Days of Noah - cont.

"You are either part of the problem, or you are part of the solution." When we think about what it was like in the days of Noah and we honestly examine our life and commitment to God, would we say we are listening to the instructions of God and participating in building the church, the "ark of safety" for the dispensation of the gospel, or are we so busy with our daily affairs that we set aside God's will for our life?

Are our "busy lives" contributing to, and hastening, the day of our eternal spiritual destruction? Nobel and good hearts hear and keep God's word, bearing the fruit of righteousness with patience (Luke 8:15).

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth)" (Ephesians 5:8-9).

May each one of us be committed to "shine for Jesus" throughout this week, and throughout our lives!

- Doug Roush -

- Scripture of the Week -

"Thou in thy lovingkindness hast led the people that thou hast redeemed: Thou hast guided them in thy strength to thy holy habitation" - Exodus 15:13 -

God guides his people to their rest with love and strength. Do we have the same love and strength to follow him there.

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Radio Program Sundays: 8:30 - 9:00 am WVWB FM 105.1 The Wolf

Assembly Times Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 5 pm Wednesday: 7 pm

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. - 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 - The disciples asked Jesus, "...what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" (Matt. 24:3b). He answered, ". . . of that day and hour no one knows, no, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be" (Matt. 24:36).

What was it like in the "days of Noah"? In Matthew 24:38, Jesus explained, "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage..." In other words, people would be engaged in their regular affairs of life.

But Genesis 6:5 gives us some further insight as to what life was like in the days of Noah, "Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Spiritual darkness had completely enveloped the minds of the people of that day. <u>Romans 1:21-22</u> reveals that, "although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools." Even while Noah and his family were building the ark and warning of the coming judgment of God (cf. 2 Peter 2:5), the people of his day would not approach the only point of light shining in the vastness of this spiritual darkness.

Jesus said that is what it will be like in the days before the final judgment; people will know that there is a God, but they will not glorify Him in their life. They will choose to walk in the darkness of their foolish pride, following what "seems right" to them, rather than acknowledging the truth of God's way. They will create God in their own image, rather than allow God to re-create them spiritually through the power of the blood of Christ and the truth of His word.

How far are we from this spiritual condition today? Is there any power on earth that can preserve humanity and God's physical creation?

In the first century, Jesus told those who would leave the darkness of sin to walk in the light of the revealed righteousness of God, that THEY were the "light of the world". They would be "lit" for a reason. He said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

They were not to "hide their light under a bushel", but were to elevate Christ in their life, so that all might see and come to The Light (cf. John 8:12). In so doing, "noble and good hearts" (cf. Luke 8:15) would be led from the deceptive darkness of sin to walk in the revealed righteousness of God (cf. Romans 1:16-17).

God is longsuffering, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9). God knows our hearts (1 John 3:20). God will know when the spiritual condition of mankind once again reaches the depths of depravity and wickedness that described the days of Noah.

As long as the light of truth and righteousness shines and there are noble and good hearts who will come to, and live in, its light, the earth shall stand, and the judgment of God will be stayed.

There is a saying which goes,