

Audio Teaching Sermon    Message #53    An Ark of Protection

[ **A**    Intro – Pastor Jefferson    0:00 thru 1:16 ]

A big howdy to all friends and worshippers of Jesus Christ! I am Pastor Jefferson, and I'd like to offer up a warm welcome to all of you who are listening to audio sermon **#53** in **DWJD's audio teaching sermon series**. Today, we're continuing with our discussion of Noah and how our society of today—as we approach the **Rapture** and the **2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Christ**—will reflect exactly the characteristics of humanity from back in Noah's time. We've been discussing what the society in the time of Noah might have looked like as compared to what we see happening now, in harmony with what is recorded in God's word. As we read in **Genesis**, God observed that the thoughts and actions of men in Noah's day were continuously evil. And so, He decided that the age of mankind would indeed have an expiration date. He then announced a limit on that length of time as being **120 years**. Today we are going to take a much closer look at that stated duration.

[ **B**    Relating to the End of the World    1:16 thru 2:54 ]

Some folks actually believe that the number of **120 years** is figurative and not a literal length of time. In all my moments of studying Scripture, I can state a few things with certainty. **First**, when the Almighty gives us a number, it is *always* real and *never* metaphoric. **Second**, when God does make use of symbolic language, He will 100% of the time identify that He is doing it. No exceptions. So, the **120-year** timeframe is both literal and real. Interestingly, **Matthew** and **Luke** each present Noah's Flood in an eschatological discourse. The word **eschatological** means '**of or relating to the end of the world or the events associated with it.**' Thus, the prime element which they emphasize in the text is not on the arrival or presence of the flood waters, but rather the suddenness with which the water appeared and the sheer unpreparedness of the people. Only Noah and his family were prepared to deal with the flood. The daily routines of living life back in Noah's time lulled his contemporaries into a false feeling of security. Likewise, the world of today will also be found unready to face the return of the **Son of Man**.

[ **C**    Point of Salvation    2:54 thru 4:31 ]

The parallel between Noah's time and what we see today should serve as a stern warning for all of Christ's disciples to cultivate vigilance, holiness, and readiness rather

than presume upon delay. Just as with Noah, we are not to waste the time God has given to us to prepare. That is the reason for **Yahweh** graciously giving us a **120-year** heads up. Let's take a closer look at the reality of Noah's warning. In Noah's iteration of this time limit in Scripture, we see God deciding to remove humanity from the face of the earth. Other than Noah and those on the ark, every other human being died. The duration of this interval begins at the point when God Notified Noah of His decision [as stated in **Gen 6:13**] and extends to the **point of salvation**. I define the **point of salvation** for Noah and family as **'the moment when they were deemed safe from the deluge of the waters.'** This was the point when the **rain stopped falling** and the ark was safely floating on the top of the waters. The danger for those located inside the ark was past, thereby saving all life aboard. This interval is precisely **120 years**.

[ **D** **To Become Manifest** **4:31 thru 5:48** ]

When we look at Scripture, we can determine this same interval exists in the modern age. Let me stop here and emphatically state that I cannot tell you *how* **God Almighty** does His work. No, I most assuredly cannot. I can only inform you about the times when the *manifestation* of His will can be seen. If you recall from **Sermons #28 & 49**, the definition of the word **manifest** is **'to be readily perceived by the senses and especially our sense of sight.'** This means God will give us something which can be perceived and seen to mark the passage of important prophetic dates. We know from the words of Jesus that the key element marking the "*End Times*" is the appearance of the **Fig Tree**—which we know to be the nation of **Israel**. So, we must look for the earliest document which *initiated* the reemergence of the **Fig Tree**. To be sure, the Hebrews likely pressed for their return to the **Promised Land** right from the day they were deported, but to no avail.

[ **E** **Rest for the Promised Land** **5:48 thru 7:07** ]

God dispersed them among the nations for over **2,500 years** as punishment, due to their failure to honor the **Sabbath Day** while living in the **Promised Land**. They failed to give the land the rest which God had mandated, and so He removed them from the land, so that it would still receive its allotted rest. Therefore, we know from the words of Christ that the return of the Jewish people to the **Promised Land**, via the reconstitution of the nation of **Israel** would be the key event to identifying the **End Times**. The world saw that happen on **14 May 1948**. But, just as with Noah, the world thus received the news that

the start of the end times had indeed begun. God’s stopwatch for another interval of **120 years** had indeed been started. God came to Noah and gave him instructions for what he was to do in order to build an ark. In the modern age, God motivated men to begin the creation of a **Jewish homeland**, once more in the Promised Land of Palestine.

[ **F** **Origin of the Balfour Declaration** **7:07 thru 8:32** ]

The first recorded document we see in modern times formally calling for the reconstitution of the nation of Israel is the **Balfour Declaration**. History records that **Lord Rothschild** sent a letter to **Arthur Balfour** on **18 July 1917**. We can read for ourselves that his letter was in response to Balfour’s request as to what was needed to get the ball rolling to initiate efforts toward establishing a Jewish state in Palestine—aka the **Promised Land**. I view this in the same way as Noah asking God what he needed to do in order to fulfill Yahweh’s will. In his letter, Rothschild stated there were 2 requirements. **First**, the British government must accept the principles that Palestine should be reconstituted as the **National Jewish Homeland** for the Hebrew people. This is akin to Noah hearing God and then accepting that a worldwide flood was indeed coming. And **2<sup>nd</sup>**, Britain must agree to use its best endeavors to secure achievement of this goal. This is equivalent to Noah agreeing to spend the time gathering the materials and then constructing an ark.

[ **G** **Origin of Modern End of the Age** **8:32 thru 10:16** ]

We don’t know the instant when Arthur Balfour received and read Rothchild’s letter, but a week later, on **23 July 1917**, seems to be a reasonable date. If we go forward exactly **120 years** from this date, we arrive at the expected date of the **Rapture**: [**23 July 2037**] or the **“Point of Salvation.”** We then discover this to be an exact match of God’s duration from the time Noah was notified until the rain ceased. Coincidence? You decide. The date of **23 July 2037** was computed using other associated Scriptures back in the time frame of **2010**—a date removed over 15 years from this audio sermon. Therefore, these computations have in no way been *“backed in”* or *manipulated* in any manner, for the purpose of being made to somehow fit in with another date. The date of the **Rapture**, as with every other day or date I have been divinely led to discover, always has at least two other dates and/or prophecies which corroborate its accuracy. God does not do things by halves. And as we thoroughly discussed in **Sermon #49**, the Bible does not state that the day or date of the Rapture is cloaked from His disciples. Jesus specifically stated that only

the timing of the destruction of the heaven and the earth is unknown to us.

[ **H** God's Invitation to Salvation 10:16 thru 11:44 ]

So, how do we know that these 2 timelines line up in this manner? In order to determine that, open your Bible to **Genesis 7:1**. <sup>1</sup> "Then said YAHWEH to Noah, <sup>2</sup> come, <sup>3</sup> you and all your household, <sup>4</sup> into the ark <sup>5</sup> because I have seen that you are righteous before Me <sup>6</sup> in this generation." The words we find in this verse are all commonly used, with the sole exception of the word for **generation**, as seen in T-6. The Hebrew word we see is [1] **bad-DO-wr**, is used just this once and means '**a revolution of time, an age or of a certain time.**' It translates to mean all the people living at that particular time. Noah was unique in that of the whole world; he alone was found to be righteous before God. I want to point out the word **come** found in T-2. It is the Hebrew word **BOW**, and it is among the most commonly used action words in the Hebrew Scriptures. It expresses movement toward a goal. In this case, it is an invitation and means '**to enter into the ark,**' which is representative of God's covenant of salvation.

[ **I** Creating a Covenant 11:44 thru 13:29 ]

Next we take a look at **Genesis 6:18**. It says, <sup>1</sup> "But I will establish <sup>2</sup> My covenant with you, <sup>3</sup> and you shall enter into the ark, <sup>4</sup> you and your sons, <sup>5</sup> and your wife and the wives of your sons <sup>6</sup> with you," The word we see for **establish** in T-1 is **wah-hah-qui-MO-tee** and means '**to stand up, to create, or to set up.**' God here is discussing constituting a covenant with Noah. The word for **covenant** seen in T-2 is **beh-RIH-tee** and means '**a compact, a confederacy or a constitution.**' A **constitution** in this context is defined as '**the basic principles determining the powers and duties of God Almighty which will be used to guarantee the certain privileges for those who He finds to be ready subjects to His will.**' In this case, T's 3 thru 6 state that Noah and his family will be allowed to enter into the ark. The word we find for **enter** is **ooh-BAH-tah** and has the same meaning as **BOW** from the previous verse. We look now at **Genesis 7:16**. It reads, <sup>1</sup> "And as they arrived, <sup>2</sup> male and female of all flesh, <sup>3</sup> they entered in as God had commanded him. <sup>4</sup> Then shut YAHWEH (implying a door) **behind him.**" [speaking of Noah].

[ **J** God Shut Them In 13:29 thru 14:56 ]

We see in this verse that the arrival of the animals and creatures must have been

orchestrated by God Himself. And Noah loaded all the live cargo just as God directed Him to do. There is an important point to consider here: Noah didn't load the animals in just any old manner. In fact, **T-3** makes it clear he was not allowed to deviate from the plan in any way. No, he followed the specific directions of God Almighty just as was commanded. Look now at **T-5**. The word we see for **then shut** is [6] **way-yis-GOR**. It means '**to close up, or to enclose.**' In the 5 other places we see it in Scripture, it's discussing the *closing of a door*. And in the one other place it was used, we see God closing up the flesh of Adam, after removing the DNA material He used to create Eve. The word for **behind him** is [9] **bah-ah-DOW** and means '**behind, for the benefit of, or about**'—as in shielding something. It implies the closing of the door on the ark behind Noah. It's used in the context of providing protection for all those aboard the ark.

[ **K** Done For Our Protection 14:56 thru 16:15 ]

This reminds me of when we used to have all night skating parties back when I was in high school. The church would shut all of us in the skating rink for the night. All the exterior doors would be locked so that no one from the outside could come in (and none of us could leave either). And of course, there were chaperones to ensure everyone had a safe, fun and entertaining evening. We all willingly entered the building but were prevented from leaving—just like Noah and his family on the ark. Once aboard, no one could get off. It was God Almighty who closed the door behind them, effectively shutting them in. In the same way it was for a bunch of teens, God did it for their protection. Now we see here God giving us details from Noah's day, which brings clarity in the modern age. Look now at **Genesis 7:4**. It reads, <sup>1</sup> "For after seven more days, <sup>2</sup> I will cause it to rain on the earth <sup>3</sup> for forty days and forty nights; <sup>4</sup> and I will destroy all living things I have made <sup>5</sup> from the face of the earth."

[ **L** Extermination of All Life 16:15 thru 17:41 ]

In Noah's time, there was judgment coming. In the same way, humanity is facing the same threat in the modern age. Jesus is warning us of coming judgment. Look at the words **I will destroy** in **T-4**. There is but one Hebrew word present, and it is [2] **ooh-mah-HIT-tee**. It means '**to abolish, blot out or to erase.**' In case you were wondering, **blot out** means '**to exterminate.**' What is God going to exterminate? Look at the words **living things**. The Hebrew for that is [3] **hay-QUM** and in each of the 3 times it is used, it

'**designates every living thing**' which includes all forms of life found within the context of the verse. Every living thing not found aboard the ark was destroyed. Let's take a moment and compare this to the coming final days of mankind. During the last half of the Tribulation, all manner of plagues and curses will be afflicting those living on the earth—especially those bearing the mark of the Anti-Christ. The numbers of those refusing to accept the mark will be rapidly dwindling as they are being killed off by the forces of evil.

[ **M** A fresh Heaven and Earth 17:41 thru 18:53 ]

As we move closer and closer to the **Second Coming of Christ**, fewer and fewer people will remain who won't be wearing the evil mark of the beast. When the final person without it is killed, the only people remaining will be those who are ripe for destruction and those Hebrew people sequestered in the city of **Petra**. Petra will be the equivalent of Noah's ark. All who reside inside that city will be kept safe, under the hand of God's protection. Just as in Noah's day, all life not inside the ark of **Petra**, will be destroyed—to include all life on the face of the earth. So, all the remaining people, all animals and all creatures on the earth will be eradicated. All life on land and in the ocean will be destroyed. John wrote in **Rev 21:1**, <sup>1</sup> "Then I saw a fresh heaven and a fresh earth; <sup>2</sup> for the first heaven and the first earth went away, <sup>3</sup> and there was no longer any sea."

[ **Z** Some Final Thoughts 18:53 thru 20:16 ]

After the destruction of this sinful world, God is going to refresh the earth, removing all the corruption caused by the sin of Adam's race. Creation will be remade back to a Garden of Eden state and the oceans will be drained away. All of this will be done to make ready the earth for the Millennial Reign of **Jesus Christ**, our **LORD** and **Savior**. God will make new animals that will eat grass and not each other. All the flora and fauna will be returned to their normal state of perfection. And God will drain the oceans to make space for all the people who ever lived to return after the great resurrection. All who never rejected Christ will be brought back, to live in cities that were not built with their hands. Each person will be taught the Gospel by those of us who were Raptured. We will finally get our chance to evangelize the entire world. Hey, we will continue this discussion in the next audio sermon. So, that's all for now. **So, until next time my beloved, this has been Pastor Jefferson, speaking in God's Holy name and for His glory alone. Amen!**