

Title: Noah Found Grace

Scripture: Genesis 6:8

Speaker: Josh Maness

Event: Sunday Evening Service

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**Genesis 6:8** *"Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord"*

J. Allan Peterson said this "I read about a small boy who was consistently late coming home from school. His parents warned him one day that he must be home on time that afternoon, but nevertheless he arrived later than ever. His mother met him at the door and said nothing. At dinner that night, the boy looked at his plate. There was a slice of bread and a glass of water. He looked at his father's full plate and then at his father, but his father remained silent. The boy was crushed. The father waited for the full impact to sink in, then quietly took the boy's plate and placed it in front of himself. He took his own plate of meat and potatoes, put it in front of the boy, and smiled at his son. When that boy grew to be a man, he said, "All my life I've known what God is like by what my father did that night."

Genesis 6:5-7 explains the situation before we get to the positive part of verse 8. Those verses say: *"And GOD 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. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them."*

#### **Why was Noah chosen for this task that God had? How did he find grace?**

1. **Noah was a just man:** (verse 9) *"These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God."* To be found **just** in the Bible it meant that God saw you just as if you had never sinned.
2. **Noah was perfect and blameless in his generation.** This does not mean that Noah was sinless. He was perfect because he looked to God to make him perfect. If we call a man or a woman in this time perfect, they would be the example of what to strive for.
3. **Noah walked with God.** He didn't just talk about the things of God, he DID the things of God. In Genesis 6:22 it says *"Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he."* Noah followed what God asked him to do. In our time we have people who claim to be Christians but don't follow God's commandments. God's will is better than our will. He knows what is better for us. Hebrews 11:7 it says *"By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."* II Peter 2:5 says *"and spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;"* Noah did the things of God and God blessed him. He found grace in doing the things of the Lord.

#### **Why do we need grace?**

1. **Because the world is going to end.** We need to be ready for our ending just like the people in Noah's day were warned about. They were told to get ready but had no regard for the warnings they heard. If we aren't covered by the grace of God for the remission of our sins, then we are going to die without him. II Peter 3:14 says *"Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless."* Peter told the people to be ready for our meeting with the Lord whether we go by rapture or the grave. He told us to be sure of our salvation.

#### **How do we find grace?**

1. **Be just:** God sent his son so that you and I could be found just in his eyes. Romans 5:8-9 describes this: *"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being*

*now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.” Romans 5:1 says “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* The word just or justified comes up many times in the bible.

2. **Be complete:** We need to be complete in the eyes of the Lord. This has nothing to do with our strengths, money, intuition, or anything in our efforts. It's by God and God only. His word is there for us to live by and walk by. He gives us the instructions for our lives and we are to live them. He has prepared the way for us all we have to do is follow it. It's simple.
3. **Do as God commands:** God commanded Noah to build an ark – he did and it saved him. Our world is dying because they aren't doing what he commands. They aren't following God and his commandments. This is when we become full of excuses. Excuses don't work with God. He knows our intentions. It had never rained in Noah's day. They had never seen it. Noah went by faith and obeyed God's word. We don't hear Noah saying “but there's so many trees I'll have to cut down” or “they'll call me crazy”. He didn't give excuses. He knew to obey God's commands because in the end that would save his life and the lives of all those that followed his direction. We try to sugar coat our actions for not doing as God commands. Again, he knows our intentions.

**What do we need to do to show others grace?**

1. **Be preachers:** We are all commanded to go out and share the word of God. We are to preach the gospel and God's righteousness. We are all given the task to spread the news of Christ and the things he is doing for us. We can use our daily lives to preach. Our way of living can be our message. People watch our lives and observe how we live. We are all born sinners who need God's grace.