

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T.J. Bolen—What was the world worth to God? John 3:16-17

PM: T.J. Bolen—What was the church worth to Matthew? Luke 5:57-28

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

**"Ye that love the Lord, hate evil:
he preserveth the souls of his saints;
he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked." - Psalms 97:10**

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

**JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY,
COME SEE!**

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM , 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320
Nursery provided
Bible Classes for all ages

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

Saturdays 3 pm
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

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WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

"every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master." Luke 6:40b

THE CHARACTER OF NOAH

Notice how Noah's character contrasts with the world he lived in. **"But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. These are the generations of Noah: Noah walked with God"** (Genesis 6:8-9). Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. In the midst of this immoral society, Noah stood out. Notice what we read about him.

Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. This is the first time the word "grace" is used in the Bible and Noah did not earn God's blessing...he was given God's favor. Without grace Noah could not have been saved from the destruction of the world. God's grace benefited Noah. First, God revealed His intentions to Noah (6:13,17). Second, God gave commands to Noah that, if he obeyed, would save him and his family (6:14-16). Third, God promised Noah salvation from the flood (6:18). The grace extended by God was not "cheap grace," but included hard work by man in obeying God. Also, careful attention to detail to what God had said and how He had said it was essential. We are living in a world where folks have disregarded God's details; such action is not the means of obtaining the grace of God. Further, the complete judgment of God against all that was evil and sinful is expressed. Noah trusted God. In so doing, Noah stood alone in grace and favor with God.

Noah was a just man. To be "just" means to live a righteous life and to treat others in a fair and just way, despite the circumstances. It means to be upright, honest, and virtuous, never to cheat or steal from others. Noah lived a just and moral life both before God and man. Noah's righteousness exceeded that of the people. "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:20). Noah's mindset was to do only that which God wanted him to do. He allowed God's standards to effect and direct his life. Noah was unafraid to live differently from the status quo. What a lesson for Christians! The child of God is to live that holy and just life that is different from the world (1 John 2:15-17). The Christian life is a constant that is not robbed by circumstances.

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain:" - Philippians 1:21.

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Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Jan Kelleher, Margaret Herring, Stephanie Rigney, Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, also Richard Ramkinson.*

- **Trevia Parks** is in severe pain with a neck ailment.
- **Jan Kelleher** will be going to Charleston Tuesday for surgery follow-up. We are thankful for everyone's prayers.
- **Dorothy Gray** requests prayers for herself and her family.
- **Margaret Herring** was able to be with last Sunday, despite many ills.
- **Pat Joyner's** sister's great, great, grandson is home now. We are thankful for that.
- **Remember: Gwen Pittman; Anna Porter; Merrie Chrismus**
- Assistance for flooding victims has also provided several opportunities for Bible studies. Pray for those our **evangelist is studying with**, that they will be receptive to the Gospel.
- **Give thanks to God and pray for all these**, and the work of the Lord here at West Columbia.

"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much" - Luke 16:10

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Devo** at **Janet Boyd's** home Friday 11/20, 6:30 pm. Bring whatever food you like.
- **Bible Study** at **Church Building, Saturdays 3 pm**, all are invited and please invite visitors to come! It's a good way for people to learn more of us. An informal session around a table with everyone using their bibles and Strong's Concordances.
- Please bring **Pantry items**, pop-top canned items are good.

"But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing" - Galatians 4:18

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

"When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

Better it is not to vow, then to vow and not pay." - Ecclesiastes 5:4,5

God's Command

"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." - Matt. 5:48

God's Plan

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:"

- Ephesians 4:11-13

THE CHARACTER OF NOAH - (continued from page 1)

Noah was a perfect man. The Hebrew word for perfect is to be without blemish or to be blameless, to be moral, a person of purity, of integrity, of honesty; to be whole and complete. Not that he was sinless (9:24), but that there were no blatant faults. He was a man of moral integrity among his generation. In that godless society, no one had any charges against Noah. We can conclude that he had a good relationship with his friends and neighbors. No one wondered if Noah was dealing honestly with them. They knew his ethics were solid. No one had to question whether Noah was cheating on his wife. They knew Noah was committed to her. No one questioned Noah's methods. They know he was not seeking to manipulate them. No one questioned Noah's sincerity. They may have questioned his sanity, but not his heart. Jesus expects His church to be perfect (blameless) when He delivers it to God the Father, "**a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish**" (Ephesians 5:27).

Noah walked with God. Noah's conduct and his walk of life are emphasized. The same thing was recorded about Enoch; it is the essential element we need. Noah's walk with God was threefold. First, it was a walk that continued individually. Second, it was a walk that persevered a family. Third, it was a walk in contrast to the disobedient world. The present generation could use a change of heart so we can walk with God instead of walking with the world. It requires a change of attitude. The imaginations and thoughts of the heart cannot be evil continually while yet we expect to walk in God's favor. We must have a walk of life that corresponds with our profession. Note that when the Christian walks with God, it is also a circumspective walk. "**And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil**" (Ephesians 5:11-16). The circumspective walk of the child of God is about an awareness of one's surroundings. Christians should behave like Noah by walking with God through a very dark and dying world.

How can we find grace in the eyes of God? By being just, perfect, and walking with God. Character does matter with God! May we be encouraged by the example and life of Noah.

Glenn Hitchcock, Assistant Minister of the Fort Valley church of Christ, Georgia

Are you doing all you can? If so, be happy for God knows! If not ... God knows!

"**But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.**" - Hebrews 6:9,10

"**Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.**" - Galatians 6:7