**SERMON OUTLINE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SERMON TITLE:** | Captain Noah and His Unsinkable Faith |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Hebrews 11:7 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2388 |
|  |  |
| We are grateful for the opportunity to provide this outline produced from a sermon preached by Adrian Rogers while serving as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. This outline is intended for your personal, non-commercial use.  In order to ensure our ability to be good stewards of Adrian Rogers’ messages, Love Worth Finding has reserved all rights to this content.  Except for your personal, non-commercial use and except for brief quotations in printed reviews, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means —electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other— without the prior permission of the publisher.  Copyright ©2021 Love Worth Finding Ministries, Inc. | |

1. INTRODUCTION
   1. The importance of faith cannot be overemphasized.
      1. We ask one another, “How are you feeling?” Perhaps we ought to ask, “How are you faithing?
   2. How is your faith? What is the state of your faith today?
   3. Hebrews 11:7
   4. The story of Noah and the ark is not myth; it is true history.
      1. Historians tell us that in all of the great groupings of the world in ancient history there is a flood story.
      2. The Bible has it accurately and other histories have been corrupted, but they all root in a literal fact.
      3. Proof that the flood literally existed is that Jesus believed it.
         1. Matthew 24:37
   5. In this generation we swagger at our technological advance, but while amateurs built the ark, professionals built the Titanic.
      1. Noah may have been an amateur in ark building, but he was technologically advanced spiritually as he trusted the Lord.
   6. Noah had an unsinkable faith in treacherous days and that’s what made him a Champion of Faith.
2. the warning his faith believed
   1. God warned Noah of the flood.
      1. But he had never seen a flood.
      2. Noah had never even seen rain.
      3. Genesis 2:5-6
         1. In the time before the flood, God watered the earth by springs and rivers and by evaporation, condensation and dew.
      4. So Noah is warned by God of something he had never ever seen before.
   2. A warning from the Word; he had the Word of God.
      1. Romans 10:17
      2. Without a word from God, you cannot have faith.
      3. Faith is not a leap in the dark; it is a step into God’s light.
         1. You must hear from God.
         2. You do not name it and claim it. You believe it and receive it because God has named it and you claim it.
      4. Hebrews 11:1
      5. “Hope” does not mean maybe, perhaps, or I wish.
         1. Hope means bedrock assurance; an anchor of the soul.
            1. It is solid.
         2. “Substance,” sub-stand, something beneath us that we can stand upon.
      6. This bedrock assurance called hope comes from the Word of God; God speaks.
      7. God communicates His word two ways.
         1. The written word.
            1. That’s the word logos.

That is the sixty-six books of the Bible.

* + - * 1. That means the total revelation of God.
      1. Another word that is translated “word” is rhema.
         1. It means an utterance.
         2. Rhema is a word from the Word, a word that God communicates personally to your heart.

A personal word from God.

* + - * 1. Ephesians 6:17
        2. When Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness, Jesus took a word from the Word, used it as a sword.

Matthew 4:1-11

* + - * 1. That’s the sword of the Spirit, the rhema of God
        2. The truth of the Bible is where faith comes from.
        3. When God takes the truth of the Bible and makes that truth personal to you in your situation, you’re going to find faith engendered in your heart.
    1. God speaks today through His written Word and He speaks personally to your heart.
    2. When you have a rhema from God, that’s when you find faith growing in your heart and life.
  1. You have to hear from God in order to have faith.
  2. Romans 10:14
     1. We have to hear in order to believe
     2. Romans 10:14 says, “How shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?” in the King James version.
     3. The New American Standard says, “How shall they believe in Him whom they’ve not heard?”
     4. In order to believe Him, you don’t just hear about God, you hear Him.
  3. 2 Timothy 1:12,
     1. “I know whom I’ve believed.” Not “in whom I have believed.” I have believed Him.
     2. Faith is believing God.
  4. You must have faith that hears God.
  5. The faith that Noah received resulted in fear.
     1. Hebrews 11:7
     2. Some people say they don’t believe in a religion based on fear.
        1. Bible religion is based on fear.
        2. Fear is the foundation of faith.
     3. The problem in our world today: there is no fear of God in this generation.
     4. Romans 3:10-18
        1. This is a description of a generation that does not fear God.
     5. Jeremiah 2:19
        1. God does not have to judge us, we judge ourselves.
        2. When Noah believed God, he feared God.
     6. Fear and faith are inseparably linked together.
        1. Fear sees God’s power, holiness and justice.
        2. Faith sees God’s lovingkindness, grace and mercy.
     7. The fear of God is not a cringing dread of God.
        1. It is love on its knees.
     8. Nine things that the fear of God will do for you.
        1. Proverbs 22:4
           1. Godly living

Proverbs 16:6

* + - * 1. Godly knowledge

Proverbs 1:7

* + - * 1. Godly wisdom

Proverbs 9:10

* + - * 1. Godly contentment

Proverbs 15:16

* + - * 1. Godly worship

Psalm 5:7

* + - * 1. Godly salvation

Psalm 85:9

* + - * 1. Godly confidence

Proverbs 14:26

* + - * 1. Godly insight

Psalm 25:14

* + - * 1. Godly deliverance

Psalm 33:18-19

* + 1. Noah was a man of faith because he feared the Lord.
  1. The mark of a society on its last legs is when there is no fear of God.

1. the work that his faith achieved
   1. Having heard from God, Noah went to work.
   2. The Bible teaches that, “Faith without works is dead.”
      1. James 2:20
      2. God told Noah to build an ark and Noah obeyed.
   3. The word “believed” comes from an old English word “by live.”
      1. What we really believe we live by.
   4. Don’t say that you have faith if you do not obey.
      1. You have to obey even when you don’t understand.
      2. Noah had not seen a flood, but he had a word, and he obeyed.
   5. Warren Wiersbe said, “Faith is obeying God in spite of circumstances or consequences.”
   6. If you work without faith, that is presumption.
      1. If you have faith without work, that is pretense.
      2. Faith and work is power.
      3. Faith without works is dead.
   7. True faith is more than intellectual belief; it is belief with legs on it.
      1. It’s not what you eat; it’s what you digest that makes you strong.
      2. It’s not what you gain; it’s what you save that makes you rich.
      3. It’s not what you read but what you remember that makes you learned.
      4. It’s not what you preach but what you practice that makes you a true believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.
   8. Noah was a man of faith and therefore he prepared an ark to the saving of his family.
   9. You may lose your children because your faith is a mere intellectual faith, not a practical, living faith that is obeying God.
      1. Your children see the difference.
   10. Two men in the Bible who are contrasted: Noah and Lot.
       1. Lot, a miserable, backslidden yet saved man who moved to Sodom, the most vile and wicked city on the face of the Earth.
       2. Genesis 19
          1. God warned Lot as God had warned Noah to get his family out and to flee the destruction that was to come.
          2. Lot attempted to witness to his family but they mocked him because they had seen the way he lived.
       3. Lot had a saved soul, but he lost his family.
          1. We should not want to go to Heaven without our children and grandchildren.
          2. The religion that does not begin at home does not begin.
   11. Very often, our loved ones are the hardest ones to witness to.
       1. This may be because they know you.
       2. Many of us need to go and say, “Will you forgive me for the life I have lived in front of you? I’m a Christian, but I have been a poor example.”
       3. They’ll be watching you for a while.
       4. Then later on you come back and say, “Would you forgive me for something else? I haven’t shared with you the most important thing on earth to me. Would you forgive me for not sharing Jesus with you?”
       5. That will give you an open door to share the Lord Jesus Christ with your loved one.
   12. Jesus healed a man who was filled with demons and the man wanted to follow Him.
       1. But instead, Jesus told him to go home and tell his friends about what the Lord had done for him.
       2. Mark 5:19
2. the wickedness that his faith perceived
   1. Noah lived in a wicked society.
   2. Don’t say that you cannot have faith because of the societal problems that we have today.
   3. Think of the ungodly world that Noah lived in.
      1. It was a day of secular philosophy.
         1. Genesis 6:5-6
            1. The imaginations or the thoughts of man’s heart were evil continually.

“Imaginations” does not mean daydreams, it means philosophies.

There was a secular philosophy, like we find on the campuses of today’s schools and in our news outlets today.

* + 1. It was a day of scientific progress.
       1. Noah built a ship about the proportion of an ocean liner that could withstand the most ferocious storm the world has ever known.
       2. They were building great cities in this day.
          1. Genesis 4:17
       3. We live in a day of scientific progress
          1. Potentials of genetic engineering
          2. Vile virtual reality via the internet
    2. They were days of social plagues.
       1. Genesis 6:11-13
       2. Think of the social plagues today: terrorism, violence, kidnappings and murders.
       3. And yet, Noah was a man of faith.
       4. Think of the violence today against the unborn.
    3. Days of sexual perversion.
       1. Genesis 6:5
       2. Jesus linked the days of Noah with the days of Lot.
          1. Luke 17:26-30
          2. Jesus said, “When I come again, the days of Noah and the days of Lot are going to be replicated.”
  1. See the wickedness that Noah perceived, and yet in all of this Noah lived and he preached.
     1. People did not listen to Noah, but he preached.
     2. You don’t measure preaching success by numbers.
        1. Sometimes Jesus preached crowds away.
     3. It is not a preacher’s job to fill the auditorium but to fill the pulpit and preach the Word of God.
     4. Some could say that Noah must not have been much of a preacher since he had only a handful of converts.
        1. But he preached the Word of God.
     5. Imagine what pundits would’ve said about Noah had he lived in our day:
        1. They would have called him bigoted because he said there was only one way to be saved from the flood.
        2. They would have called him a fanatic because he believed in the flood.
        3. They would have called him a calamity howler.
     6. Ezekiel 3:7
     7. Ezekiel 2:5
  2. The Bible says, “And Noah when he preached condemned them.”
     1. Our generation also has been warned.

1. THE WEALTH THAT HIS FAITH RECEIVED
   1. Noah’s legacy was righteousness.
      1. He was made righteous in the sight of the Lord by faith.
   2. Hebrews 10:38
      1. We receive spiritual life when we receive Christ.
   3. Noah was saved not by works, but by grace.
      1. Genesis 6:8
         1. That is the first time grace is used in the Bible.
   4. Noah went through great heartache, pain and difficulty.
   5. It cost Noah all that he had to build that ark.
      1. He went into the ark a pauper, but when he came out, he owned the Earth.
      2. Matthew 5:5
   6. When Noah went into the ark, he went in a minority; when he came out, he was the majority.
   7. We’re on the winning side.
      1. But you have to see this by faith.
2. CONCLUSION
   1. The ark is also an illustration of salvation.
      1. It’s a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ.
   2. The ark is finished, and just before the flood waters rise, God calls Noah into the ark.
      1. Genesis 7:1
         1. God was in there.
   3. And then God shut the door.
      1. There was a window on top, a door on the side.
      2. Noah was in charge of the window, God was in charge of the door.
   4. The ark was sealed on the inside and outside with a gluey substance called pitch.
      1. It’s the same word translated “atonement” in the Old Testament.
      2. God put atonement on the outside and the inside, and not one drop of water could come through.
   5. It’s a picture of what will happen when you come into Jesus.
      1. When you come into Jesus, God shuts the door.
      2. You’re sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.
      3. Not one drop of judgment can come to the child of God who is saved in Jesus.
   6. We have a wonderful salvation; we have a wonderful Savior.
   7. Are you in the ark?
      1. Are you safe in Christ?
      2. The door is open and God is saying to you, “Come! Come thou into the ark.”
   8. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   9. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16