HAVE YOU FOUND GRACE IN THE EYES OF THE LORD?

**SONG…..**

**PRAYER**

**SCRIPTURE READING….**Genesis 6:1-14….6 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,2That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.3And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.4There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.5And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.6And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.7And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.8But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.9These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.10And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.11The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.12And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.13And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

**Main Scripture…**[**Genesis 6:8**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Genesis%206.8)**….** **“But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.”**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. In [**Gen 6:5-7**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%206.5-7), we read of God's displeasure with the world and its

 wickedness

2. But as God pronounces judgment upon the world, and prepares to

 destroy it with a flood, we find encouraging words concerning one

 man:

 **"But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord." -** [**Gen 6:8**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%206.8)

3. This simply means that Noah found favor in God's sight, and we know

 the result of that favor: escape for him and his family from the

 flood!

 a. But The question to ask is……why Noah?

 b. Why did Noah find grace in the eyes of the Lord?

 c. And how might we apply this to our situation today?

**Let us examine why Noah found Grace in the Eyes of the Lord….**

**I. WHY NOAH FOUND GRACE IN THE EYES OF THE LORD**

 **A.** [**Gen 6:9**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%206.9) **says…** **HE WAS "A JUST MAN" -** These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

 1. Some translations say **"righteous"**

 2. This refers to his moral relation to God.

 **B.** [**Gen 6:9**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%206.9) **HE WAS "PERFECT IN HIS GENERATIONS" -**

 1. the NIV uses the word **"blameless"**

 2. Not that he was sinless, but that there were no blatant faults

 3. He was a **man of moral integrity** among the people

 **C.** [**Gen 6:9**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%206.9) **HE "WALKED WITH GOD"**

 1. This is how he manifested his righteousness and integrity

 2. In walking with God, he imitated the example of Enoch, his

 great-grandfather –

[**Gen 5:24**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%205.24)**…**24And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.

 3. Walking with God in Noah's case likely involved...

 a. Calling upon the name of the Lord (which began in the days

 of Seth –

[**Gen 4:26**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%204.26))…. 26And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the Lord.

 b. Offering sacrifices to God (which began in the days of Cain

 & Abel –

[**Gen 4:3-4**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%204.3-4)) 3And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.4And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

 **D. Noah… "DID ACCORDING TO ALL THAT THE LORD COMMANDED HIM"**

 1. Twice this is emphasized in the Scriptures –

[**Gen 6:22**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%206.22)**;** 22Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

**Gen** [**7:5**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%207.5)**…..** 5And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him.

 2. The book of Hebrews tells us that this obedience of

 Noah came from faith –

[**He 11:7**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/He%2011.7)**..** 7By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

 **E. HE WAS "A PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS" –**

[**2Pe 2:5**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Pe%202.5)**….**5And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

 1. He not only "lived" a righteous life

 2. But he also "proclaimed" the need for righteousness, even though

 he lived in a very ungodly world

 3. Today we need more men and women to become…..

**" PREACHERS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS" seeing and knowing what soon shall happen!!!**

[Noah was an unusual man, but only he and his family **"found grace in the eyes of the Lord."**

**What about today, as in ourselves?**

Is there a need for us to **"find grace in the eyes of the Lord"** today? Yes!]

**II. WHY DO WE NEED TO FIND GRACE IN THE EYES OF THE LORD.**

 **A. NOT BECAUSE WE FACE THE THREAT OF A WORLDWIDE FLOOD...**

 1. After Noah and his family were saved from the flood, God

 promised He would never again destroy the world in such a

 manner –

[**Gen 9:8-11**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%209.8-11)**….8And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying,9And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you;10And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth.11And I will establish my covenant with you, neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.**

 2. The rainbow is a constant reminder of God's promise –

**Gen 9:12-17…. 12And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations:13I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.14And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:15And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.16And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.17And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.**

 **B. BUT BECAUSE WE FACE THE PROMISE OF THE END OF THE WORLD!**

 1. Peter reminds us that just as the world was once destroyed by

 water, so it shall be destroyed by fire when Jesus returns!

 -

[**2Pe 3:3-13**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Pe%203.3-13)**….**

 2. In view of this promise, Peter calls upon us to

**"be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless"**

 -

[**2Pe 3:14**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Pe%203.14)….Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

 a. Just as Noah **"found grace in the eyes of the Lord"**...

 b. So we need to be **"found by Him in peace, without spot and**

 **blameless"**

 3. Is this not simply another way of saying that we, like Noah,

 need to find grace in the eyes of the Lord?

[Indeed, it is! When the end of the world comes, we had better be in a

condition where we too find grace in the eyes of the Lord! Otherwise,

we will be like those left outside of the ark when the floods came!

Using Noah as an example, then, consider...]

**III. HOW WE CAN FIND GRACE IN THE EYES OF THE LORD**

 **A. WE MUST BE "JUST" IN HIS SIGHT...**

 1. Fortunately, the good news of the gospel is that God sent

 Christ in order to make us "just" (righteous, forgiven) in His

 sight! –

[**Ro 5:8-9**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%205.8-9)**…8But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.9Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.**

 2. This blessing is available to all who demonstrate true faith

 in Jesus –

[**Ro 3:24-26**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%203.24-26)**….24Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:25Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;26To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.**

 3. Being justified, we can have peace with God (concerning which

 Peter wrote) –

[**Ro 5:1**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%205.1)**;** **Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:**

 **B. WE MUST BE "PERFECT" IN OUR GENERATION...**

 1. That is, to be complete, mature, to be everything God desires

 of us

 2. Again, the good news of the gospel of Christ is that God has

 provided the necessary elements for us to be "perfect"!

**What are some of the tools or elements that God has provided…..**

 a. **The blood of Christ**, to cleanse us of our sins -

[**1Jn 1:7-9**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Jn%201.7-9)…7But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.8If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.9If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

 b. **The Word of God**, to guide us to completion –

[**2Ti 3:16-17**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Ti%203.16-17)**…16All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:17That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**

 c. **The strength of the Spirit**, to help us in our struggles -

[**Ep 3:16**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%203.16)**; 16That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man**

[**Ro 8:13**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%208.13)**…13For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.**

d. **The providence of God**, who will work with us and lead us to

 victory! –

[**2Th 3:3**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Th%203.3)**; 3But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil**

[**1Pe 5:10**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%205.10)**…10But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.**

 **C. WE MUST "WALK WITH GOD"...**

 1. Of course, this would mean that we can "no longer walk as the

 rest of the Gentiles walk..." - cf.

[**Ep 4:17-20**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%204.17-20)**….17This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,18Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:19Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.20But ye have not so learned Christ;**

 2. Rather, it requires that we be **"followers of God as dear**

 **children"**

[**Ep 5:1**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%205.1))  Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;

, and that we...

 a. **"Walk in love"** -

[**Ep 5:2**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%205.2)**…2And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.**

 b. **"Walk as children of light"**, exposing the sins of darkness

[**Ep 5:8-11**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%205.8-11)**….**8For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:9(For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)10Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.11And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

 c.**"Walk as wise"**,with an understanding of what the Lord's will is

[**Ep 5:15-17**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%205.15-17)**….15See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,16Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.17Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.**

 **D. WE MUST "DO ALL THAT THE LORD HAS COMMANDED"...**

 1. Observing not just "some" things, but "all" things.

[**Mt 28:20**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2028.20)**…20Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.**

 2. For in so doing, we demonstrate our faith to be "a living

 faith"

[**Jm 2:17**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Jm%202.17)**,**[**24**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Jm%202.24)**,**[**26**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Jm%202.26)

 **E. WE MUST BE "PREACHERS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS"...**

 1. It is God's will that we **"proclaim the praises of Him"**, which

 would include His righteousness - cf.

[**1Pe 2:9**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%202.9)**….**9But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

 2. This can be done most vividly by example, in living

transformed lives - cf.

[**Ro 12:1-2**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%2012.1-2)**… I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.2And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**

**CONCLUSION**

1. God does not want anyone to perish in the great moment that

 is yet to come, but He does require all to come to repentance –

[**2 Pe 3:9**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2%20Pe%203.9)**; 9The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance**.

[**Ac 17:30-31**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ac%2017.30-31)**….30And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:31Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.**

2. And when we turn from sin and turn to God, what do we find? The

 same thing Noah and his family found:

**"grace in the eyes of the Lord"!**

3. Speaking of the salvation of Noah should remind us of the comparison

 Peter makes between Noah's salvation and our own...

 a. I.e., the part baptism serves in our salvation - [**1Pe 3:20-21**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%203.20-21)

 b. Just as God used the element of water to save Noah from a wicked

 world...

 c. ...so in His grace God utilizes water in our salvation through

 the blood of Jesus!

If you have not done so, why not find favor in God's sight by being

baptized for the remission of your sins ([**Ac 2:38**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ac%202.38)**;** [**22:16**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ac%2022.16))? Then, as we

look forward to the coming of the Lord in which He will usher in "the

new heavens and new earth", give special heed to the words of Peter:

 **"Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent**

 **to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless."**

 **-** [**2Pe 3:14**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Pe%203.14)