

Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 15

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled:” (Matthew 5:6 KJV)

We continue in this message to study on how we hunger and thirst for righteousness from studying the life of righteous men and how they lived their lives for God.

We will study in this message the life of Noah:

“Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.” (Genesis 6:9 KJV)

“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.” (Hebrews 11:7 KJV)

Noah was a just man. The Hebrews word for ‘Just’, is ‘Tsaddiyq’, and means just, lawful and righteous. God found Noah righteous in His sight. God told Noah to enter the ark before He will send the flood to the earth, ***“And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.” (Genesis 7:1 KJV)*** So here God asked Noah to enter the ark and saved him because he found him a righteous man. So here to live as righteous person in this world is essential for our salvation.

Now the question is the following: *How Noah became righteous? How me and you today we can become righteous?* There is no way for us to be righteous today but only through the blood of Jesus who was shed on the cross for our sins to give us eternal life. But we need to do our part, not for our salvation, but in following Christ and what His Word dictates for us and on us to do.

What the right things that Noah did?

1. Noah did not do what the other people around him were doing: Let us read ***Genesis 6, “1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, 2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. 3 And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. 4 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 bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown. 5 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. 6 And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. 7 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. 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. 9 These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and***

Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. 11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.” (Genesis 6:1-12 KJV)

In verse 2 ***“That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.” (Genesis 6:2 KJV)*** Here the sons of God are not angels but they are the children of men. The people were marrying what they like and what they chose. They were using their eyes to chose, not using their minds and following the will of God for them to marry. Sure it include with that, what God would be disgusted with from multiple marriages, divorce and remarriage, live in relationship without marriage, and extramarital affairs.

In verse 3 God said, ***“My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh.” (Genesis 6:3 KJV)*** God was instructing men what to do, but men were going and doing not God’s will but was doing their own will and that is why the Holy Spirit of God was always in strife with men because of their non willingness to follow God.

“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 bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.” (Genesis 6:4 KJV) These giants were also boasting with their own strength and power. They were relying on their own strength and on their own power to manage life. They were also people of renown who love to show themselves and love to be famous. They were wicked and the imaginations of their hearts were evil.

“11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.” (Genesis 6:11-12 KJV) There was corruption, people were after money and after material things, and there was violence due to the corruption all over the world. Their ways were corrupted and contradict the ways of God. *All what we can read here is present in our days now, and corruption is everywhere; the love of money, the boasting, the showing off all are prevalent but God wants us to be separated from the world. Let us do as Noah did, let us walk with God, let us not allow the Spirit of God to strive and grieve, let us be perfect in separating our ways from the ways of man so we will be find grace in the sight of God.*

Jesus mentioned also the generation of Noah when He spoke about His coming judgment and the judgment at His second coming would be based on the same wrong things that people were doing at the time of Noah, ***“37 But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” (Matthew 24:37-38 KJV)*** *What Jesus condemned here is the style of people’s life. In studying such things we will be able to find out what we need to avoid to live a righteous life that God desires to see in us:*

A. Eating and drinking: People were focusing on such things. So you may ask, ‘We will not eat and drink?’ Not that we will not eat and drink, but they were giving the full

pledge to their appetite and stomach to enjoy the food and drink. They were drinking alcoholic drinks and losing control over their minds and spending much on food. In the same way today, drinking alcohol, eating expensive food, eating in restaurants and ordering readymade food, arranging parties and banqueting, trips, vacations, etc., are all evidences of wild living.

All these things and behavior are against the principles of the stewardship of God's Word. God wants us to eat well but we should not waste and we should not honor our appetite and give it the privilege all the time.

Wasting will lead to losses of resources and later on to poverty, and poverty will lead to corruption and violence and crimes. Therefore, we need to be aware how to manage our lives, and our finances, and how to separate our ways from the ways of the people of the world.

B. Marrying and giving in marriage: The ungodly attitude toward marriage; the phenomena of dating, courting, boyfriend and girlfriend, love marriage, marry what they like, unlawful marriages, and the rest that we discussed before of multiple marriages, divorce and remarriage are all invitation to bring God's wrath on man. Jesus mentioned the multiple marriages at the time of Noah, as we read here: "They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all." (Luke 17:27 KJV) Jesus mentioned that "they married wives", it means men were not satisfied marrying one wife; but they had given themselves the freedom for their lust to marry more than one wife, or they were leaving one woman and uniting with the other. It might be also leaving children born from one lady and went to marry another.

In **Genesis 5:32** "And Noah was five hundred years old: and Noah begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth." (Genesis 5:32 KJV) The time that Noah finished building the ark he was 600 years, "And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth." (Genesis 7:6 KJV) From the time that God called Noah till He finished building the ark, it was around 100 years. Noah did not live and practice all the evil things that the people around him were doing. That is why at the end of his assignment God commended him for his righteousness and the righteous way he lived and the way he nurtured his family, his wife, his three children and their families. God was watching Noah how he was conducting His ways with the people around him and how he was separating himself from wickedness and corruption, "And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation." (Genesis 7:1 KJV) In the same way today, God is watching us to see how we live a righteous life that is different from the ways of the people of the world around us.

Reflect on COVID 19 now and how the people lived their lives before COVID 19 in the ways of eating, drinking, the bad stewardships, attending restaurants, arranging banquets, parties, loose in pertain to the commands of God in pertain to marriage and the holiness in keeping boys and girls clean and separated from each others to avoid immoralities, the liberal use of media and internet and allowing children to communicate with such dangerous things for their lives. Therefore we can conclude that because of what they did, He brought His judgment on the disobedience.

The guidelines that Jesus showed in **Matthew 24** and in **Luke 17** about what God used for His judgment on the people at the time of Noah, is in pertain to eating and in pertain to copulation. Animals they eat what they like, most of them they don't have stewardship and they don't know how to keep for tomorrow. As well as most of the animals are not bound with one partner, but they keep changing. Now if man behaves without discretion in pertain to food and copulation like the animal then what is the difference between man and animal?

Animals has no eternal life, but man has. Now if man behave like animals in pertain to food and marriage then death will be the outcome of his life and he will end up in hell.

Animal they don't have eternal life. Animals they worship God but they are not accountable to him as man do, because man was given brain. So when man degrade himself before God and behaves as animals do, then he will be perished.

Now we had explained adequately about food, and now we will be explaining more about marriage. Now when we condemn boyfriend and girlfriend practices, then the question is how the people will marry? We can read in **Genesis 6:2**, "That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair." (Genesis 6:2 KJV) So here they depend on their eyes to choose what they are going to marry. In the way of God, we depend on what God will choose to us to marry. Therefore, we need to put our ears on what God will speak and marry what He is telling to us to marry. Man cannot use his eyes to choose what he likes to marry, but to depend on God to choose to him and to marry God's choice.

2. Noah did what the Lord had asked him to do: "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." (Hebrews 11:7 KJV) Noah did the followings:

A. Noah took the warning of God seriously: He believed what God said to him, even he believed God on things not yet seen. Like Abraham, he believed and considered to him as righteousness. He fulfilled what the Scripture says that the righteous live by faith, "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith." (Romans 1:17 KJV) Noah believed that God would bring His judgment on the whole earth, and that is why he moved with faith and believed what God had said. We need to take the warning of God seriously. For God when He warns He will do and execute. What the Word of God tells us from warning we need to take it seriously. What the Holy Spirit speaks to us we need to take it seriously.

Are you taking the Holy Spirit warning seriously, and are you obeying His instructions? You need to understand that the world is keep changing but God and God's Word are not. Therefore obey God's Word and the voice of the Holy Spirit because God will do what He says.

B. Noah moved with fear: He had the fear of God in his heart, and that fear of God motivated him and made him move forward to put into reality what God instructed him to do. The fear of God that was instilled in his heart, moved him to obey and to achieve every detail that God wanted him to achieve. We need to move with the fear of God and

do what God wants us to do. Noah did not waste time, but he move with God's fear to do what he needed to accomplish. Therefore when God speaks to you don't delay or postponed, God has a time table and you need to go along with Him.

C. Noah prepared an ark: He followed the instructions and the design of the Lord clearly. *"13 And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. 15 And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits. 16 A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it."* (Genesis 6:13-16 KJV) God gave him various details about how he will build the ark. Noah observed carefully all these details. He did exactly what God had told him to do, *"Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he."* (Genesis 6:22 KJV) In the same we need to observe all the details that God is instructing us to do in our ministry.

My dear and beloved: Meditate on the part of the life of Noah that we had studied in this message and see yourself and conclude where you are from the righteousness of God. As you answer the following questions, repent of your sins and commit yourself to practice what you read so you will be saved by the blood of Jesus, and will be a righteous man:

Do you believe on Jesus?

Have you given your life to Jesus?

Are you living the righteous life that God wanting from you to live?

Are you living and doing the same the people around you are doing?

Are you drinking Alcohol?

Are you watching TV, movies, wasting your times on facebook and news?

Are you spending much and wasting much on food?

Are you a party goers and a party arranger?

Are you spending much money on food?

Are you a person who loves to eat much in restaurant?

Are you a person who is careless about good stewardship?

Are you a person who boast and love to show off?

Are you a person who will do what you like even if it is against God?

Are you a person who is lusty in your eyes toward women?

Are you living and promoting the practice of dating, courting, boyfriend, girlfriend, live-in relationship, divorce and remarriage, adultery and extramarital affairs?

Do you have worldly friends and love to spend time with them?

Do you care about family?

Do you care about the salvation of your family members and your children?

Do you discipline your family and lead them to do God's will?

Do you separate your family members and protect them from the influence of this world?

Do you train them to serve God with you?

Do you fear God?

Do you obey the voice of the Holy Spirit and do what God is instructing you to do precisely?

Commit yourself to the righteousness of God and the way that God wants you to live your life for Him and do the righteousness that God pleases with, and the way that you need to raise up your family in the fear of the Lord. Let us pray

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death on the third day to give me eternal life.*

Let us confess and renounce our sins to the Lord. Let us confess and renounce all our worldliness, our idols and the wrong plans that contradict the Word of God. Let us confess and renounce all our pride, anger, boasting, impatience, un-forgiveness, jealousy, envy, lust, fighting, quarrels, and the rest of our wrong ways of life and our non willingness to follow the ways of God because of our wrong priorities and practices.

Let us renounce the following sinful practices, dating, courting, boyfriend, girlfriend, divorce and remarriage, live in relationship, partying, banqueting, eating in restaurants, and spending much on food.

Lord I commit my life to be willing to hunger and thirst for righteousness. Lord I commit my life to leave such sins _____.

Lord I commit my life to leave the following things in order to live the righteous life that you want me to live. _____.

Lord I commit myself to the principles that I learned from your Word. Lord I commit myself to live a righteous life, and to live in a way different from the people of the world around me. Lord make my life example different from others, and give me more fruit of the Holy Spirit so that your life will shine in my life. Lord I commit myself to raise up my children and lead my family in the fear of God. Lord provides for me and enable me to do that successfully and protect my family and children from the effects of the world.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who had humbled themselves before you to live the righteous life that you wants them to live and to lead their families in your righteousness. Lord make a way for them to come out from all temptations and to live the life that is pleasant to you. Lord protects them and provides all their needs. Lord fills them once again with the Holy Spirit and makes their lives testimony attractive to others so that people will believe in you and start to follow you and live according to your Word and your righteousness.

Lord I pray for us as a church to help us to go on in serving you and do your work and your will in the midst of people who are opposing the truth and living in worldliness and immoralities. Lord we commit ourselves to do what is right and just in your eyes. Lord helps us to bear during trials and hardships, and fills us once again with the Holy Spirit and enables us to evangelize and to reach new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and with the Word of God. Lord we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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