

Sheepfold Gleanings

NOACH / NOAH

Genesis 6:9 to 11:32

Isaiah 54:1-10

Numbers 28:1-15

Matthew 24:36-44

1 Peter 3:18-22

The story of Noah is about real men and women, their families and their children. Not only is this story true, but it is a prophetic story foreshadowing future events. These life accounts are stories within stories on physical and spiritual levels. Thus the study of Torah is very descriptive and illuminating for all in pursuit of their Messiah. He is revealed in every story, and this story of Noah and his family is no exception.

Genesis 6:9 “The account of Noah, a righteous man, blameless among people of his generation, and he walked with YHVH.”

What is a righteous man? According to Ezekiel a righteous man is one who walks in the right ways of YHVH. **Ezekiel 44:23-24** " they shall teach My people *the difference* between the holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. In controversy they shall stand as judges, *and* judge it according to My judgments. They shall keep My laws and My statutes in all My appointed meetings, and they shall hallow My Sabbaths.”

YHVH saying that Noah was a righteous man was quite a statement after seeing what had become of man from the time of Adam and Eve through to Noah’s generation. Noah was the tenth generation, and in his day man’s hearts had grown wicked on the earth. This grieved YHVH and filled His heart with pain.

Genesis 6:7-7 "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth-- men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air-- for I am grieved that I have made them."

How did Noah stay true to YHVH amidst a wicked and evil generation? We learned last week that Noah’s predecessors lived hundreds of years. This could be a factor in the preservation of Noah and his family. Noah’s father, Lamech, was fifty-six years old when *Adam* died, a hundred and eleven years old when *Enoch* was no more, and a hundred and sixty-eight years old when *Seth* passed away. Lamech was taught by these men and met with them throughout the year to celebrate YHVH’s *moedim*/feast days. During these family occasions, Lamech would have heard all about the Garden and what it was like to walk physically with YHVH. Those historical stories and the testimonies of God Lamech passed on to his son Noah. Noah knew what was right in YHVH’s eyes and chose to walk in His ways because he had been taught by those who had eyewitness accounts of the Living Torah (Yeshua). Thus walking in the ways of Torah was in the

heart of Noah. Knowing this kept Noah and his family safe in the days when man's ways had corrupt the world (1 Peter 1:10-11).

“And God said to Noah, ‘The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; make *rooms* in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with *pitch*. And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. You shall make a *window* for the ark, and you shall finish it to a cubit from above; and set the *door* of the ark in its side. You shall make it with lower, second, and third decks’” (Genesis 6:13-16).

Looking at the emphasized words above, Noah was to make the ark according to the pattern YHVH gave him. It was to be made of gopher wood with rooms in it. *Kane* (Strong's #7064), the Hebrew for rooms, also means nests. Noah was to prepare nests in the ark for the animals. Question: Could the animals be young and housed in nests lined with food to keep them bedded down for many months of hibernation?

After making the ark, Noah was to coat the wood with pitch inside and out. In Hebraic understanding, wood is synonymous with man's mortality. The word pitch in Hebrew is *kaphar* (Strong's # 3722/3724) from the same root word that refers to the act of protecting - to cover, annul, forgive and pardon. Thus YHVH was prophesying through Noah and his family of future events that would cover, annul, forgive and pardon past transgressions and iniquities of the generations since the Garden. Noah's experience foreshadowed the promise given Eve that her offspring would defeat the enemy and redeem His people.

In the words of Rimona Frank, “Interestingly, it is in the process of the Ark building that our attention is first called to the act of propitiation and atonement: "**kippur**." "Make yourself an ark of (acacia) gopher wood... and... **cover** it inside and out with pitch (Genesis 6:14 italics added). The verb and noun for the action (of "**covering**") and the material ("**pitch**") are of the root, k.f.r (kaf, pey/fey, resh) - which makes up "kippur". Thus this Ark is to become a shelter, offering a covering for the sins of the age, as it were. The rabbis believe that anyone, among those who had watched it being built through the many years of its construction, could have also found refuge in it. Instead, the spectators chose to scoff and ridicule its builder. In most other cases, the verb and the noun stemming from the root k.f.r are used directly in connection with 'atonement' (e.g. Daniel 9:24) or as 'payment of a price, or ransom' (e.g. Num. 35:31).” (End of quote.)

The word window can also be translated as roof or opening. Window is the Hebrew word *sohar* (Strong's #6672/ TWOT # 1883a), from the root word illuminate. Note: During the entire twelve months that Noah was in the ark he did not require the light of the sun by day or the moon by night. The word *sohar* is related to *yishar* (TWOT #1883c) meaning fresh oil, an un-manufactured product of olive trees. A reference that the source of this light is Yeshua; He is The Light of the world (Genesis 1:3; John 8:12). No natural light was used in the ark as the True Light supported Noah and his family through their journey.

The ark was divided into the three sections of: lower, middle and upper decks. The pattern YHVH gave for the Tabernacle in the Wilderness, the Temple and the heavenly Tabernacle has

three sections in each case. The sections relate to levels of Torah study and foreshadow our physical and spiritual walk of redemption and service in YHVH's priesthood.

Genesis 7:5-12 "Noah did all that YHVH commanded him...And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood. Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground, male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah. And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth. 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."

YHVH sent to Noah clean and unclean animals. How did Noah know clean and unclean animals? Firstly, Noah had a relationship with YHVH, he also learned through his relatives what was originally taught to Adam and Eve in the Garden, YHVH's teaching and instruction called Torah, for a blessed life on earth. Noah ate from the Tree of Life and was able to see far more than the people around him who had a distortion of the truth and scoffed at his ideas. This life teaching was passed on down through the generations to Noah. The clean animals were for eating and the unclean animals were not to be food for us; they were never to be for human consumption. Their purpose was and is to keep the earth clean. We understand that Noah knew about the clean and unclean, holy and unholy and walked in the obedience of God's teaching, as YHVH refers to him as a *righteous* man in Genesis 6:9, one who kept and walked in the ways of YHVH.

Noah and his family entered the ark on the tenth day of the second month (Iyar) on the Biblical calendar. There is a provision in Torah for those who cannot partake in the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread due to being ceremonially unclean. In Numbers 9:6-12 we see there were those who were unclean, who could not celebrate on the first month. YHVH made provision for these persons in the second month on the same dates. Noah and his family were in an unclean place for the Passover in the first month. It appears YHVH made provision for them in the second month; Noah entered the ark on the tenth day of the second month. It is quite probable they celebrated Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread in the ark before the floodwaters came seven days later. Eating the unleavened bread during the feast days served as a cleansing/consecration (physical and spiritual) for Noah and his family, with the floodwaters acting as a Mikvah for status change from an unclean realm to the clean realm.

Note: YHVH's feasts are prophetic in nature and are ongoing, perpetual feasts celebrated throughout all time. Zechariah 14 tells us the feasts continue on into eternity. (Leviticus 23)

Matthew 24:36-39 "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. *As it was in the days of Noah*, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man (YHVH in the flesh)." (Luke 17:24-28)

Hebrews 11:7 “By faith (obedience) Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family.”

Genesis 7:16 “And YHVH shut him in.” Yeshua is the door (John 10:7).

For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered to a depth of more than twenty feet (Genesis 7: 17-22). Mount Everest is recorded as the highest mountain on earth at over five miles high. The waters covered this by more than twenty feet!

Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. Everything on the face of the earth was wiped out – man, animals, the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air. Only Noah and those with him in the ark survived (Genesis 7:21- 23).

Genesis 8:1-6 The earth was flooded 150 days, then YHVH sent a wind, the Ruach HaKodesh (Spirit of YHVH), to help the waters recede. At the end of the 150 days the ark rested on Mount Ararat on the 17th day of the seventh month, during the Feast of Tabernacles, the Feast of Ingathering. Waters continued to recede until, on the first day (Rosh Chodesh/New Moon) of the tenth month, the tops of the Mountains become visible. After forty days Noah opened the “window.”

Window is *challon* (Strong’s # 2474/TWOT #660c) from the Hebrew root word *chalal* (#660), meaning wound (fatally), bore through and pierce. *Challon/window* taken as a piercing or hollow in the wall. The phrase “*windows of heaven*” is another term for “*floodgates*.” YHVH controls the irrigation to let a destructive flood fall (Genesis 8:2; Isaiah 24:18), or a shower of plenty (2 Kings 7:2) as a symbol of blessing (Malachi 3:10). *Challah* (#660b) is a baked unleavened, “pierced” cake presented in the *mincha* or grain offering. It is made of fine flour and oil (Leviticus 2:4; Leviticus 7:12; Numbers 6:15). Challah was part of the firstfruits offering and was placed on the altar as part of the elevation offering (Numbers 15:20; Leviticus 8:26; Exodus 29:23). Participants ate challah as part of their *shelamim*/peace offering (2 Samuel 6:19; Exodus 29:2; Numbers 6:19).

That which was the illumination in the ark also became a visible window or “piercing”. Until the time of the flood, Light had been receding on earth because of the corruptness of the generation. The Light of Yeshua was with Noah and his family in the ark and now that Light also became a window, a piercing or hollow in the wall. *Challon* comes from the root word *chalal* (TWOT # 660) meaning wounded (fatally), bore through and pierced. Comments: Yeshua, our offering, was pierced for our transgressions against the Torah and out of His side flowed life. It’s interesting to note the Hebrew word for bride is *kallah* Strongs 3618 from 3634/TWOT 986a. The Bride of Yeshua came from His pierced side.

In Genesis 8:7 when Noah opened the window in the ark, he sent out a raven. It kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. Why a raven? A raven is an unclean bird, a scavenger by design. If anything was left after the flood the raven would have done what it was created to do, and that was to feast on carnage of dead animals and bodies. The fact that the raven went back and forth shows it was searching for remains to feed on.

The raven represents those who still have unredeemed soul natures even after being born again. They continue going their own way never entering into their inheritance or redemption. They remain unconverted (KJV Luke 22:23).

At that same time Noah also sent out from himself a dove; a clean bird reflecting righteous acts. The dove is imagery of Adam's bride coming from his side/rib; a representation of himself made in YHVH's image. This image and picture of the dove is also prophetic of Yeshua's bride coming from His pierced side walking in His righteous acts and sanctification (Genesis 8:8).

“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed” (Isaiah 53:5).

Genesis 8:9 “But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned to him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the earth. And he put out his hand and took her, and pulled her in to him into the ark.”

The dove found no rest in worldly affairs and returned to the sanctity of the ark (representing Torah) contrary to the raven that just kept doing its own thing, church hoping. The dove (bride of Yeshua) knows her redemption is through sanctification; that which brings her life, comfort and peace.

The scripture in Genesis 8:9, “*found no rest for the sole of her foot,*” is fulfilled in John 1:32, when John “saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on [Yeshua].” The “dove” found rest.

In Hebrew, Noah's name relates to comforter, bringing relief, rest and salvation. Before Yeshua left to prepare a place for His Bride in Acts 1, He told His disciples to stay in Jerusalem and wait for the Ruach/Spirit called the Comforter. This was fulfilled in Acts 2. When we return through repentance and sanctification to the Tree of Life/Living Torah, Yeshua, we too will find comfort and rest. (John 14:26; 16:7-8)

Genesis 8:10 “He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark.” Seven is the number of days for consecration from the unclean realm to the clean realm. Doves were used in sacrifices, offerings and for purification.

Genesis 8:11 “When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf!” This leaf was not picked up from floating debris, but was a “freshly plucked” olive leaf. It is said that the olive leaf is not affected by a few months of being submerged under water. It may be quite possible that the olive tree the dove found had leaves that had remained on it even until the floodwaters subsided, enabling the tree to flourish and reestablish itself to provide fresh leaves for Noah.

The Hebrew word that is equivalent to the phrase “freshly plucked” is *tarap* (Strong's #2965/TWOT #827a), only found in Genesis 8:11. Its root word (TWOT #827 *tarap*) means rent or tear. The symbolism of the olive leaf is in its allusion to oil, light, Yeshua. Yeshua, the Light of the world, was the sacrifice whose shed blood rent the Temple veil from top to bottom,

opening up forgiveness and redemption, providing a way for man to approach God for the first time since the Garden with Adam and Eve.

When looking at the term “*olive leaf*” more closely we discover that *aleh* (TWOT #1624a) corresponds to leaf and comes from the root word *ala* meaning to go up, as in the *olah* or elevation offering. Other words associated with this root word are ascent, stairway, upper, roof chamber, high, most high, lifting, above, upward, conduit, watercourse, and healing. “On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations” (Revelation 22:2).

When a Torah scroll is made, the scribes use “skins” from the stomach linings of sheep. They stretch and dry them, then sew them together to create a scroll on which to write the Hebrew letters that form the words of Scripture. YHVH’s people are called sheep. Many times we feel stretched. When Yeshua died for us, the veil over our heart was rent, allowing Torah to be written on our hearts. Another word for *blood* is *skin* in the Bible. We literally have Torah written on our skin. Skins of the Torah scrolls were also called leaves; those leaves were then wrapped around two olive sticks. These two sticks represent two olive trees. In Zechariah 4 the two olive trees represent two people groups who are anointed to serve YHVH of all the earth. It is these two olive trees that represent the two houses of Israel: House of Israel and House of Judah. These two houses are the representatives or witnesses of YHVH’s Word.

The dove coming back with an olive leaf in her beak was symbolic of the bride of Yeshua being grafted back into the Torah through the Ruach HaKodesh/Holy Spirit. The olive branch is also representative of the Two Houses joining and become one in the Father’s hand (Ezekiel 37:15-17). *Truth will be found in their mouths*, upholding YHVH’s Word on earth among the Nations. The leaves, or Torah, will be for the healing of the Nations. When YHVH’s people read the Words on these leaves and obey what is written on their hearts, they will know how to walk with a Holy God (Deuteronomy 28). It is these leaves representing Torah that were in the beak (mouth) of the dove (Yeshua) when it returned to Noah.

Genesis 8:10-13 After waiting seven more days and releasing the dove a second time, she did not return. “By the first day of the first month of Noah’s six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry.”

“Covering” is the Hebrew word *mikseh* (Strong’s #4372/TWOT #1008c). This noun refers mostly to the leather (as in badger skins, porpoise skins and hides of sea cows) that comprised the covering of the Tabernacle as well.

What kind of roof did Noah have on the ark? Through the word study we see the roof was an animal skin covering. We may have seen pictures of the ark with a wooden roof, but this scripture reshapes the picture in our minds. Animal skins speak of atonement cover and shed blood, much like the garments made for Adam and Eve.

The roof the Tabernacle in the Wilderness was also made of skins. The Tabernacle’s cubic dimensions, the furniture and materials used (wood covered in gold, a metal), plus the skin

covering over top could produced static and anything under that roof could potentially became electrically charged. We see similar usage with the measurements and the materials used by Noah in the ark he was called to build. The window was one cubic in dimension that became a “light” source, and the roof was a covering of skins. Could the ark have had an internal power, a source from our Heavenly Father?

When Noah removed the covering, it may have been by means of a “tear” or “zion” (*scion*) of the skin (covering) in order to reveal the “window” through which the raven and dove flew. *Zion* is the term a vinedresser uses to speak of the process of cutting and grafting branches into an olive tree. As Adam’s side was pierced (*zion*) to produce his bride, so was Yeshua’s side torn or pierced (*zion*) for His Bride to come forth. We who are in Messiah are called branches that are grafted into the Messiah. Upon Messiah’s death, the veil in the temple was torn (*rent/zion*) from top to bottom revealing the way home for the Bride. (Matthew 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45; Romans 11:17-18) (Zion/Scion: Grafted: figuratively and Hebraic, of a descendant, as a shoot or sprout offspring. Romans 15:12).

Mark 1:10 “As Yeshua was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being ‘*torn*’ open (*schizo*) and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.” *Schizo* (Strong’s #4977) meaning to cleave, split, also used for divide, open, tear or torn.

Genesis 8:14-17 “By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry. YHVH said to Noah, ‘Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you-- the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground-- so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it.’ ”

Genesis 8:21 to 9:17; 24-27 YHVH Makes A Covenant With Noah

After the ark emptied, Noah built an altar to YHVH. Thanking Him for their safety, he offered up praise and worship sacrifices using clean animals that had been on the ark with him. YHVH was pleased with Noah and received his gifts, then set up a Covenant with him. The Covenant of Noah was a universal covenant to all mankind, which promised that a flood would never again destroy the earth. YHVH also instituted the principle of human government to curb sin and the proclaimed the first physical sign of a covenant to be a multi colored rainbow, which still stands for the promise and terms of Noah’s Covenant today.

YHVH commanded Noah and his family to be fruitful and multiply. They were to produce “seed” (from the Tree of Life) that would bring forth and multiply generations who would glorify and praise the Name of YHVH.

At this time man’s diet also increased. Along with green herbage YHVH gave them permission to eat meat. Only *clean animals without blood* are considered food in the Bible. YHVH warned them not to eat the lifeblood of the meat they ate (Genesis 9:4). The *lifeblood* was that which flowed through the veins and arteries and took life into the body and removed debris. This lifeblood was not to be eaten. Blood is for atonement. Today this law still applies and is a universal, eternal law for all mankind for life, just as the rainbow is for all the generations of Noah’s descendants, us included (Acts 15:20,29; 21:25).

Genesis 9:18-27 The Sons of Noah

The sons of Noah were Shem, Ham and Japheth. From these sons came the people who were scattered over the earth.

Noah worked the soil and planted a vineyard. Could Noah have taken these vines with him on the ark? Could they have come originally from the Garden? We do not see the time element in Scripture for the vineyard, but it would have taken several years (5) before a harvest to make the first pressing of wine could be brought in. Noah's youngest son Ham found his father laying naked inside his tent, quite drunk from the wine. "Ham, the father of Canaan, 'saw' his father's nakedness and told his two brothers outside" (Genesis 9:22).

The word saw is *ra'ah* (Strong's #7200) in Hebrew, which means to look, see and understand. The lesson of this story in Scripture is that we are to "cover" (forgive) each other's "sins"/blunders, not expose them. While Noah was still under the influence of wine, his other sons reverently and with respect covered their father. Upon waking, Noah said, "Cursed be Canaan (son of Ham); a servant of servants He shall be to his brethren." And he said: "Blessed be YHVH, the God of Shem, and may Canaan be his servant. May God enlarge Japheth, and may he dwell in the tents of Shem; and may Canaan be his servant." Noah then delineated a beautiful blessing upon Shem, at the same time blessing Japheth, who would "live in the tents of Shem." After the flood Noah lived 350 years, dying at the age of 950.

Genesis 10:1-11:9 The Generations of Noah and the Tower of Babel

Recorded in the above Scripture reference is the list of recorded generations and lines of descent within their nations that filled the earth after the flood. In Genesis 11 we see the extent of evil has intensified upon the earth once again. YHVH kept His word not to flood the earth again. Instead He caused great confusion among the populace by changing their language so that the nations could not function in a single language again. The various languages they spoke were thereafter just babble to those listening that spoke in a different tongue. With this, YHVH scattered them over the earth.

1 Peter 3:18 –22 "For Yeshua died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to YHVH. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison who disobeyed long ago when YHVH waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also-- not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward YHVH. It saves you by the resurrection of Yeshua, who has gone into heaven and is at YHVH's right hand-- with angels, authorities and powers in submission to Him."

2 Peter 3:3-17 "In the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, 'Where is this coming he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.' But they deliberately forget that long ago by YHVH's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present

heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

“But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With YHVH a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. YHVH is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

“But the day of YHVH will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

“Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of YHVH and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

“So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him.”

Shabbat Shalom
Carl and Julie Parker

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