

3-31-2024 Sunday Sermon Message
Devotional of the Week : Psalm 91:1-16
Text: Genesis 6:5-8

Title: **Salvation for Those Who Find Grace in God's Eyes**

When God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the world, and that all the imaginations of the thoughts of his heart were only evil, he regretted that He had formed man upon the earth, and this grieved his heart. And the Lord said, "I will destroy from the face of the earth the man whom I have created, both man and beast, and creeping thing and the birds of the air. for I regret that I made them. Noah, the only man who heard the words found the grace in the eyes of the Lord God.

At this point God said to Noah again:
"The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth."(Genesis 6:13)

At this time, God spoke to Noah to save only one man who had found grace in His eyes:

"Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.¹⁵ And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.¹⁶ A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it.¹⁷ And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die."(Genesis 6:14-17)

In obedience to God's gracious words, Noah was able to build an ark for 120 years to save himself and his family from the judgment of the flood. He preached the word of God's righteousness in the midst of suffering to those who did not know this and continued to eat, drink, marry, and do the fleshly work. He would have preached them to seek grace in

God's eyes. The apostle Peter testified of Noah that he was a preacher of righteousness:

"And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;"(II Peter 2:5)

The Apostle Peter testified that God would once again judge the world by fire as it was in Noah's day:

"³ Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,⁴ And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.⁵ For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:⁶ Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:⁷ But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.⁸ But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up ."(2 Peter 3:3-10)

God the Creator, who spoke to the ancient man Noah, made His only begotten Son, who was God the Word in the beginning, two thousand years ago in the name of Jesus and appeared before His chosen Israelites. John the Baptist testified of Him as full of grace and truth:

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. "(John 1:14)

Just as God saved Noah, who found grace in His eyes, from the coming judgment of the flood, God wanted to save those who sought grace in the eyes of Jesus Christ from the judgment of fire. Jesus proclaimed the gospel of grace to all the world by his own mouth:

"¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

"¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."^(John 3:16-17)

The Apostle Paul testified that those who believe in the grace that God gives through him, that He bled to death on the Cross, to be buried and resurrected on the third day to take away the sins of the world and all the sins in the conscience of man, by grace alone souls will be saved and saved from the Day of Wrath, the Great Tribulation:

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast..... Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."^(Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 5:9)

The Apostle Paul gave a message warning that another gospel would emerge that would change the gospel of salvation by exclusive grace justified by the blood of Jesus Christ:

"⁶ I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:⁷ Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.⁸ But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.⁹ As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than

that ye have received, let him be accursed ."^(Galatians 1:6-9)

Jesus rebuked those who preached a different gospel as lawless workers:

"²¹ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?²³ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity ."^(Matthew 7:21-23)

He also spoke to the Jews on that day who did not believe in the gospel of grace, the way of life in Jesus Christ, but believed in a different gospel:

"²⁴ Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.²⁵ When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:²⁶ Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.²⁷ But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.²⁸ There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.²⁹ And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God."^(Luke 13:24-29)

Amen! Hallelujah!