

GOD'S ARK

1. When I say "ARK", what do you think of?
 - A) Flood; boat; Noah; salvation; animals...?
 - B) When talking about Noah's Ark, **WHY** was an ark necessary? (Gen. 6:5-6) The Hebrew word translated "Regretted" or "Repented" is NA-HAM, meaning "*needing comfort*" because the situation grieved His heart. God wasn't so much angry as heartbroken! In Genesis 6:1-3 & 11 we learn illicit sex and violence are the reasons for God's broken heart. Genesis 6:13 in Hebrew indicates that God saw that man's actions would lead to self-destruction and handed them over to their chosen course and hastened it. (Ex. 9:12 & Romans 1: 26-27)
 - C) Notice: NO-AH's name in Hebrew means "comfort" or "relief" (Gen. 5:28-29) and that Noah's **actions** (Gen. 6:22) opened the door for God to "see" Noah as **righteous** (Gen. 7:1) and that Noah's *imputed righteousness* **blesses** not only himself. But also his family and the animals with him! (Gen. 7:1-2)
 - D) The Hebrew word translated "ARK" means "BOX", was a "structure" which served as protection through dangerous waters providing salvation for God's chosen. There are **3 decks** and **1 door**, which God uses to shut them in the Ark. However, there were no sails, wheel or rudder because the passengers were to trust in the power and wisdom of God, as opposed to the alternative. (Gen. 3:6 & Proverbs 3:5-6)

2. A Previous “Ark”

- A) On day 1 of creation (Gen. 1:1-2), God creates the “Deep”, the Hebrew word TA-HOME, meaning (in the Septuagint) the “*pit*”, “*hell*” or “*chaos*”... Chaos waters.
- B) On day 3 of creation (Gen. 1:9-13), God separates the chaos waters and creates the dry land and skies... **order out of chaos**.
- C) On day 6 of creation (Gen. 2:7-8), God formed human pottery from dirt. God placed him in the Garden, in the middle, in Eden in the East. A type-of Ark with a face to face presence with God, characterized by peace, life and safety through dangerous waters. The dry land was divided into 3 realms... the Garden in Eden, the East and the rest of the dry land.

3. The Ark of the Old Covenant

- A) In Exodus 25:10, the Hebrew word translated “Ark” means “*chest*” or “*coffin*”. These structures were routinely used in near East pagan religions to hold their idols. They had **1 door** in the side and were made from wood, stone and clay.
- B) The Ark of the Covenant (Ex. 25:10-21 & Lev. 16:2) had **3 levels**: 1. Feet to keep it off the now-corrupt ground. 2. The chest itself. 3. The Mercy Seat with golden winged Cherubim where the Shekinah glory of God dwelt.
- C) This Ark of the Covenant led God’s chosen through dangerous waters of the flooded Jordan River.

4. The Ark of the New Covenant

- A) In Luke 3:22 we see **3 Persons in one “Ark”**... Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Notice the winged creature.
- B) Jesus is the **1 Door** of the sheepfold. (John 10:7)
- C) Jesus is the life. (John 11:25-26)
- D) Jesus is Salvation. (Acts 4:12)
- E) Jesus is the end of fear. (Luke 12:32)
- F) Jesus is with us always. (Matt. 28:20)

5. The “Ark” today

- A) In Genesis 1:27, the Hebrew word translated “Image” is TSELEM, meaning “Idol”.
- B) In 2 Corinthians 4:6-7 we see what’s in the “Ark” of our body and why we are made of “dirt”.
- C) In Thessalonians 5:23 we learn we have **3 realms** as well.

6. The final “Ark”

- A) Revelation 21:1-4
- B) Revelation 22:1-5
- C) Eternal peace, safety, rest and life with a face to face relationship with our God. Matt Redman puts it in his song... “And on that day when my strength is failing. The end draws near and my time has come. Still my soul will sing your praise unending... 10,000 years and then forever more.”