

January 31–February 6

Genesis 6–11; Moses 8

“Noah Found Grace in the Eyes of the Lord”



# Warning of the Flood

Moses 8:13,17-20

What happens when the Spirit of the Lord no longer strives with man?

## Wilford Woodruff

"Noah was a preacher of righteousness. He was called of God. He was warned of God.... The world had become terribly corrupt, and it was necessary that the people be called upon to repent. To this end God Almighty raised up a prophet. That prophet was Noah. He went forth as he was commanded and preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ in its purity and truth.... For one hundred and twenty years he warned the inhabitants of the earth of the coming flood." (JD, 24:236)

## Harold B. Lee

"For the Spirit of the Lord will not always strive with man. And when the Spirit ceaseth to strive with man then cometh speedy destruction, and this grieveth my soul' (2 Ne. 26:11.)

"Mormon described some people, his people, from whom the spirit of the Lord had departed, and when I read that and then read what I shall now read to you, it seems clear to me that what he was talking about was not merely the inability to have the companionship of or the gift of the Holy Ghost, but he was talking of that light of truth to which every one born into the world is entitled and will never cease to strive with the individual unless he loses it through his own sinning. This is what Mormon said, 'For behold, the Spirit of the Lord hath already ceased to strive with their fathers; and they are without Christ and God in the world; and they are driven about as chaff before the wind... behold, they are led about by Satan, even as chaff is driven before the wind, or as an vessel is tossed about upon the waves, without sail or anchor, or without anything wherewith to steer her; and even as she is, so are they' (Morm. 5:16,18.)" (CR, April 1956)

# Warning of the Flood

Moses 8:22-26

# The Flood

Moses 8:27-30

Why did the Lord decided to “destroy all flesh from the earth”?

## John Taylor

"He gives them fair warning, and they heed it not; but these things must and will most assuredly come.

"What next? Does he destroy them for their good sometimes? Yes. After Noah had preached the Gospel to the antediluvian world, and after their cup of iniquity was full, and Zion and her cities had fled, then followed the judgments of God; then came desolation and destruction. And why this wholesale sweeping out of existence of humanity? To stop them from propagating a corrupt species. Was not that right? Yes it was. He said, I will cut them off;... for these pure spirits in the eternal worlds shall not be contaminated with their corruptions: I will take them off the earth, and I will raise up another people. And He did do it." (JD, 20:109)

# The Flood

Gen 6:14-22



## Paul E. Koelliker

"We too have entered into sacred covenants with the Lord that we might be preserved from the adversary. Just as in Noah's time, we live in a day of prophetic promise and fulfillment. In the past eight years, 71 new temples have been dedicated—a feat, under the direction of the Lord's prophet, which may in some ways be like the building of the ark in Noah's day.

"Our living prophet... has invited us to come through the door of the temple, where we can enter into covenants with the Lord.

"As in Noah's day, our efforts to live these covenants may often be accompanied by a measure of sacrifice. This sacrifice, regardless of how great or small, often determines how committed in mind and heart we are to be submissive to the will of our Heavenly Father." (CR, Oct. 2005)

## W. Don Ladd

"The Lord said to Noah, 'Make thee an ark' and with thee will I establish my covenant.' 'And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him.'...

"We all need to build a personal ark, to fortify ourselves against this rising tide of evil, to protect ourselves and our families against the floodwaters of iniquity around us. And we shouldn't wait until it starts raining, but prepare in advance. This has been the message of all the prophets in this dispensation... as well as the prophets of old." (CR, Oct. 1994)

# The Flood

Gen 7:1-10

What kind of animals did Noah take by sevens and what kind by twos?

How much warning was Noah given to load the ark before the flood rains began to fall?

## Wilford Woodruff

"Noah was 120 years building the ark, we are informed in the Scriptures, and during that time he preached the Gospel. How many who were willing to believe his testimony? Only eight souls in all, including himself. He was very unpopular, I presume, and had as much derision heaped upon his head, for building an ark on dry ground, as any man that ever lived on the earth. But Noah was a prophet and a messenger of God, called to warn that generation and to build an ark.... He had the Spirit of God and was willing to do as he was told, whether the doctrine he preached was popular or unpopular. He built the ark, and went into it with his family, and they were saved. The history of the flood and of the salvation of Noah and his family is well known. He performed the work assigned him to do, and was saved." (JD 11:244)

# The Flood

Gen 7:11-12

## John Taylor

"How they could manage to get enough water out of the seas, and out of the oceans, and out of the rivers, and out of the clouds, to cover the tops of these mountains and fifteen cubits above, and let that spread all over the earth? I would like to know by what known law the immersion of the globe could be accomplished. It is explained here in a few words: 'The windows of heaven were opened' that is, the waters that exist throughout the space surrounding the earth from whence come these clouds from which the rain descends. That was one cause. Another cause was 'the fountains of the great deep were broken up' that is something beyond the oceans, something outside of the seas, some reservoirs of which we have no knowledge, were made to contribute to this event, and the waters were let loose by the hand and by the power of God; for God said He would bring a flood upon the earth and He brought it." (JD: 26:66)

# The Flood

Gen 7:19-24

## L. H. Read

"Bible students from many different backgrounds have seen the ark as a symbol as well as a physical reality....

"Here, then, we see a literal enactment of a great symbolic truth that affects all of us: just as God provided a means (the ark) for Noah's family to escape the waters (death), and reach a glorious promised land, he has also provided a way for us to escape spiritual and physical death and attain a land of promise." ("The Ark of the Covenant: Symbol of Triumph," Ensign, June 1980)



# The Flood Recedes

Gen 8:1-5

## John Taylor

"When the flood commenced to subside, we are told 'that the fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained; And the waters returned from off the earth.' Where did they go to? From whence they came.... [The Bible] simply tells us that 'all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered. Fifteen cubits upwards did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.' That is, the earth was immersed. It was a period of baptism." (JD, 26:66)

# The Flood Recedes

Gen 8:13-17

## George Q. Cannon

"Men have supposed that because the ark rested on Ararat that the flood commenced there, or rather that it was from thence the Ark started to sail. But God in His revelations has informed us that it was on this choice land of Joseph where Adam was placed and the Garden of Eden was laid out." (JD, 11:337)

# The Flood Recedes

Gen 8:20-22

What did the Lord promise about the fruitfulness of the earth?

## Spencer W. Kimball

"The Lord promised after the deluge: 'While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.'

"And the psalmist sang again, 'Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it; thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God... Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers.... The pastures are clothed with flocks... they shout for joy, they also sing.' (Ps. 65:9-10,13)

"... the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.' (Ps. 33:5.)"  
(CR, April 1968)

# The Flood Recedes

Gen 9:1,28-29

# The Tower of Babel

Gen 11:1-9

Why did the people want to build the tower?

What did the Lord do to stop the people from pursuing this wickedness?



## Donald W. Parry

"It is an account of some of Noah's descendants who set aside true temple worship and built a 'pagan temple,' or 'counterfeit temple,' in the form of a great tower. Two statements hint at an attempt to build a temple: 'Let us build... a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven' recalls one of the purposes of temples: to serve as places where God and man can meet. 'Let us make us a name' recalls another purpose of temples: to serve as holy places where individuals take upon themselves the name of Jesus Christ. But the rebellious people under the leadership of King Nimrod lacked real priesthood keys and the authority to build temples." ("The Flood and the Tower of Babel," Ensign, Jan. 1998)

## Spencer W. Kimball

“The confusion of Babel is being overcome. The Finns and the Dutch and the British, the Germans and the French and the Hollanders, the Scandinavians, Italians, Austrians all meeting under one roof! All of them heard the voice of the prophet of the Lord. Everyone of them heard his message in his own tongue. Everyone of them heard the ordinances of the gospel, the ordinances of the temple, in his own tongue. The confusion of Babel is in reverse.” (“Report on Europe,” Improvement Era, Dec. 1955)

Next Week:

February 7–13

Genesis 12–17; Abraham 1–2

“To Be a Greater Follower of  
Righteousness”

