Crystallization-Study Outlines

GENESIS (1)

Message Eleven

Noah—the Life and Work That Can Change the Age

Scripture Reading: Gen. 6:5-22; 7:13, 16; Heb. 11:7

Gen 6:5 And Jehovah 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.
Gen 6:6 And Jehovah repented that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him in His heart.
Gen 6:7 And Jehovah said, I will blot out the man whom I have created from the surface of the ground, from man to beast to creeping things to the birds of heaven; for I repent that I have made them.
Gen 6:8 But Noah found favor in the sight of Jehovah.
Gen 6:9 These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generations; and Noah walked with God.
Gen 6:10 And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
Gen 6:11 And the earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.
Gen 6:12 And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted its way upon the earth.
Gen 6:13 And God said to Noah, The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and now I am about to destroy them with the earth.
Gen 6:14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make rooms in the ark and shall cover it within and without with pitch.
Gen 6:15 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.
Gen 6:16 You shall make an opening for light for the ark, and you shall finish it up to a cubit from the top; and you shall put the entrance of the ark in its side; you shall make it with lower, second, and third stories.
Gen 6:17 And now I am about to bring a flood of water upon the earth to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die.
Gen 6:18 But I will establish My covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you.
Gen 6:19 And of every living thing, of all flesh, two of every kind you shall bring into the ark to preserve them alive with you; they shall be male and female.
Gen 6:20 Of the birds according to their kind and of the cattle according to their kind, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind will come to you in order to preserve them alive.
Gen 6:21 And for your part, take some of every kind of food that is edible, and gather it to yourself, and it will be for food for you and for them.
Gen 6:22 And Noah did this; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.
Gen 7:13 On that very same day Noah and Shem and Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark,
Gen 7:16 And those who went in, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and Jehovah shut the door behind him.
Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, having been divinely instructed concerning things not yet seen and being moved by pious fear, prepared an ark for the salvation of his house, through which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

I. Noah's life was a life that changed the age—Phil. 1:19-21a:

Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
Phil 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death.
Phil 1:21a For to me, to live is Christ …

A. God showed Noah the true situation of the corrupt age in which he lived—Gen. 6:3, 5, 11, 13; Matt. 24:37-39; 2 Tim. 3:1-5.

Gen 6:3 And Jehovah said, My Spirit will not strive with man forever, for he indeed is flesh; so his days will be one hundred twenty years.
Gen 6:5 And Jehovah 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.
Gen 6:11 And the earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.
Gen 6:13 And God said to Noah, The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and now I am about to destroy them with the earth.
Matt 24:37 For just as the days of Noah were, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.
Matt 24:38 For as they were in those days before the flood, eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day in which Noah entered into the ark,
Matt 24:39 And they did not know that judgment was coming until the flood came and took all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.
2 Tim 3:1 But know this, that in the last days difficult times will come.
2 Tim 3:2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boasters, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
2 Tim 3:3 Without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-control, savage, not lovers of good,
2 Tim 3:4 Traitors, reckless, blinded with pride, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
2 Tim 3:5 Having an outward form of godliness, though denying its power; from these also turn away.

B. "*But Noah* found favor [grace] in the sight of Jehovah"—Gen. 6:8:

1. When Satan has done his best to damage the situation, there have always been some who found grace in the eyes of God to become ones who turned the age—cf. Dan. 1:8; 9:23; 10:11, 19.

Dan 1:8 But Daniel set his heart not to defile himself with the king's choice provision and with the wine that the king drank, so he requested of the leader of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.
Dan 9:23 At the beginning of your supplications the command went forth, and I have come to tell you, for you are preciousness itself. Therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.
Dan 10:11 And he said to me, Daniel, man of preciousness, understand the words that I am about to tell you and stand in your place, for I have now been sent to you. And when he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling.
Dan 10:19 And he said, Do not be afraid, man of preciousness. Peace to you. Be strong, yes, be strong. And when he spoke to me, I received strength and said, Speak, sir, for you have strengthened me.

2. The main purpose of the record of Genesis is not to show the fall but to show how much God's grace can do for fallen people; grace is God Himself, the presence of God, enjoyed by us to be everything to us and to do everything in us, through us, and for us; grace is God coming to us to be our life supply, our strength, and our everything—John 1:14, 16-17; Rev. 22:21:

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
John 1:16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.
John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and reality came through Jesus Christ.
Rev 22:21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

a. The enjoyment of the Lord as grace is with those who love Him—Eph. 6:24; John 21:15-17.

Eph 6:24 Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in incorruptibility.
John 21:15 Then when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You. He said to him, Feed My lambs.
John 21:16 He said to him again a second time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You. He said to him, Shepherd My sheep.

John 21:17 He said to him the third time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me? Peter was grieved that He said to him the third time, Do you love Me? And he said to Him, Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You. Jesus said to him, Feed My sheep.

b. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ as the bountiful supply of the Triune God is enjoyed by us through the exercise of our human spirit—Heb. 10:29b; Gal. 6:18; Phil. 4:23; Philem. 25; 2 Tim. 4:22.

Heb 10:29 By how much do you think he will be thought worthy of worse punishment who ... has insulted the Spirit of grace?

Gal 6:18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Phil 4:23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Philem 25 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

2 Tim 4:22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.

c. God's word is the word of grace—Acts 20:32; Col. 3:16; cf. Jer. 15:16.

Acts 20:32 And now I commit you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who have been sanctified.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

Jer 15:16 Your words were found and I ate them, / And Your word became to me / The gladness and joy of my heart, / For I am called by Your name, / O Jehovah, God of hosts.

d. We experience the processed Triune God as the grace of life in meeting with the saints on the ground of oneness—Psa. 133:3; 1 Pet. 3:7; Acts 4:33; 11:23.

Psa 133:3 Like the dew of Hermon / That came down upon the mountains of Zion. / For there Jehovah commanded the blessing: / Life forever.

1 Pet 3:7 Husbands, in like manner dwell together with them according to knowledge, as with the weaker, female vessel, assigning honor to them as also to fellow heirs of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

Acts 4:33 And with great power the apostles gave testimony of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

Acts 11:23 Who, when he arrived and saw the grace of God, rejoiced and encouraged them all to remain with the Lord with purpose of heart;

e. We can experience the Lord as our increasing and all-sufficient grace in the midst of sufferings and trials—2 Cor. 12:9.

2 Cor 12:9 And He has said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness. Most gladly therefore I will rather boast in my weaknesses that the power of Christ might tabernacle over me.

f. We need to labor for the Lord in the power of His grace—1 Cor. 15:10, 58; 3:10, 12a.

1 Cor 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am; and His grace unto me did not turn out to be in vain, but, on the contrary, I labored more abundantly than all of them, yet not I but the grace of God which is with me.

1 Cor 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

1 Cor 3:10 According to the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. But let each man take heed how he builds upon it.

1 Cor 3:12a But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, …

g. We need to be good stewards of the varied grace of God—1 Pet. 4:10; Eph. 3:2; 2 Cor. 1:15; Eph. 4:29.

1 Pet 4:10 Each one, as he has received a gift, ministering it among yourselves as good stewards of the varied grace of God.

Eph 3:2 If indeed you have heard of the stewardship of the grace of God which was given to me for you,
2 Cor 1:15 And in this confidence I intended to come to you previously that you might have double grace,
Eph 4:29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but only that which is good for building up, according to the need, that it may give grace to those who hear.

h. By the power of grace, the strength of grace, and the life of grace, we can be right with God and with one another; grace produces righteousness—Heb. 11:7; Rom. 5:17, 21.

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, having been divinely instructed concerning things not yet seen and being moved by pious fear, prepared an ark for the salvation of his house, through which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.
Rom 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.
Rom 5:21 In order that just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness unto eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Like his great-grandfather Enoch (Gen. 5:22-24), Noah walked with God by faith (6:9; Heb. 11:7), which was God's divine element transfused and infused into him to be his believing ability (Rom. 3:22); as a result, he became heir of God's righteousness (cf. 4:3, 9) and a herald of righteousness (2 Pet. 2:5) as a protest against the evil generation; Noah's righteousness strengthened God's standing to execute His judgment upon that ungodly generation.

Gen 5:22 And Enoch walked with God after he had begotten Methuselah three hundred years, and he begot more sons and daughters.
Gen 5:23 And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty-five years.
Gen 5:24 And Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.
Gen 6:9 These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generations; and Noah walked with God.
Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, having been divinely instructed concerning things not yet seen and being moved by pious fear, prepared an ark for the salvation of his house, through which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.
Rom 3:22 Even the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ to all those who believe, for there is no distinction;
Rom 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? "And Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him as righteousness."
Rom 4:9 Is this blessing then upon the circumcision only, or also upon the uncircumcision? For we say, Faith was accounted to Abraham as righteousness.
2 Pet 2:5 And did not spare the ancient world but guarded Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;

D. The ark that Noah built is a type of the practical and present Christ as God's salvation, and to build the ark is to build up the practical and present Christ as God's salvation in our experience for the building up of the Body of Christ as the corporate Christ; according to Philippians, this is to work out our own salvation—2:12-13:

Phil 2:12 So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much rather in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
Phil 2:13 For it is God who operates in you both the willing and the working for His good pleasure.

1. To build the ark is to work out our own salvation, which is to build up Christ in our experience for the building up of the Body of Christ, the corporate Christ.
2. What Noah worked on and entered into was God's salvation, the ark; we should have a practical and present Christ into whom we can enter as God's salvation.

3. The salvation in Philippians 2:12 is not eternal salvation from God's condemnation and from the lake of fire but the daily and constant salvation that is Christ as a living person; although we have eternal salvation, we need further salvation from the crooked and perverted generation—v. 15.

Phil 2:12 So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much rather in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

Phil 2:15 That you may be blameless and guileless, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine as luminaries in the world,

4. Today we are in the passage of God's salvation; we have entered into this passage, and our going through this passage is our working out our own salvation:
   a. The more Noah built the ark, the more he passed through God's salvation, and eventually, he entered into what he worked out—Gen. 7:7.

      Gen 7:7 And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him went into the ark because of the waters of the flood.

   b. The very Christ whom we are building up in our experience today will become our future salvation; one day, under God's sovereignty we will enter into the very Christ whom we have built up.
   c. Even today, if we build up Christ in our experience, we will be able to abide in Christ, to dwell in Christ—John 15:5:

      John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

      1) To build up Christ in our experience is to love the Lord, to talk to Him by calling on His name, and to fellowship with Him, living by Him and walking together with Him day after day and hour after hour to be a "co-walker" with God so that we can be a coworker with God—Gen. 5:22-24; 6:9.

         Gen 5:22 And Enoch walked with God after he had begotten Methuselah three hundred years, and he begot more sons and daughters.

         Gen 5:23 And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty-five years.

         Gen 5:24 And Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

         Gen 6:9 These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generations; and Noah walked with God.

      2) Then we build up Christ in our experience so that we can enter into Him as our salvation.

5. All four chapters of Philippians refer to the all-inclusive, living person of Christ as our salvation:
   a. In Philippians 1 salvation is to live Christ and magnify Christ in any circumstance.

      Phil 1 (Be omitted.)

   b. In Philippians 2 salvation is to reflect Christ by holding forth the word of life.

      Phil 2 (Be omitted.)

   c. In Philippians 3 salvation is the righteousness of God, that is, God Himself embodied in Christ.

      Phil 3 (Be omitted.)

   d. In Philippians 4 salvation is Christ Himself as the life that is true, dignified, righteous, pure, lovely, well spoken of, and full of virtue and praise.

      Phil 4 (Be omitted.)

II. Noah's work was a work that changed the age—2 Cor. 6:1; Matt. 16:18; 1 Cor. 3:12a:

2 Cor 6:1 And working together with Him, we also entreat you not to receive the grace of God in vain;

Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

1 Cor 3:12a But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, …

A. God gave Noah an all-inclusive revelation, a further revelation, the revelation to build the ark, which was the way that God would terminate the corrupted generation and bring in a new age; Noah built the ark not according to his own imagination but absolutely according to God's revelation and divine instructions by faith—Gen. 6:15a; Heb. 11:6-7; cf. Exo. 25:9; 1 Chron. 28:11-19; 1 Cor. 3:10-12; Eph. 2:20a:

Gen 6:15a And this is how you shall make it: …

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing to Him, for he who comes forward to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, having been divinely instructed concerning things not yet seen and being moved by pious fear, prepared an ark for the salvation of his house, through which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Exo 25:9 According to all that I show you, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, even so shall you make it.

1 Chron 28:11 Then David gave Solomon his son the pattern of the portico of the temple and its buildings and its storehouses and its upper rooms and its inner rooms and the building for the expiation cover;

1 Chron 28:12 And the pattern of all that he had by the Spirit, for the courts of the house of Jehovah, and for all the chambers around, and for the treasuries of the house of God, and for the treasuries of the dedicated gifts;

1 Chron 28:13 And for the divisions of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of Jehovah, and for all the vessels of the service of the house of Jehovah;

1 Chron 28:14 And for the gold, by weight of the gold for all the vessels of each kind of service; for all the vessels of silver, by weight for all the vessels for each kind of service;

1 Chron 28:15 And for the weight of the lampstands of gold and their lamps of gold, by weight for each lampstand and its lamps; and for the weight of the lampstands of silver, by weight for the lampstand and its lamps, according to the service of each kind of lampstand

1 Chron 28:16 And for the gold, by weight for the tables of the rows of bread for each table, and for the silver for the tables of silver;

1 Chron 28:17 And for the flesh hooks and the basins and the pitchers, of pure gold; and for the bowls of gold, by weight for each bowl; and for the bowls of silver, by weight for each bowl;

1 Chron 28:18 And for the incense altar of refined gold, by weight; and gold for the figure of the chariot, that is, the cherubim, spreading out their wings and covering the Ark of the Covenant of Jehovah.

1 Chron 28:19 All this, said David, has He made clear by a writing from the hand of Jehovah upon me, all the details of the pattern.

1 Cor 3:10 According to the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. But let each man take heed how he builds upon it.

1 Cor 3:11 For another foundation no one is able to lay besides that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Cor 3:12 But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble,

Eph 2:20a Being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, …

1. The ark is a type of Christ—not only the individual Christ but also the corporate Christ, the church, which is the Body of Christ and the new man to consummate in the New Jerusalem—1 Pet. 3:20-21; Matt. 16:18; 1 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 2:15-16; Col. 3:10-11; Rev. 21:2.

1 Pet 3:20 Who had formerly disobeyed when the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared; entering into which, a few, that is, eight souls, were brought safely through by water.

1 Pet 3:21 Which water, as the antitype, also now saves you, that is, baptism, not a putting away of the filth of the flesh but the appeal of a good conscience unto God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

1 Cor 12:12 For even as the body is one and has many members, yet all the members of the body, being many, are one body, so also is the Christ.

Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,

Eph 2:16 And might reconcile both in one Body to God through the cross, having slain the enmity by it.

Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

Col 3:11 Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

2. The building of the ark typifies the building of the corporate Christ, with the element of Christ's riches as the building material, by those who work together with God—1 Cor. 3:9-12a; Eph. 4:12; 2:22.

1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.

1 Cor 3:10 According to the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. But let each man take heed how he builds upon it.

1 Cor 3:11 For another foundation no one is able to lay besides that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Cor 3:12a But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, …

Eph 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ,

Eph 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

3. This building is the working of Christ into people to build them together by Christ so that they may become God's manifestation in the flesh—1 Tim. 3:15-16; 1 Cor. 3:9a, 10, 12a; Rom. 11:36.

1 Tim 3:15 But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

1 Tim 3:16 And confessedly, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was manifested in the flesh, / Justified in the Spirit, / Seen by angels, / Preached among the nations, / Believed on in the world, / Taken up in glory.

1 Cor 3:9a For we are God's fellow workers; …

1 Cor 3:10 According to the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. But let each man take heed how he builds upon it.

1 Cor 3:12a But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, …

Rom 11:36 Because out from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

B. By building the ark and entering into it, Noah was not only saved from God's judgment on the evil generation through the flood but was also separated from that generation and ushered into a new age—Gen. 6:5-22.

Gen 6:5 And Jehovah 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.

Gen 6:6 And Jehovah repented that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him in His heart.

Gen 6:7 And Jehovah said, I will blot out the man whom I have created from the surface of the ground, from man to beast to creeping things to the birds of heaven; for I repent that I have made them.

Gen 6:8 But Noah found favor in the sight of Jehovah.

Gen 6:9 These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generations; and Noah walked with God.
Gen 6:10 And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
Gen 6:11 And the earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.
Gen 6:12 And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted its way upon the earth.
Gen 6:13 And God said to Noah, The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and now I am about to destroy them with the earth.
Gen 6:14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make rooms in the ark and shall cover it within and without with pitch.
Gen 6:15 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.
Gen 6:16 You shall make an opening for light for the ark, and you shall finish it up to a cubit from the top; and you shall put the entrance of the ark in its side; you shall make it with lower, second, and third stories.
Gen 6:17 And now I am about to bring a flood of water upon the earth to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die.
Gen 6:18 But I will establish My covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you.
Gen 6:19 And of every living thing, of all flesh, two of every kind you shall bring into the ark to preserve them alive with you; they shall be male and female.
Gen 6:20 Of the birds according to their kind and of the cattle according to their kind, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind will come to you in order to preserve them alive.
Gen 6:21 And for your part, take some of every kind of food that is edible, and gather it to yourself, and it will be for food for you and for them.
Gen 6:22 And Noah did this; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

C. Likewise, by building the church and entering into the church life, we will be saved from God's judgment on today's evil generation through the great tribulation and will be separated from that generation to be ushered into a new age, the age of the millennium—Heb. 11:7; Matt. 24:37-39; Luke 17:26-27; 21:36; Rev. 3:10.

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, having been divinely instructed concerning things not yet seen and being moved by pious fear, prepared an ark for the salvation of his house, through which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.
Matt 24:37 For just as the days of Noah were, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.
Matt 24:38 For as they were in those days before the flood, eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day in which Noah entered into the ark,
Matt 24:39 And they did not know that judgment was coming until the flood came and took all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.
Luke 17:26 And even as it happened in the days of Noah, so will it be also in the days of the Son of Man:
Luke 17:27 They were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day in which Noah entered into the ark and the flood came and destroyed them all.
Luke 21:36 But be watchful at every time, beseeching that you would prevail to escape all these things which are about to happen and stand before the Son of Man.
Rev 3:10 Because you have kept the word of My endurance, I also will keep you out of the hour of trial, which is about to come on the whole inhabited earth, to try them who dwell on the earth.

D. The length of the ark was three hundred cubits, the width fifty cubits, and the height thirty cubits (Gen. 6:15); the basic numbers in God's building are three and five (cf. Exo. 27), which signify the mingling of the Triune God with man through His divine dispensing (2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 4:4-6).

Gen 6:15 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.

Exo 27:1 And you shall make the altar of acacia wood, a length of five cubits and a width of five cubits; the altar shall be square; and three cubits, its height.
Exo 27:2 And you shall make its horns upon its four corners; its horns shall be of one piece with it, and you shall overlay it with bronze.
Exo 27:3 And you shall make its pots to remove its ashes, and its shovels and its basins and its forks and its firepans; all its utensils you shall make of bronze.
Exo 27:4 And you shall make a grating, a network of bronze for it; and on the net you shall make four bronze rings at its four ends.
Exo 27:5 And you shall put it below, under the ledge of the altar so that the net may reach halfway up the altar.
Exo 27:6 And you shall make poles for the altar, poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with bronze.
Exo 27:7 And its poles shall be put into the rings, and the poles shall be on the two sides of the altar when it is carried.
Exo 27:8 You shall make it hollow with boards; as it was shown to you in the mountain, so shall they make it.
Exo 27:9 And you shall make the court of the tabernacle; On the south side southward there shall be hangings for the court of fine twined linen, a length of one hundred cubits long one side;
Exo 27:10 And its twenty pillars and their twenty sockets shall be of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their connecting rods shall be of silver.
Exo 27:11 And likewise on the north side, in length there shall be hangings a length of one hundred cubits, and its twenty pillars and their twenty sockets of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their connecting rods shall be of silver.
Exo 27:12 And for the width of the court on the west side there shall be hangings of fifty cubits, with their ten pillars and their ten sockets.
Exo 27:13 And the width of the court on the east side eastward shall be fifty cubits.
Exo 27:14 And there shall be fifteen cubits of hangings for the one side of the gate, with their three pillars and their three sockets.
Exo 27:15 And there shall be fifteen cubits of hangings for the other side, with their three pillars and their three sockets.
Exo 27:16 And for the gate of the court there shall be a screen of twenty cubits, of blue and purple and scarlet strands and fine twined linen, the work of an embroiderer; with their four pillars and their four sockets.
Exo 27:17 All the pillars around the court shall be connected with silver, with their hooks of silver and their sockets of bronze.
Exo 27:18 The length of the court shall be one hundred cubits; and the width, fifty at each end; and the height, five cubits; of fine twined linen, and their sockets of bronze.
Exo 27:19 All the utensils of the tabernacle used in all its service and all its pegs and all the pegs of the court shall be of bronze.
Exo 27:20 And you shall command the children of Israel to bring to you pure oil of beaten olives for the light, to make the lamps burn continually.
Exo 27:21 In the Tent of Meeting, outside the veil which is before the Testimony, Aaron and his sons shall maintain it in order from evening to morning before Jehovah; it shall be a perpetual statute to be observed throughout their generations by the children of Israel.
2 Cor 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Eph 4:4 One Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling;
Eph 4:5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism;
Eph 4:6 One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

E. The ark was of three stories: the lower, the second, and the third—Gen. 6:16:

Gen 6:16 You shall make an opening for light for the ark, and you shall finish it up to a cubit from the top; and you shall put the entrance of the ark in its side; you shall make it with lower, second, and third stories.

1. The three sections of the tabernacle signify the depths into which we all must enter; the three stories of the ark signify the height to which we all must attain.

2. The three stories of the ark signify the Triune God; the Spirit brings us to the Son, and the Son brings us to the Father; when we come to the Father, we are in the third story—Luke 15:4-7, 8-10, 18-23; Eph. 2:18.

Luke 15:4 Which man of you, who has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?
Luke 15:5 And when he finds it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.
Luke 15:6 And when he comes into his house, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.
Luke 15:7 I tell you that in the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner repenting than over ninety-nine righteous persons who have no need of repentance.
Luke 15:8 Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one silver coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek carefully until she finds it?
Luke 15:9 And when she finds it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I lost.
Luke 15:10 In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner repenting.
Luke 15:18 I will rise up and go to my father, and I will say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.
Luke 15:19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.
Luke 15:20 And he rose up and came to his own father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion, and he ran and fell on his neck and kissed him affectionately.
Luke 15:21 And the son said to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.
Luke 15:22 But the father said to his slaves, Bring out quickly the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.
Luke 15:23 And bring the fattened calf; slaughter it, and let us eat and be merry,
Eph 2:18 For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.

3. We need to enter into the deepest and highest intimacy with our Triune God so that He can bring us to the "third story" to show us His mysteries, secrets, and hidden treasures—1 Cor. 2:9; 2 Cor. 2:10; Exo. 33:11.

1 Cor 2:9 But as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard and which have not come up in man's heart; things which God has prepared for those who love Him."
2 Cor 2:10 But whom you forgive anything, I also forgive; for also what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, it is for your sake in the person of Christ;
Exo 33:11 And Jehovah would speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his companion. And Moses would return to the camp, but his attendant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart out of the tent.

F. In the ark there was one opening toward the heavens for light—Gen. 6:16:

Gen 6:16 You shall make an opening for light for the ark, and you shall finish it up to a cubit from the top; and you shall put the entrance of the ark in its side; you shall make it with lower, second, and third stories.

1. The Hebrew word for *opening* has the same root as the word for *noon;* this means that when we are under the opening, the window, we are in the noontime and are full of light—cf. Prov. 4:18.

Prov 4:18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, / Which shines brighter and brighter until the full day.

2. Just as there was only one window, one opening, in the ark, there is only one window, one revelation, and one vision through one ministry in God's building—Acts 26:19; Gal. 1:6-9; 1 Tim. 1:3-4; cf. 2 Kings 2:2, 9, 13-15.

Acts 26:19 Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,

Gal 1:6 I marvel that you are so quickly removing from Him who has called you in the grace of Christ to a different gospel,
Gal 1:7 Which is not another gospel, only there are some who trouble you and desire to pervert the gospel of Christ.
Gal 1:8 But if even we or an angel out of heaven should announce to you a gospel beyond that which we have announced to you, let him be accursed.
Gal 1:9 As we have said before, now also I say again, If anyone announces to you a gospel beyond that which you have received, let him be accursed.
1 Tim 1:3 Even as I exhorted you, when I was going into Macedonia, to remain in Ephesus in order that you might charge certain ones not to teach different things
1 Tim 1:4 Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.
2 Kings 2:2 And Elijah said to Elisha, Stay here, for Jehovah has sent me as far as Bethel. And Elisha said, As Jehovah lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. So they went down to Bethel.
2 Kings 2:9 And when they had crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha, Ask what I should do for you before I am taken from you. And Elisha said, Let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.
2 Kings 2:13 And he picked up Elijah's mantle, which had fallen from him, and returned and stood by the bank of the Jordan.
2 Kings 2:14 And he took Elijah's mantle, which had fallen from him, and struck the water and said, Where is Jehovah, the God of Elijah? And when he also struck the water, it parted to this side and that, and Elisha crossed over.
2 Kings 2:15 And when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho opposite him saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha. And they came to meet him and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

G. There was only one door, one entrance, into the ark; this one door is Christ—Gen. 7:13, 16; John 10:9:

Gen 7:13 On that very same day Noah and Shem and Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark,
Gen 7:16 And those who went in, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and Jehovah shut the door behind him.
John 10:9 I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved and shall go in and go out and shall find pasture.

1. Noah's entering into the ark is a type of our entering into Christ—3:16; Gal. 3:27.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.
Gal 3:27 For as many as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

2. Once we believe into the Lord Jesus, we are "shut in" by God with no way to get out of Him—cf. John 10:28-29; Psa. 139:7-12.

John 10:28 And I give to them eternal life, and they shall by no means perish forever, and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.
John 10:29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of My Father's hand.
Psa 139:7 Where shall I go, away from Your Spirit, / And where shall I flee from Your presence?
Psa 139:8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; / If I make my bed in Sheol, there You are.
Psa 139:9 If I take the wings of the dawn / And settle at the limits of the sea,
Psa 139:10 There also Your hand will lead me, / And Your right hand will take hold of me.
Psa 139:11 And if I say, Surely darkness will cover me, / And the light around me will be night;
Psa 139:12 Even the darkness is not dark to You, / And night shines like day; / The darkness is like the light.

H. The ark was made of gopher wood, a kind of cypress, a resinous wood that can withstand the attack of water; this is a figure of the crucified Christ, who can withstand the waters of death—Gen. 6:14; Acts 2:24.

Gen 6:14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make rooms in the ark and shall cover it within and without with pitch.

Acts 2:24 Whom God has raised up, having loosed the pangs of death, since it was not possible for Him to be held by it.

I. The ark was covered within and without with pitch, a type of the redeeming blood of Christ, which covers God's building within and without—Gen. 6:14; Heb. 9:14; Exo. 12:13:

Gen 6:14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make rooms in the ark and shall cover it within and without with pitch.

Heb 9:14 How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Exo 12:13 And the blood shall be a sign for you upon the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and there will be no plague upon you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

1. The Hebrew word for *pitch* has the same root as the word for *expiation,* which means "to cover"; Noah and his family were saved from the judgment of the flood by the pitch upon the ark, signifying that the believers in Christ are saved from God's judgment by the redeeming blood of Christ—Rom. 5:9.

Rom 5:9 Much more then, having now been justified in His blood, we will be saved through Him from the wrath.

2. Whenever we look at the blood, we have peace; whenever God looks at the blood, He is satisfied; whenever Satan looks at the blood, he is unable to attack; whenever the angels look at the blood, they rejoice—Rev. 12:11.

Rev 12:11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.

J. The water through which Noah passed is a figure of the water of baptism—1 Pet. 3:20-21:

1 Pet 3:20 Who had formerly disobeyed when the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared; entering into which, a few, that is, eight souls, were brought safely through by water.

1 Pet 3:21 Which water, as the antitype, also now saves you, that is, baptism, not a putting away of the filth of the flesh but the appeal of a good conscience unto God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

1. The pitch on the ark, signifying the blood of Christ, saved Noah from the judgment of the flood, whereas the water of the flood, signifying the water of baptism, not only judged the world but also separated Noah from the evil age—Exo. 14:26-30; Acts 2:40-41.

Exo 14:26 And Jehovah said to Moses, Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters come back over the Egyptians, over their chariots and over their horsemen.

Exo 14:27 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its level when the morning appeared. And the Egyptians fled against it, and Jehovah cast the Egyptians off into the midst of the sea.

Exo 14:28 And as the waters returned, they covered the chariots and the horsemen, even all the army of Pharaoh that went in after them into the sea; not even one of them was left.

Exo 14:29 But the children of Israel walked on dry land through the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Exo 14:30 Thus Jehovah saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the seashore.

Acts 2:40 And with many other words he solemnly testified and exhorted them, saying, Be saved from this crooked generation.

Acts 2:41 Those then who received his word were baptized, and there were added on that day about three thousand souls.

2. The water of the flood delivered Noah out of the old manner of life into a new environment; in like manner, the water of baptism delivers us out of the inherited vain manner of life into a manner of life in resurrection in Christ—Rom. 6:3-5.

Rom 6:3 Or are you ignorant that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Rom 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.

Rom 6:5 For if we have grown together with Him in the likeness of His death, indeed we will also be in the likeness of His resurrection,