FAITH and Obedience ~ Hebrews 11:7

→ Scripture Reading Gen. 6:5-6, Heb. 11:6-7

The WICKEDNESS of Man ~ Genesis 6:5-9

⁵ The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. ⁶ The LORD was grieved that He had made man on the earth, and His heart was filled with pain. ⁷ So the LORD said, I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth - men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air - for I am grieved that I have made them.

⁵ The LORD observed the EXTENT of human wickedness on the earth, and He saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and Totally EVIL. (NLT)

Gen. 6:11 (NIV) Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence.

Gen. 1:31 (NIV) God saw ALL that He had made, and it was VERY GOOD

Gen. 6:17 (NIV) I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish.

⁸ BUT Noah found FAVOR in the eyes of the LORD. ⁹ This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked WITH God.

IMPLICATION

Ephesians 4:30 And do not GRIEVE the Holy Spirit of God...

Ephesians 4:29-30 (NIV) Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is HELPFUL for building others up according to their NEEDS, that it may BENEFIT those who listen. ³⁰ And DO NOT GRIEVE the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Words MEAN Things-

ACTIONS Have Consequences-

Ephesians 4:29-32 (NIV) Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of ALL bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² BE kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Words MEAN Things-

ACTIONS Have Consequences-

Noah's LONG Term OBEDIENCE ~ Hebrews 11:7

By Faith Abel - was a RIGHTEOUS man

By Faith Enoch - WALKED WITH God

By Faith Noah - OBEYED God Long Term

⁶ And **without FAITH** it is IMPOSSIBLE to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him. ⁷ By FAITH Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

11:1 ... Faith is being SURE of what we hope for...

11:1 ... CERTAIN of what we do not see ...

IMPLICATIONS

Genesis 6:22 (NIV) Noah did EVERYTHING just as God Commanded him.

Genesis 6:22 (NIV) Noah did EVERYTHING just as God COMMANDED him.

➔Obedience is a LONG WALK in the same direction

IMPLICATION

AFTER the Flood - Genesis 8:20-22

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. ²¹ The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in His heart: Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. ²² As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.

Response to the FLOOD...

- God KNOWS man's heart is still EVIL
- God is PLEASED with SACRIFICES
- > God PROMISES never to destroy ALL living creatures
- > God PROMISES Times and Seasons will Continue

Genesis 9:13 (NIV) I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

TAKE AWAY ??

Genesis 6:8 (NIV) Noah found FAVOR in the eyes of the LORD.

→Grace is Always very COSTLY

Romans 5:1 (NIV) Therefore, since we have been JUSTIFIED through FAITH, we have peace with God THROUGH our Lord Jesus Christ...

Titus 2:11-12 (NIV) For the GRACE of God that brings salvation has APPEARED to ALL men. ¹² IT teaches us to say NO to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age...

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold, Threaten the soul with infinite loss; Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold, Points to the refuge, the mighty cross.