

Lessons on FAITH and WORKS

We are studying about faith and works in these lessons.

Last night we studied CAIN and ABEL.

Tonight we will study the faith and works of NOAH.

Tomorrow we will study ABRAHAM and his descendants, the CHILDREN of ISRAEL.

Which of these had an obedient faith and which did not?

Lessons on FAITH and WORKS

The goal of the apostle Paul's preaching was to:

*“...bring about the **OBEDIENCE OF FAITH**...” ~ Romans 1:5*

*“...leading to **OBEDIENCE OF FAITH**...” ~ Romans 16:26*

What is meant by the “OBEDIENCE OF FAITH”?

- It is faith that ‘worketh by love’ ~ **Galatians 5:6b**
- Jesus said love is shown through obedience ~ **John 14:21a**

*“He that hath my commandments,
and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me...”*

- It is faith that obeys God's commands! *This is what the phrase **“OBEDIENCE OF FAITH”** means.*

Lessons on FAITH and WORKS

Noah – Genesis 6

We are told that Noah “FOUND GRACE” in the eyes of the Lord. ~ Genesis 6:8

In tonight’s class, we want to study what was involved in this. Here are some questions we want to answer from the Bible:

- HOW did Noah find grace?
- Were faith & works involved?
- Were there any commands given to Noah?
- Was there any obedience by Noah?
- Did Noah find grace BEFORE he obeyed?

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Noah – **Genesis 6**

What kind of a man was Noah?

Genesis 6:9 tells us 3 things about Noah. Noah was:

- 1. a righteous man,**
- 2. blameless in his time;**
- 3. Noah walked with God.**

WHAT DID THIS MEAN? It meant that Noah obeyed God!

In **Genesis 6:22; 7:5** we read that, *“Noah did according to all that the LORD had commanded him.”*

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Noah – **Genesis 6**

Noah “FOUND GRACE” in the eyes of the Lord. ~ **Genesis 6:8**

What does this mean? HOW did Noah ‘find’ grace?

- The process is explained in **Hebrews 11:7a:**

*“**BY FAITH** Noah, **BEING WARNED OF GOD** of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house...”*

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- 1] Which came first, Noah’s faith or God’s warning?
- 2] **Romans 10:17** – faith cometh by hearing... God’s word (warning).
- 3] **Ephesians 2:8** – was Noah saved by ‘grace through faith’?

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“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, MOVED WITH FEAR, PREPARED AN ARK to the saving of his house...”

THOUGHT QUESTIONS:

1] What does ‘moved with fear’ mean? (Genesis 6:22; 7:5)

(Noah obeyed; he ‘prepared an ark’)

2] Was the building of the ark a ‘work’?

3] Was the building of the ark obedience to God’s command?

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*“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, **MOVED WITH FEAR, PREPARED AN ARK** to the saving of his house...”*

4] What ‘KIND’ of work was the building of the ark? (obedience of faith)

****would it have been like Cain’s works or like Abel’s?**

5] Without a command from God, would Noah have built the ark?

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THOUGHT QUESTION:

6] If God had not given the command to build the ark; and Noah decided on his own to build it; WOULD NOAH HAVE BEEN SAVED FROM THE FLOOD?

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THOUGHT QUESTIONS:

7] Was the preparing of the ark a work of obedience?

8] Was Noah’s obedience necessary?

**We find ‘grace’ in God’s eyes in the same way as Noah;
when we by faith, OBEY!**

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Noah – **Genesis 6**

Noah **“FOUND GRACE”** in the eyes of the Lord ~ **Genesis 6:8**

LESSONS TO REMEMBER:

Grace came first; and it came from God. Grace is God's part, not man's. Man is required to have faith in what God spoke or commanded. Man is also required to obey those commands. Adam & Eve didn't; Cain didn't; Abel and Noah did.

Obedience is necessary because God has given commandments to man! Commandments must be obeyed. Otherwise, they are useless. Our obedience is a work that shows our faith in God's word. Faith comes by hearing God's word. God's word exists because of GRACE! They are inseparable.

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Noah – **Genesis 6**

Noah was saved by grace, by faith, and by obedience; SO ARE WE!

Was Noah saved by grace? YES

Grace alone? NO

Was Noah saved by faith? YES

Faith alone? NO

Was Noah saved by obedience? YES

Obedience alone? NO

WAS NOAH'S OBEDIENCE NECESSARY? YES or NO?

- **Would Noah have been saved if Noah had NOT obeyed God? YES or NO?**
- **Did Noah have an 'obedient faith'? YES or NO?**

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Noah – **Genesis 6**

Were Noah and his family saved by water?

There are other passages that relate to Noah and explain the connection between grace, faith and obedience.

They are from Peter's epistles.

In **1 Peter 3:20-21 it says of Noah's family that "...eight souls were saved by water."**

Then it says, "*The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us...*".

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Noah – Genesis 6

HOW were Noah and his family saved by water?

Water was the element chosen by God. Water would separate those who were in the ark from those who were outside the ark.

Those in the ark had been obedient; those outside the ark had been disobedient, while the ark was being prepared. (1 Peter 3:20)

The ark was the place of safety; it was provided by God's grace in giving commands to Noah to build it.

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Noah – **Genesis 6**

Noah's salvation was like Abel's worship. Both God and man were involved.

Both faith and obedience are commands from God to man. We see this from **Hebrews 11:6**, *“But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God **MUST believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”***

- In order to “come to God”, two things are needed: **‘believing’ and ‘diligently seeking’**.
- YOU DON'T ‘COME TO GOD’ BY DOING ONLY ONE OF THESE; **BOTH MUST BE DONE.**
- So also, **faith apart from obedience will not result in remission of sins.**