



The Good News Story – Tracing the **Scarlet Thread of Redemption from Genesis to Revelation**

Jesus is the Central Character in God's good News Story. He is The Scarlet thread of Redemption that holds all things together!

In Genesis — Jesus is the Word of God, creating the heavens and the earth; He is the promised Seed of the woman.

Key Take-Aways

- Creation was orderly and good
- The Principle of Rest Introduced
- Our True Identity is Revealed
- Charge to be Responsible & Good Stewards
- Sin has broken our relationship with God
- God has provided a way of Redemption

FINAL THOUGHT -

- Each Person must choose this Lifeline (Jesus Christ) to be redeemed & restored

Tracing The Scarlet Thread

Revelation 13:8... “And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship Him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”

1 Peter 1:19-21... “^[19] But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: ^[20] For He was chosen or foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for your sake, ^[21] and through Him you believe [confidently] in God [the heavenly Father], who raised Him [Christ] from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are [centered and rest] in God.

Genesis 2:15...¹⁵ Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Genesis 3:6,7... ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings...¹³ And the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Genesis 3:15... “And I will put enmity (open hostility) Between you and the woman, And between your seed (offspring) and her Seed; He shall [fatally] bruise your head, And you shall [only] bruise His heel.” (AMP)

Genesis 3:21... *The LORD God made clothing from skins for the man and his wife, and he clothed them.*

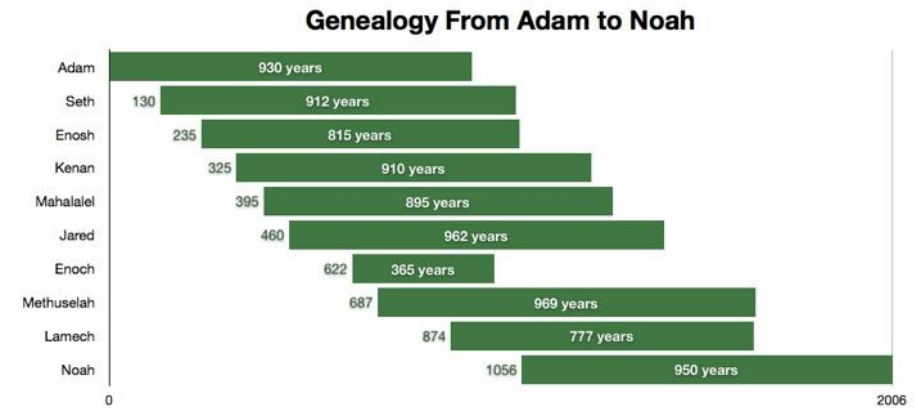
From the very beginning of human history, it is revealed. When Adam and Eve sinned, God shed innocent blood in order to make them clothes from animal skins (Genesis 3:21). This is a picture of the covering of righteousness that we receive when the Lord Jesus Christ died for us.

Genesis 4:8... *Then Cain spoke to Abel his brother; and it happened when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.*

Genesis 4:10-15...¹⁰ *And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground."*¹¹ *So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.*¹² *When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth."*¹³ *And Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear!"*¹⁴ *Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me."*¹⁵ *And the LORD said to him, "Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him.*

Genesis 4:25-26...²⁵ *And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, "For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed."*²⁶ *And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.*

It is through the lineage of Enosh that our Lord Jesus Christ is descended.



<http://www.hopefromthebible.com/genealogy-from-adam-to-noah>

“Since Noah was born 1,056 years after the creation and the universal flood occurred when Noah was 600 years (Genesis 7:11-12), we determine that the flood occurred 1,656 years after the creation. Therefore, it is apparent that Methuselah died just before the flood started or at the beginning of the flood since he died in the 1,656 year after the creation. The flood lasted 371 days and ended in the 601st year, second month, and twenty-seventh day of Noah’s life” (Gen. 8:13-14). <https://www.neverthirsty.org/bible-qa/qa-archives/question/where-did-noah-come-from/>

According to Christianity.com, "Noah is first mentioned in the Bible when his father Lamech predicted the upcoming destruction of the earth and Noah’s role in restoring mankind: ***“He will comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed.”*** (Genesis 5:29)."

Hebrews 11:7...⁷ *By faith Noah, after he was warned about what was not yet seen and motivated by godly fear, built an ark to deliver his family. By faith he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.*

Some material adapted from

- (1) <https://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/the-flood-scott-jensen-sermon-on-love-245668>
- (2) Adapted from “Old Testament Highlights”, by Jim Townsend)

“Sin had grown so great, that God decided to start over, erase the world, and begin again. It’s a story of the tragedy of sin.

As Jim Townsend states “sin is not static; it spirals (out of control). We see in these early chapters of Genesis the ever-expanding dimensions of sin,...We see sin and its:

- Depth – as it sinks to the lowest ebb and ends the life of Abel (Cain killing Abel)
- Breadth – as it covers the earth at the societal level both extensively (‘how great in in 6:5a) and intensively (‘every inclinations of the their thoughts were evil all the time (6:5b, chapters 6-9)
- Height – as a prideful mankind attempts to reach up to heaven and in essence take on God and His authority. (Gen. 11:1-10) (2)

These Four Words sum up this section of the story:
Deterioration > Devastation>Salvation>Scattering

We see the continued downward DETERIORATION of human society into sin. Then we see God’s actions of DEVASTATION in the Flood account. Then we see the SALVATION of God by having Noah build an Ark to save those who followed His ways. Then we see the SCATTERING of the nations at Babel as they began this cycle again.

“The Bible starts with the miracle of creation. In six days, God created a perfect earth, with perfect plants, perfect animals and a perfect man. And after He created all of this, “**God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.**” (Genesis 1:31, ESV).

God took man and placed him in a perfect garden, a perfect home with perfect food to eat, then He created a perfect companion for Adam, in his bride Eve.

He gave them only one command to follow: “**You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.**” (Genesis 2:17, NIV 84) But the perfect world didn’t last long.

Neither Adam nor Eve followed this command. They ate what they were forbidden to touch, and with that first sin, the whole of creation fell, and the world became an imperfect place.

It wasn’t too long after that, that their children also broke the rules. Cain became jealous of his brother Abel and committed the first murder. Additional generations progressed even further into the evils of sin.

Cain’s great-great-grandson, Lamech, showed his arrogance and disregard for God’s creation, and his disrespect for life. He intimidated his wives, by admitting, and even by bragging about, killing men in acts of vengeance. He compared himself to Cain that He was the greater sinner. What a thing to brag about. Man became unbelievably evil. The problem leading up to the

Great Flood was the sin that continued to grow, with man's heart focused on violence and corruption.

“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.”
(Genesis 6:5, NIV 84)

This “very good” earth that God created, became tainted to the point that God's actions were both warranted, and required. As a just God, He had to respond.

There was one man who followed God. Noah was a righteous man and considered blameless, different from his peers. The Bible tells us that he walked with God. It also tells us that, ***“Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.”*** (Genesis 6:8, ESV)

God told Noah of the pending destruction that would cleanse the earth of the wickedness. Everything that Noah knew was about to change. The people he traded with, the friends in the neighborhood, the roads he traveled on... all of that was going away.

But, for Noah, there was another plan. God told Noah to build an Ark to save him and his family. And Noah did everything just as God commanded.

He found the trees and cut them down, hewed the wood to make the planks and timbers, and assembled them to build the Ark that would hold an untold number of animals, and food. The build required thousands of trees to create a structure that was more than 1 ½ football

fields long and may have taken 75 years or so to build. Something that large is going to grab the attention of your neighbors.

And that attention allowed Noah to talk to those around him, for years. The Apostle Peter called Noah ***“a preacher of righteousness”*** (2 Peter 2:5, CSB), and what did Noah preach about?

He must've told others what he was doing, and why he was doing it. That made the Ark a huge warning of the destruction that was coming, and a constant indication of God's judgement on those that didn't follow Him.

The story of Noah is more than a big boat and a world changing flood. It's the story of the revealed character of God. It shows us His holy nature, His justice, and His righteousness.

Key Take-Aways From this Story:

1. We can grieve the heart of God with our sin.
Genesis 6:5-7...⁵ When the LORD saw that man's wickedness was widespread on the earth and that every scheme his mind thought of was nothing but evil all the time, ⁶ the LORD regretted that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. ⁷ Then the LORD said, “I will wipe off from the face of the earth mankind, whom I created, together with the animals, creatures that crawl, and birds of the sky—for I regret that I made them.”

2. God always provides a way for us to begin again with Him.

Genesis 6:8-14...⁸ Noah, however, found favor in the sight of the LORD.⁹ These are the family records of Noah. Noah was a righteous and blameless among his contemporaries; Noah walked with God. ¹⁰ And Noah fathered three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with wickedness. ¹² God saw how corrupt the earth was, for every creature had corrupted its way on the earth. ¹³ Then God said to Noah, "I have decided to put an end to every creature, for the earth is filled with wickedness because of them; therefore I am going to destroy them along with the earth. ¹⁴ "Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it with pitch inside and outside.

Genesis 7:11-13, 16b... "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark... Then the Lord shut him in."

3. We will not always understand God and His ways, but we can trust & obey Him.

Genesis 7:5,7... "And Noah did all that the Lord commanded him. And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood."

Isaiah 55:8-9 ... "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

4. There is always a reason to give thanks.

Genesis 8:20,21; 9:1a... "Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and... Then God blessed Noah and his sons..."

5. God is a promise keeper.

God is a promise keeper. All of His words are true. Not one of His promises can be broken. He is good to His word and His covenants are eternal. He is found faithful. Always.

He kept His promise to Noah and He will keep His promises to you and me.

Genesis 9:12... "And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come."

6. God loves us and has a plan for us that is for our eternal good.

Genesis 9:9... shows us that God's covenant reaches all the way to us today. *"I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you."*

Genesis 11:4-9...⁴ *And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the sky. Let us make a name for ourselves; otherwise, we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth."*⁵ Then the LORD came down to look over the city and the tower that the men were building. ⁶ *The LORD said, "If they have begun to do this as one people all having the same language, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. ⁷ Come, let Us go down there and confuse their language so that they will not understand one another's speech."*⁸ So from there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth, and they stopped building the city. ⁹ *Therefore its name is called Babylon, for there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth, and from there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.*

Adapted from <https://www.ibelieve.com/faith/10-theological-truths-from-the-story-of-noah-that-still-matter-today.html#:~:text=10.%20God%20loves%20us%20and%20has%20a%20plan%20for%20us%20that%20is%20for%20our%20eternal%20good>.

Additional reading material to follow

“Two ways that the story of Noah, shows us who God is.

First, God is patient with us, even though we don’t deserve it.

It took time for Noah to do his work. But God waited while Noah built. Peter wrote:

“God patiently waited in the days of Noah while the ark was being prepared.” (1 Peter 3:20, CSB)

What did God wait for? The warning of the Ark being built lasted several decades. Year after year, the boat was created and I’m sure lots of people asked why. All that time, Noah was a preacher, a prophet, a messenger. I imagine that he allowed anyone in earshot to hear the message that judgement day was coming. The evil world had the opportunity to listen, and repent, but didn’t heed his warning.

They rejected God’s honorable messenger Noah and rejected God’s message of redemption. They missed the warning of doom that God sent their way.

God was patient to allow people to learn of what was coming. But none chose to leave their comfortable lives of wickedness and sin.

God is still patient with us today. Some of us may still have some learning to do. There may be trust issues and doubts that we need to remove from our lives. Some of us may have experiences that we need to live out,

perhaps to strengthen our faith, or maybe moments to build the faith of those around us.

For others, maybe we need to wrestle with God’s will. Somedays, we may struggle with sin, even when we know the difference between right and wrong. There may be other times when we fall, and don’t realize what we’ve done. A misspoken word, an angry outburst, an unforgiving heart... For any of those times that we fail to meet God’s standard, He’s patient with us too.

God was patient with the world during the time of Noah. He’s still patient with us today.

Second, God equips us to handle all the challenges that come our way. Noah wasn’t expecting to make a boat. Yet, that was the task that he received.

God provided the plans and explained what was needed to build the Ark. Noah followed the instructions. That construction took years to unfold, but God ensured that Noah had the time, the talent, and the materials to build the wooden structure.

Even though Noah was given this task from God, he didn’t have everything he needed all at once. He had what he needed, when he needed it. We don’t know if Noah had any boat-building experience. But we do know that God equipped Noah to take on the challenge of building the Ark.

Lots of things happen in our lives that we don’t anticipate, and we may not feel ready to take on those

challenges. There are moments when life is really painful. Events that we don't want to experience. Maybe events that we know we need to go through, and we just want to get them over with.

With all the talk about the Corona or Covid-19 virus, I think about how we cope with illness, and how we just want to get through feeling terrible and get back on with our lives. We don't want to deal with feeling bad, but illness often comes our way anyway. We don't want to hear the words of surgery, or procedure... cancer, or flu... or any of those diseases that can really affect our way of life.

There may be days when things don't go the way we expect them to go, days when problems get in the way of our routine. Financial problems, relationship problems, health issues, and maybe problems with loved ones, or even deaths in the family.

No matter what's happening in our life, God has a plan for us too. He loves each and every one of us, and gives us what's necessary for our journey. It may be, that the problems we have, seem impossible to solve. God's calendar doesn't always line up with our schedule, but it does line up with what we need.

The Israelites struggled with God's plan too. They wanted their promised land now, but God had them wander in the desert for 40 years. When God saw they were ready, THEN God led them to their new home.

But, when they were almost there, Moses died, and Joshua took over. Change can be an uncomfortable thing. God told Joshua:

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9, ESV)

When it seems like hope is nowhere to be found, we may need to remind ourselves, that God is still there with us, preparing us for the challenges that we face, and guiding us through every difficulty.

When we're facing our own flood of problems, God remains by our side, loving us, and supporting us. God prepared Noah for his journey. God plans ours too.

From creation, to corruption, to catastrophe, to redemption God has been there with man from the very beginning. He loves His creation, and shows patience, even when the world rejects Him. God's patience extends to us, and to the rest of the world, as He waits for some, to turn to His will.

Even faithfully following God, we're going to experience challenges and problems in our life. But in the worst of our moments, God still loves us and is there for us. He equips us to handle the challenges in our life, and has already planned out the next step in our journey"

.(Some material adapted from

<https://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/the-flood-scott-jensen-sermon-on-love-245668>)

Goals:

Knowledge

- To understand that the righteousness that comes by faith in the Word of God. Jesus is the only thing that can save you.
- To know that God has patience and desires to show us grace and mercy by providing a time to repent of our sins.
- To recognize that there is severe punishment for sin and that God is a just judge who must not leave sin unpunished.

Attitude

- To be convicted by sin and conscious of our need for grace.
- To believe that God is faithful and is able to preserve us in a world that is evil.
- To trust that God has a bigger plan than what we might be able to see.

Actions

- To live by faith and obey the Lord's Word by faith.
(Orality Bible Stories)

Application Questions:

1. What does God see when He looks at our sinful hearts? (Genesis 6:5-6 He sees great wickedness in us. He sees a heart that loves evil and sinful behavior in thought, word, and action. This grieves Him.)
2. What do we learn from this story about how God must respond to wickedness? (Genesis 6:5-8 We learn that God must take action against the sin in people. He judges the evil because He is holy and cannot tolerate sin. 2 Peter 3:3-7)

3. What makes us righteous in the eyes of God when He looks upon us? (Genesis 6:9-10 God sees us as righteous when we believe by faith in His Word, Jesus Christ. Hebrews 11:7)

4. What does it mean to walk with God? (Genesis 6:9 It means to abide with Him in everything, His Word, His will and His promises)

5. What do we learn about the character of God by His saving Noah and his family from the flood? (Genesis 6:13-19) We see that God is gracious to those who trust in Him. He keeps for Himself faithful people to receive His promised inheritance.)

7. How can Jesus be seen as a type of "ark" for believers? (Just as Noah and his family went into the ark to be saved and be delivered from the surrounding storm/flood, Jesus saved us from the destruction of sin and eternal death. 1 Peter 3:20-21)

8. What ark has God given the church to build? (Matthew 28:19-20 Christ's Great Commission was to tell the whole world about Him, baptizing the believers and teaching them to obey His commands so they might be saved from the coming judgment.)

9. What parallel does Noah's altar to the Lord have? (Genesis 8:20 The altar is where the sacrifice for sin is made. It is on the altar of the cross that our sin was paid for.)

10. What does the rainbow mean for us? (Genesis 9:13 God keeps his promises. He will never destroy the earth by a flood again.)

11. What response can we have when the Lord protects us from life's floods? (Just like Noah, we can have a response of praise and honor for His mercy." Orality Bible Stories)