

The Testimony of Noah - 1
Pastor Jesse O'Dorisio – August 28, 2024
Bible Text: II Thessalonians 2:1-7; Philippians 1:4-7; Genesis 5:28 - 6:8

[08-28-24 The Testimony of Noah – 1 – Living Waters Tabernacle](#)

Well, praise God, we're going to start a new bible study tonight, and the Lord kind of put this on my heart off and on for about the past year and a half or so. But we're going to take a glorious journey, and the testimony in Noah. So, there's going to be a lot of treasure we find there. A precious brother, and an amazing encouragement to us, but by the Spirit of the Lord we're going to venture through this if the Lord tarry. The bridal truth encouragement in this section of the scriptures here in this life of Noah, and all of the happenings is tremendous, and especially at this time. We're in a time that's much like Noah was in, in his time. And God willing as the word of the Lord says, they wrote these things for us. 01:06

See, there's so much more than just an incredible miracle that God was performing showing His power, showing that God brings judgement, showing so many things, but overall, I think I take from this in testimony to my life is the depth of love for just one man: the one man. Now, God obviously rescued his family as well too, but this was one man that God foreknew. This man Noah would love and cherish the grace of God, and I thank God how sweet and powerful this is because we're going to see all the way through this journey as we see with any of our brethren in the word of God, it's always grace, and it's going to be grace that's magnified, it's going to be grace that chose them, it's going to be grace that keeps them, it's going to be grace that finishes them to their place in glory that grace had chose them for. So, you think for one life as I mentioned God is holding everything back, I think you know the story, and as we go through it over these next weeks, we'll be encouraged in it. But He holds everything back till Noah and his family are ready to be lifted up just as He's holding everything back for us. 02:38

If you'll turn with me over to Second Thessalonians Chapter Two, we've read this scripture many times, I pray it takes an appropriate place in your hearts tonight as we meditate, and as the Spirit brings forth this testimony in the life of Noah. But in Second Thessalonians Chapter Two, and we'll begin reading from verse one it says here as Paul is speaking to them, now we beseech you brethren by the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto Him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled neither by spirit nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as the day of Christ is at hand. Think of all those things that were just said about being troubled, or all the different things that we could feel shaken in mind. With all the ongoings that we have in our society today, in this world today, I know there's so many Christians so sadly they get bent out of shape about an election, what does that even matter? God puts whom He will, that's what matters. God puts down whom He will that's what matters, and the beauty of it all is that this is willed, and this is purposed by God, every single bit of this, and know who it's for, it's for you. And I thank God that I can rest and come into a rest of the very perfect peace that passes all understanding knowing that God is on the throne for us. 04:21

Now, it goes on to say, let no man deceive you by any means: for that day, the day of Christ being at hand, that day, shall not come, except there be a falling away first. How could you even think that we would have some type of a great world revival when the word of God says that at the time of the coming of the Lord there's going to be a great falling away from the things of God. Man will not endure sound doctrine, and yet think, they still continue to preach this because they do not want the word of God. It sounds better, it's more exciting, they can work people up, and let's be honest it's for their belly because sadly Christianity is become a business; it's been that way for a long time, and I thank God, He's protected us from that. I thank the Lord, it gives me chills in how beautiful what God has given us, and to cherish this saints; cherish it. Thank Him, and we know it's all because of the grace of God that is with us. But it says less there be a falling away first, that the man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition. The antichrist, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

05:57

Now, you think that the spirit of antichrist is so abundant in the world today, isn't it? It's getting set up for this, they're going to wonder after this guy, and you know it because it's already here, that spirit of wickedness is working full time. Remember ye not, verse five, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. See, this is what's so beautiful about this, I told you about it, Paul has been preaching about it, there's going to be a falling away first before the Lord comes, but ye know what withholds that he might be revealed in this time. There's a purpose, there's a reason that that antichrist isn't come forth yet, alright? And here I am gathered with that reason tonight. It's so wonderful, this is all about us in Christ. And now you know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time for the mystery of iniquity doth already work. Sure, it does, that enemy is the prince, the power of this world that is been going on since the Lord cast him out on it. Only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. Now, see what that means is He that's holding it back, needs be taken out of the way before that antichrist is going to be revealed; that's the bride. That's the bride, that's just like with Noah here. God, He saw how wicked it was upon the world, He saw that there was no one seeking God, He saw that, well He even said I wish I didn't even make man. I want to take them all out, but then praise God there was one that captured the love of God and He holds everything back for it. And He holds everything back till Noah is ready to be taken. Until that ark is completely built, until the masterpiece, and that ark, let me tell you something, that was a masterpiece that was ready to be lifted out while everything else was thrown into destruction. Alright?

08:27

So, what we have here brothers and sisters is our precious Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We are the reason that everything is being held back; He will have His wife, she will be made ready. He is preparing everything for Him until we all come to that one faith, that antichrist is not coming forth and I thank the Lord. People can get worked up, they can get all excited about well, is it this, is it who, is it this one and are we going to see him and all of this; you better be looking up. You don't want to know who it is until you're on the other side; what do you think? I pray that's where your heart is. But see, just as with Noah God waited for the

ark to be completed before He lifted him out before He unleashed the flood. This is our promise brothers and sisters, and it is fully backed by Philippians Chapter One just as surely as that ark was going to be built; think of that. I want you to really think of that. Noah had never built an ark before, there'd had never been a ship that big built before. Man didn't even know what it was for, how it would work, and it was being built on dry ground and they'd never seen rain. 10:02

How in the world was water come in there to lift that thing up? And God chose this one fellow, go build it and I'm going to tell you how it's all going to be built, and truly I'm going to enable you to do it. I'm going to enable you by My grace, and it's all going to come together. Now, you think of that. Well, you say God is crazy, how could He have confidence in him. God has confidence in His grace. His grace will get it done, not, can it done, His grace will get it done. I will accomplish it in the thing that I have sent it to. There's a masterpiece being built right now, and it's a better thing, and it's a better promise, and His grace will accomplish it in you, and it will be far beyond the miracle, it'll be far beyond the incredible deliverance of Noah and his family. But here is how it is fully backed to us in Philippians Chapter One, verses four through six. Paul said I'm always in prayer of Mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now. See, it's all about this gospel fellowship, and who is the gospel fellowship with? it's with Paul. This was the fellowship that they had with Paul with Paul's gospel. We have this same fellowship. And I thank the Lord, the Lord says I pray for them who the Father has given Me. We're being prayed for, praise the Lord. And we have fellowship in this precious gospel of Paul. And when that happens you know what happens? there's confidence, and the confidence is this. Of this very thing that He which has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. 12:23

Not can perform it, not could perform it, not might perform it, but thanks be to God will perform it. He will do it, and I love, you have to read verse seven as well, even as it is meet for me to think this of you all. See, it's how I need to think of this because of the grace of God that is with you; the fellowship that's with you. Because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. Isn't that glorious? You want Paul's grace; that's the grace you want, that's the grace that's so all powerful you can take one little guy and build an ark, and gather all the animals of the earth, put them on there, lift them out perfectly, and there they go again; that grace, huh? Come on, that's the grace that's for you, that's the grace that's enabling all this for you. And we thank God, and you know, you don't hear a lot about the personal struggle of Noah's life as he's building this ark, a lot can go on in a hundred years. I've even gotten a little bit over half of that, and a lot's gone on whether it's others doubting us, all the insults, the critics, all those things keeps you on your knees quite often, doesn't it? Because the greatest insult and critic usually can be from this guy right here to himself. We need to know who we are in Christ praise the Lord. 14:12

Now, what we read here is this is the depth of the heart of Christ for His bride. This is the heart of Christ for His people. When you're chosen of God, He's going to make it work;

He's going to make it work, it's going to be okay, let His eyes see what mine see. Come on. Now brothers and sisters, in this depth of the heart of Christ that's us in the midst of Him. In Christ, the ark, the center of God's will. Think of it even as the rib portion of the body, our ark is the glory that's told to us in Ephesians; the fully purposed wonderful body of us in Christ. And nowhere is this more apparent in any of the Old Testament stories than we're going to see here in Noah, and his family. 15:16

Now, Noah at this time of building the ark, he was probably right at about five hundred, alright? Five hundred years old. Five hundred years old was when he had children; five hundred was the year He became fruitful. Look at the number five hundred. You have the number one hundred, and the number five. One hundred is completion, and five is grace. He came to the point of recognizing and realizing complete grace; perfect grace, all enabling grace, and praise be to God that's how that ark was built, and we thank God for it. Now, brothers and sisters we have to understand to go after the Lord to be in that precious bride, we must see that it is completely grace. You can't get on that racecourse truly for the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus without grace to enable you to run. If you don't see complete grace on that racecourse you're going to run as one that beats the air. You're not running for the mark for the prize; oh no. 16:34

Now, let's go on back to Genesis, and let's go ahead and start reading our study here, We'll begin in chapter five. Here comes the perfect grace, we'll read from verse twenty-eight. I think all of you know about Methuselah. Now they're giving the lineage here as it's coming down. Methuselah was nine hundred and sixty-nine old, he dies, and here we get to verse twenty-eight and Lamech lived a hundred eighty and two years, and he begat a son, and he called his name Noah, saying, This same, this Noah shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD hath cursed. That touches my heart, he loved his boy, didn't he? It wasn't easy. I don't know how hard it was but it seems there really God was serious; it was a cursed ground. It was probably parched, it was a wilderness, it was hard to make a living. He's already been living a hundred and eighty-two years, but God gave him a son, and He said this son would comfort us. How glorious that is. How beautiful to know that this would be a comforter. I want you to think about this as well too, Noah was the one that God has to find grace, how comforting is that, amen? How comforting is it when your children know the grace of God? There isn't anything more comforting, is there? 18:26

So, let's continue on, and Lamech lived after he begat Noah five hundred ninety and five years. That's kind of an interesting thing too because he finishes the ark at six hundred years, he never got to see his son finish that ark. Isn't that something? He got to see him building it, he got to see all that. I believe this daddy was one that encouraged his son. I know they think you're crazy honey, but you keep going out there and building that ark every day. I know you love God; I know you're in the right way. It may seem crazy to me too, but I believe it's the Lord and I'm going to assist you in any way I can. I think if a dad would say that that was given to him for comfort, I believe he saw that he was chosen of God. And Lamech lived after he begat Noah five hundred ninety and five years, and begat sons and daughters. And

all the days of Lamech were seven hundred seventy and seven years: and he died. And Noah was five hundred years, and Noah begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth. 19:40

And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters born unto them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives all which they chose. And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years. There were giants in the earth in those days; and also, after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bear children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown. And God saw that 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. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. 20:54

So, even in the abundance of this wickedness into sin and defiance, something so lovely, just one goodly pearl so valuable that everything disappears to God to give that grace. And brothers and sisters grace changes everything. That's what love does, that's what God's love does in our lives. Turn on over to John 6:44. No man can come to Me, this is Jesus speaking, except the Father which hath sent Me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. So, really understand this and know this about Noah finding grace. Brothers and sisters, you can't come after Jesus; You can't find grace on your own unless the Father draws you. The Father has to draw you to His grace, the Father has to draw you to His Son Jesus Who is full of grace and truth, amen? So, we see that Noah was drawn by the Father to find grace. Noah was not looking; he wasn't looking for it; God drew him to find it. And grace brothers and sisters hold back everything for you; grace gives you everything to deliver you perfectly from everything. 22:38

Now, we go through life, and we think the Lord didn't deliver me from this, or the Lord didn't deliver me from this. Well, if you take your life in totality, and you would take out that one thing, you could say well yep that's true, but that doesn't make any sense because all things work together for good to them that love God. If the Lord didn't have these experiences go through that sometimes we don't think we get delivered from, the end result would not be the same thing, the perfection, and remember what we're after here is what the Lord is speaking of in Noah's life which is perfect grace. This is all about the perfection of grace that delivers us from everything. You don't realize what God keeps us from when He keeps us in something. Amen? What God keeps us from when God keeps us in something, really think of that. Something you wanted to get out of, but God in His faithfulness kept you in it Brother Paul, or you would be exalted and not Me. 23:48

Think about how God has given us faith to believe Him for healing, and I thank the Lord, I seen His divine healing multiple times, and my brethren praying for them, ones praying for one another in my own body, in my own life. I've seen the Lord take our brethren home, I've seen the Lord touch me where I said Lord I'd love this to go, I need this to go away. He said you don't know what you need, I do and it's going to stay. And there'll be a weakness, and things of that nature, then you'll get these Christians they'll get in your face, and they'll say oh, you got to claim it; you need to get out of my face because that's just ridiculous. By His stripes I'm healed. He's the Lord thy God that heals all my diseases, amen? I call those things which be not as though they are. You see, I know that when I see Him, I'm going to be like Him, alright? See, the Lord is always seeing the end result; that's how God sees this, so are we going to see it that way or not. Now, we'll go through this life, and we'll have all of these events, we call them happenings, whatever it is. I believe your life is one thing, it's just a complete collection of glory happening, glories that you're abounding, glories when you're abased. Glories when you're full, glories when you're suffering need. One star differeth from another star in glory from glory to glory into his own image. Amen. So, this is how we go along.

25:46

So now, this grace brothers and sisters is so immense it's going to deliver us soon praise God from off the face of this earth. And hallelujah what God has intended for us. Now going back there with Noah in Genesis 6:8 it says, he found grace, and I love how the word of God speaks of this in other places, there was a sister that happed upon a field; that was Ruth as we know how God had that perfectly there for her, she happed upon the field of the Redeemer. She happed upon the field of the Redeemer when the Redeemer was looking at His field. Everything was set just perfectly for everything to come forth. Brothers and sisters, it was waiting for Noah because grace chose Noah, amen. And that's what God continually does in our hearts, He draws us, He stirs us, and then we seek Him even the more, and it's all waiting for us to take. As I mentioned about Ruth in that field that she had happed upon, all the corn, all that was already picked, it was bundled, everything was there, all of the sustenance, all she had to do was gather it up, thank You Jesus. I pray that we understand this. Everything is ordered for us, everything is waiting for us, how could we not understand and believe this, because it all began at the well; it all began at the well. Just like Rebekah, that's where it all began.

27:38

It was already set in motion in beginning. There wasn't going to be anybody else there but her. That word was again in the beginning. It wasn't going to be another person; it was going to be her. I thank the Lord; I take that encouragement from Him today. Here we are tonight, it's going to be you. This is how God works, He's the same yesterday, today, and forever. It didn't change, it wasn't that Rebekah, or Noah, or Moses were more special that you or me, no. He's no respecter of persons, He loves His sons completely, immensely, and He's for us to have His very best. And this precious God, He foreknows everything. He knows your heart, He knows what we will take, He knows that you have an ear that He's given you that will hear this message. You didn't end up somewhere else, you ended up here. You're here tonight to hear this. You're hearing this message of the word of His grace. I thank the Lord, this is what He's called us to hear, this is what He's called me to preach; there is no

other gospel, I see that. I thank God for that we are so privileged, honored. The mercy, the glory to be in all of God. Oh, how this causes our hearts to be humble before Him. We get it, thank the Lord. 29:28

So, brothers and sisters this is the entirety of our journey on this racecourse of the bride for the Lamb, we have been given everything. We have been given everything; He has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in the heavens in Christ; we have been given everything. In that everything that He has given us, then He gave us the Comforter; He gave us the Holy Ghost Who takes all these things we have been given that we have, and He makes it known to us. What a comfort is it to know what God has already given you; that's the greatest comfort of everything, and that is our whole life's journey is understanding what the Lord truly has given us. You can either be a son that never grows up even though you're born Lord of all because every single child of God is born Lord of all. Galatians 4:1 Lord of all, you have been given everything, how could He not freely, freely with Jesus freely give you all things. He gave it to you, it's all there. So, by the grace of God He gave us that Comforter. This is the comfort that we are receiving in manifold blessings, especially in this day, especially in this age, especially in this oppression that's going on right now. This absolute, this confusion because it's the mind of the devil. But we've got comfort, and the comfort is, is the revelation praise God of that we are blessed with all spiritual blessings in the heavens in Christ. And we have the Comforter who takes those things and He shows them to us. 31:24

So, here we are sons, sons Lord of all, are you going to allow the Holy Ghost to show you all those things that you have? That you will rule jointly with Jesus Christ as Lord of all that you're born for, or will you squander that and decide I don't want to know it, I've got something more important? I need to go work on my life. I need to go build a career, I need to go do this, I need to do that, huh? I don't like this church, I don't like the people, this person said something to me wrong. I don't agree with what the pastor said. Well, I'll tell you one thing, this pastor agrees with Paul's gospel, by the grace of God I do, and I will preach you the word of his grace, and by the grace of God I will withhold nothing from you, and I thank the Lord that I can say that with boldness in the Lord because of His grace, He won't forsake you; I know that, and by the grace of God He's not going to forsake you with me, He loves you too much, or you can deny it and you can be a child even though you're Lord of all, and be nothing but a servant in mind. Wouldn't that be a shame? How sad. How sad when Jesus has given us everything. Being made sin for us on that cross for us, entering into hell for us to give us this with Him, for us to enjoy this with Him and we know it; and we know it. And God help us never to lay down that crown; never lay down that crown. Oh, to who much is given, much is required. Oh, to magnify the grace of God, amen? 33:39

So, this is our journey, we have been given everything, we are called, we are chosen, amen? That for which I am apprehended He's not letting me go from it, how about you? Do you know that, huh? Do you believe that He's speaking to you that which I am apprehended of? Come on. Whom He foreknew He predestinated to have it. By the grace of God, He tells us in the word of God hold that fast which thou hast that no man take thy crown. You have

the crown, and by the grace of God that grace will attain the finishing of it in your life because you're apprehended for it. Turn on over to Philippians Three. Read it, let the Holy Ghost read it to you, to hear it, it's so marvelous and this is the power of this wonderful word. If He be for you, if the word is for you, who could be against you? And to take this as we enter into this study on Noah. All these years that he's building this in the midst of a completely wicked world with literally virtually no encouragement, but yet he believed God. Because that grace enabled him so much to continue to believe God, and here you are in the midst of this wicked world, and you're believing God. And you're believing God for an ark that's going to take you out of here. Come on, there were others at that time that died in that flood. They weren't all wicked. The majority of them were wicked, but there were some, but they weren't in that ark; they didn't get lifted out. 35:48

Brothers and sisters, we're of that company by the grace of God, and in Philippians Three, verse twelve let's read that together. It says, not as though I had already attained; yeah, I can understand that, I'm still here, you're here too so you haven't attained, I haven't attained to what we're talking about attaining; we haven't come to that point. We haven't come to the point of the voice of the archangel, the trump of God. It could be tonight, but I haven't attained that yet. We're not there yet, and it's not as though I had already attained. See, it's just like we talked about the champion, just like we talk about Secretariat you know. They didn't go in there to compete; they knew, they were there and there was only going to be one result, I've already won, but I love to run. I'm born to run, I'm born to fight, that's how you're made. I thank the Lord we're not slothful, we're not. I want to go on in this truth. There's a joy to this life praise God, and I found it's in Christ. I found praise the Lord a heart like a Joshua; Lord, there's more land. And you don't just sit there and pound it into you, you go out through the land in wonder and thanksgiving. Enjoy saints. 37:33

You study yes, and it's through the studying, but let it speak to you, not here; here. Let it take you there, let it take you into your promise, walk through praise God the courts of the Lord. See praise God the crystal sea, huh? And really by the grace of God see standing at His side looking over out, all of that innumerable multitude. As they praise Him. As they cry salvation to our God. Is that where this takes you or is it something that's here. Don't let it just be here, it must be here. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: complete, complete, but I follow after, if that I may apprehend for that which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. What's the determiner? If He's apprehended you for something what's it going to be? God help us to have the faith for that, and it's the faith in grace, it's the faith in His foreknowledge, it's the faith praise the Lord of these mature sons of God. See, it's the faith of a Noah that we read about. He went out every day and built this ark, and again with everything that we express and explain you almost, you can't get there in mind, you have to be there. 39:48

But he was there building this thing in a dessert, or whatever it is, and there was never rain, there was nothing. And then Lord you're going to; Lord, how am I going to get all the animals? I'm sure, maybe he asked the Lord that, but then the Lord said you just be still and trust God, huh? Every day, every day, every day, and then you could see one side of the boat

go up, and then you could see the other side of the boat go up, and finally everybody's in, all the animals were loaded . . . Oh I'm ready to be offered hallelujah. Hallelujah. Oh, glory to God that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. The Holy Ghost reveals the deep truth of His love, we continue to seek it out in order to find more of the height, the length, the breadth, the depth of the love of Christ. The more glory to glory that we go through just as Joshua walking through the promise. 41:10

Now, as we close this for tonight, it's kind of interesting. You would think with this man that went out every day and labored so hard, so long in this ark almost a hundred years diligently before the Lord, he would have another name than Noah, and the reason I say that the name Noah means rest; his name means rest. His name does not mean work, it doesn't mean striving, it doesn't mean overachiever, Noah's name means rest, and praise be to God, in harmony with the word of God allowing him to will and do of His good pleasure in our lives we have rest, we have peace, and I think of how beautiful as the Lord's just brought us out of the study of the Shulamite, her name means peace. Jerusalem, double peace. Noah, rest. You think the Lord's trying to tell us something, huh? Those who are of this elect, the best of its kind, the ones that receive the fulness of the glory for whatever age we would be with the Lord, whether it's that time of the Old Testament, whether it's the Church Age brothers and sisters, the one thing that's consistent in all of those full overcomers they're at rest. They rest in the promises of God. 42:54

They're as the lily, they don't toil. It's just what it is. A Nolan Ryan, I can throw a hundred and eight mile an hour fast ball, I don't know how to kind of say it any more than that you know. Michael Jordan, I can take off at the top of the key, float through the air and dunk the ball and even wave at somebody probably as I went by. You just got it. I'm looking at people that got it, He didn't bring us in here to fool us, He didn't bring us in here to forsake us, He brought us in here for a purpose. It's His purpose saints. Well, let's just let that word work effectually in us, what do you think. Let the Lord and His grace prove this, prove this in you and how's He going to prove it by the grace of God? There's a rest to the people of God. You rest in what He's called you to everyday saints. It may seem kind of meaningless, it might seem crazy, that's exactly what building an ark of that size, at that time in the middle of the dessert that you're going to take all of the animals out because God's going to flood the world. They were thinking that guy is just a nut. You ever tell anybody about the bride of Christ? Have you ever been told you're a nut? And is it harder for God to float up a three-hundred-foot ark, or is it going to be harder for Him to float you up and put you in the midst of the throne? I believe the answers nothing is hard for God, what do you think? We'll just rest by the grace of God. Let's stand and be dismissed. 45:05