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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1787 ~ The Flood.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

Some people become so caught up in convincing themselves that they're right that they end up acting foolishly. When God shut the door of the Ark after Noah, his family and all the land animals were inside, some of the people who had mocked them during the building of the ark stayed there to see what would happen. They wanted to prove Noah wrong. When nothing at all happened on the first day, the onlookers would have felt more justified in disbelieving what Noah had preached.

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The word used for this flood in Genesis Chapter 7 means a mighty flood of waters and applies only to this Noah's flood. This was unique in all history. No other flood could be compared with it. There were a number of reasons for this. All the water in the vapour canopy above the atmosphere around the earth was converted to rain. The fountains of the deep, possibly the ocean depths were allowed to come over all the earth again as they had been at Day 1 of creation week. The springs of water under the surface of the ground, that bubbled up to moisten the earth also became part of the massive amounts of water of the flood. It occurred in the 600th year of Noah's life.

Even after God had shut the door of the Ark He waited a further 7 days before breaking up the fountains of water for the flood to begin. Why did He do that? That week gave Noah and his family time to settle in all the animals and feed them. Only then did God send rain and flood waters. Some people want to think that God is a harsh God that they can have no confidence in Him. But here again, God is acting very compassionately to the people and animals inside the Ark.

While all the land animals not on the Ark perished, it wasn't so for the marine species, though no doubt multitudes of marine animals perished when the ocean beds were broken up. This is utterly inconsistent with a local flood or a gentle flood. In some places around the world there are huge graveyards containing many animals and sea creatures buried so quickly in the surging muddy waters that their bodies didn't have time to decay. The pressure of much weight on top of them meant that whole specimens or parts have been preserved as fossils.

The normal process of an animal dying means that its body decays over time and if not eaten by other creatures, the flesh disintegrates and breaks down; later the bones do too. What does the fossil record teach us? It shows us that today's living animals look very similar to those that perished in the flood. Some were much larger before the flood because they lived in such lush conditions but they still look the same. This evidence denies that animals and birds all evolved into other types of animals. God had given them the ability to reproduce after their own kinds and that's what they did.

All claims that the world is billions of years old are false. How do we know? Because the sun is shrinking at a constant rate each year and if the billions of years' theory were true, the sun would have been so huge that it would have been very close to touching the earth. The earth would have been boiled by the sun and nothing would have been able to live here. At present the sun is around 93 million miles away. If the sun has a solar storm on the side facing our world, we have a heat wave.

Scientists have put forward many theories of how the world came into being. They've tried to prove that everything made itself starting with tiny cells that just came about without any designer in some pre-existing swamp. They still contradict one another because there's no evidence to prove their theories. They do this because many people don't ever want God to rule over them. They want to live independent lives that ignore and belittle the Bible's teachings about God, as well as the results of their sin and a coming Day of Judgment. But just as it shows in the record of Noah's Ark, there comes a time when God's mercy will once again be replaced by His punishment.

God knew that only 8 people would be on the Ark as none from that generation would be converted through Noah's preaching. Some people like Methuselah and his father Lamech believed but died before the rain started. God had promised Noah that he and his family would be saved but each member of his household exercised saving faith too.

The balance between man's free choice and God's electing grace is a mystery to us, yet both are true. God promised Noah that his family would be saved long before they voluntarily chose to enter the Ark but choose they did when the time arrived.

Were there reasons why the people standing around watching Noah build the Ark didn't believe in his God? Some people cultivate a spiritual blindness by refusing to believe what God says. In 2nd Corinthians Chapter 4 it says: "For if this gospel we preach is hidden, it is hidden only from those who are being lost. They do not believe, because their minds have been kept in the dark of the evil god of this world." Satan tries to blind people by having them told lies about God by false teachers or by keeping them extremely active on worldly things.

The Bible in 2nd Peter Chapter 3 tells us in the last days many will deny that God created the earth and that God once flooded the Earth. Today science and Christianity have become bitter rivals. Science attempts to claim the moral high ground by citing "facts" while hypocritically refusing to consider any fact that is linked in any way to Scripture. They simply live in wilful blindness. The Lord Jesus met this in the Pharisees too.

In John's Gospel Chapter 9 it says: "'Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, 'We are not blind too, are we?'" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, 'We see,' your sin remains." There's no one blinder than the person who will not see even though they have the evidence before them.

God calls on all people to repent of their sins, believe on the work and person of the Lord Jesus, commit to and be His follower and be born spiritually by God's Holy Spirit. In Acts Chapter 17 it says: "(God) now commands all men everywhere to repent." Can Christians also have a form of spiritual blindness? Some are deceived without realizing it while others see the deception but choose to continue in it and they end up believing the very lies that they have been fed, usually by the teachers they have chosen to follow.

Right through the whole Bible we see spiritual deception constantly being perpetrated against God's people by Satan through false prophets and teachers. If a believer really loves the Lord and has a genuine desire to follow after His Word and if they are being deceived unintentionally, the Lord will reveal to them what is wrong and then give them an option to leave. They still have a choice. If they can clearly see from the Bible what is really going on and obey the Scripture, then the Lord will not only lead them out but into a fellowship where the pastors and teachers correctly preach the Word of Truth! Some choose to leave while others see but stay anyway.

Can anyone be excused because they've been spiritually deceived? This is a very dangerous place to be. Once we've clearly heard the voice of the Lord speaking to us by the Holy Spirit through God's Word, we must obey what we read and hear. Otherwise there is the very real danger that the Lord Himself will allow us to believe the lie and from that time on we'll be incapable of responding to the truth, even when we hear it.

May the Lord have great mercy and grace on all of us who love Him, love His Word and love His people. No one is immune from spiritual deception. Let all of us take to heart Paul's stern warning in 1st Corinthians Chapter 10: "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall." The context of this verse is in relation to temptation and sin but in principle it has a wider application. We need to test everything with the Word of God. We must always seek to speak the truth in love but we must always speak the truth even if it hurts! Remember the Lord knows those who are His.

Noah was not only a man of strong faith in God's word, but thoroughly obedient to that word. The tasks God had given him to do were extremely difficult and discouraging. But Noah never questioned or complained. He simply obeyed and this brought him wonderful fellowship with God. There are seven recorded times when God spoke to Noah.

No one likes to talk about judgment, particularly the judgment of God. Just the thought of it brings fearfulness to some and to others disbelief that it will ever happen to them. In courts of law, the evidence for the crime is presented and if the accused is found guilty, society doesn't sympathize with the declared guilty. If a person does the crime, they should accept the punishment.

But what about God's court? Some are let go free because they used God's way of getting around their 'guilty verdict.' God is so willing to save individuals from the penalty of their wrongdoing that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to pay all the penalties people have piled up since the first sin in the Garden of Eden. This huge debt paid by Jesus came at a terrible cost but those who claim His pardon through Jesus escape the debt. They ask the Lord Jesus to forgive them and free them because they trust that Jesus can do that for them. In appreciation they then love and obey His will for them for the rest of their lives on earth.

In Romans Chapter 8, it says: "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit." This love for Jesus drives out the fear of judgment, because judgment is past for those in Christ. Jesus paid their debt owed to God.

As the world draws closer to the final days, evil will increase and grow stronger. Don't be afraid to form an opinion about what God says is sin and stand against it. Many people would rather live in darkness than come out into the light. If you stand firm on God's word the mockers will have been made aware of their wrongdoing. Take every opportunity to share the Gospel with others. Tell them of God's love and forgiveness. You may just open the way for a lost soul to avoid God's final and eternal judgment.

Now is the urgency of getting all who will listen into the ark of safety which is Jesus Christ by His death on the cross.

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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