# A REFUGE FROM THE WRATH TO COME

October 18th, 2026

**The Search for Significance // Genesis 7:1-24**

## Message Context

Genesis 7 recounts God's righteous judgment upon a world consumed by wickedness. The flood was not merely a natural disaster but a supernatural act of divine judgment, demonstrating the seriousness of sin and the holiness of God. Yet amid this terrible destruction, God graciously provided a refuge for Noah and his family through the ark. The same waters that destroyed sinful humanity carried the ark safely through judgment. This account reveals God as both the righteous Judge and the gracious Savior who faithfully preserves His promises. Just as Noah found refuge from the flood in the ark, sinners today can find refuge from the coming judgment in Jesus Christ, our true and better ark. Unlike the ark, which merely carried Noah through judgment, Christ bore the judgment our sins deserved upon Himself. Therefore, all who are in Christ can confidently proclaim that there is now no condemnation for them (Romans 8:1).

## CONNECT – Announcements (page 2) & Building Relationships

1. Have you ever experienced a severe storm or a situation where you urgently needed to find shelter? What happened?
2. When you think about Noah's ark, what images or details first come to mind? How might those impressions differ from the actual account in Genesis 7?

## REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives

3. **Read Genesis 7:1-24.** What stands out to you most from a fresh reading of the passage, and is there anything from the message that you want to be sure we don't miss as a group?
4. What does Genesis 7 reveal about God's character? How do we see both His righteousness in judgment and His graciousness in salvation?
5. God preserved Noah and his family, not because Noah was sinless, but because God graciously extended His favor to him. Why is it important to understand salvation as an act of God's grace rather than something we earn?
6. How does God's preservation of Noah connect to His earlier promise in Genesis 3:15? What does this reveal about God's faithfulness to His promises?
7. Genesis 7 repeatedly emphasizes Noah's obedience to God's commands. How does Noah's example demonstrate the relationship between genuine faith and obedience? How should we seek to emulate his example? **Consider Hebrews 11:7.**
8. In verse 16, we read that the Lord shut Noah into the ark. What does this detail teach us about God's sovereignty in salvation and our dependence upon Him?

9. Genesis 7:23 explicitly identifies God as the one who wiped out living creatures from the earth. Why is it important to recognize God's active role in judgment rather than viewing the flood as merely a natural disaster?
10. “God is not less good because He judges sin, nor is He less holy because He extends grace to sinners.” Why is it important that we never minimize either God's holiness or His grace? What happens when we emphasize one at the expense of the other?
11. Genesis 7:18 describes the waters prevailing upon the earth while the ark floated upon them. How does this powerful image illustrate God's provision of salvation amid judgment?
12. Pastor Avery described Jesus as the "true and better ark." In what ways does Christ provide a greater salvation than the ark provided for Noah? **Consider Romans 3:23–26 and 1 Peter 2:24.**
13. In light of God's righteous judgment against sin, how much sweeter is the promise of Romans 8:1: “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus”? Knowing that we deserved condemnation but have received salvation by God's grace, how should this deepen our gratitude toward God and motivate us to live for His glory?
14. How should the certainty of future judgment and the promise of salvation in Christ change how we live today, particularly in our worship, evangelism, and personal holiness?

## 🛡 PROTECT – Care for one another (divided, gender-specific groups)

15. Are there areas of your life where you have minimized or excused sin rather than recognizing its seriousness before a holy God?
16. Do you struggle more with fearing God's judgment or resting in His grace? How does the gospel help us hold these truths together?
17. Is there someone in your life who needs to hear about the refuge God has provided in Jesus Christ? How can you intentionally share the gospel with them this week?

## Announcements

**Stew Fundraiser: October 24th @ 10:30 am –** Order a Brunswick Stew here: https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10C054EA8A92AA7F4CF8-62446766-brunswick?useFullSite=false

## Resources for Going Deeper

- I highly encourage you to read the entirety of the flood narrative from Genesis 7-9 as one unit.
- **How Could All the Animals Fit? -** https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/how-could-all-animals-fit-ark/
- **How Did Animals Get to the Ark? -** https://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/how-animals-get-to-ark/
- **The Flood as Unique, Historical, Yearlong, Global -** https://answersingenesis.org/the-flood/global/biblical-necessity-global-flood/