29*). As the sight of the pitch assured Noah that he was safe from the raging flood, the sight of the blood of Christ assures the Christian of safety from the wrath of God.

### ● The Upward Look

- *A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above - Genesis 6:16*
- The only window in the ark was in the roof, so Noah and his family constantly had to look upwards during those days when they were shut up in the ark. The eyes of their faith had to be fixed heavenwards, towards the God of glory. They were not to be concerned about the fearful events taking place outside the ark. They had to keep their eyes on the Lord. In *Isaiah 45:22* we are invited to look to God for salvation. "*Look unto me, and be ye saved*".
- As Christians, we are to continue looking up to Him who is the "*author and finisher of our faith*" (*Heb 12:2*). David vowed to "look up" at the beginning of each day (*Psa. 5:3*).

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## WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

### ● **Saved and Sure of It**

- *And the Lord shut him in - Genesis 7:16.*
- Let the words of this text sink into your heart: "*And the Lord shut him in*". Noah did not close the door of the ark. The Lord did that for him and his family. What wonderful protection Noah enjoyed within the ark. The Lord Jesus, in *Revelation 3:7*, revealed Himself to the church at Philadelphia as "*he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth*". What the Lord does, no one can undo. The safety of Noah and his family was in the Lord's hands. "*The Lord shut him in*". He had complete safety in the ark. In like manner the Christian is shut in with Christ and in complete safety.

### ● **The Only Place of Safety and Blessing**

- *The waters prevailed - Genesis 7:18, 19, 20, 24.*
- Four times it is recorded that "*the waters prevailed*" over all the earth. It was impossible to escape the waters of judgment even by climbing to the tops of the mountains, for "*the mountains were covered*" (v. 20).
- It is interesting to note that as the waters increased, they "*bare up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth*" (v. 17). In bearing the fury of God's wrath, the ark bore Noah to safety. What a wonderful picture of the believer's position in Christ. As the waters of divine judgment were falling upon Christ our sin-bearer and substitute at Calvary, He, as the ark of our salvation, was lifting us up into "heavenly places" in Himself, where we are "*blessed ...with all spiritual blessings*" (Eph. 1:3). All the unsearchable riches of God's grace are ours because of our union with Christ, His Son.

## Events /Notices

- ▶ **Next bible study** will take place on *Friday the 23rd @ 7pm.*
- ▶ **Next young at heart meeting** will take place on *Saturday the 24th @ 7:30pm.*
- ▶ **During our Sunday morning service** on the *4th of March*, ladies from the Tiglin Centre plan to share testimony .