



THE FLOOD PART IX ENTERING THE ARK - THE COMPLIANCE

Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth. So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth, two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah. And it came to pass after seven days that the waters of the flood were on the earth. Genesis 7:6-10

In this passage we have the actual entering of the ark. First, Noah brought his wife and family into the ark . . . NO! It does not say that. It says *with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives*. If you are looking for a scripture that teaches “household salvation,” this is certainly not it (there are none). Each of the eight persons who was afforded salvation in the ark entered of their own will. Each accepted the gift of salvation personally.

Before we continue, we must straighten up some Hebrew grammar. According to our English translations, they entered because of the flood waters on the earth. But verse ten says that the flood waters did not come for another seven days! *So Noah . . . went into the ark because of the waters of the flood* does not mean the water had come. It means he and his family entered because the coming was imminent.

Think of it. It had to be before the waters came they entered the ark. After the rain started pouring down, they would have had to fight for space on the ark because of all the other people trying to get in. The act of entering the Ark had to be an act of faith, not of fact. Noah and family were in the ark a full seven days before the flood commenced.

Now, let us look at the animals. The text does not say that Noah led them in. *Two by two they went into the ark to Noah*. Noah was not the one who brought them into the ark. Was it natural instinct? If that were the

case, there would have been a lot more than two of each species. No - God instructed the animals who were to enter the ark. If you do not believe that God can speak to animals, consider Balaam's donkey.

Now the donkey saw the Angel of the Lord standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand, and the donkey turned aside out of the way and went into the field. So Balaam struck the donkey to turn her back onto the road. . . . Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" Numbers 22:23 & 28

God selected those animals who were to enter (why He selected gophers, I don't know!) We have been considering the spiritual applications of this account. Here I think it necessary to consider one physical aspect. How could he get all these animals on the ark? You have to realize that today there are 1000's of breeds of dogs, but then there was probably only one. While we do not believe in evolution between species, it is certainly the case that the multitude of animals evolved from considerably fewer ancestors.

We shall consider the completion of the entering the Ark next week. For now we shall look ahead to one very important verse.

So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the Lord shut him in. Genesis 7:16

We skipped over the instructions regarding the door when we looked at the ark. God instructed Noah to put a door in the ark. God always provides a door for our salvation. *I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.* John 10:9

Note that it was God who shut the door! No one else could get in because God had shut it. Have you considered that, in addition, no one could get out! Once Noah and family had entered the ark, their salvation was assured. No one could ever take that from them. God had sealed them in!

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