

Building the Ark, Building the Church!

These last few years we have seen the world growing more & more unstable- not just the Islamic nations, but now we are seeing the Democratic nations increasingly being shaken. The world is going to become more unstable: Lk.21:26 men's hearts failing them for fear

BUT GOD HAS AN ANSWER FOR ALL THESE DIFFICULTIES!

Not like Joseph- hoard food Not like Noah- build an ark

CHRIST'S ANSWER, in Mat 16:18- "I will build My church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it." What kind of Church? "As in the days of Noah," Mat.24:37

THE ARK THAT NOAH BUILT IS PROPHETIC OF THE CHURCH THAT CHRIST IS BUILDING!

- Christ's Church will overcome every attack of Satan- the Ark overcame the great flood
- All of God's people were safe in the Ark- are safe in the Church!

Gen.6:13-17 And God said to Noah, The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them. And, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make an ark of cyprus timbers. You shall make rooms in the ark. And you shall pitch it inside and outside with pitch. And this is the way you shall make it. The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it shall be fifty cubits and its height thirty cubits. You shall make a window in the ark, and you shall finish it above to a cubit. And you shall set the door of the ark in the side of it. You shall make it with lower, second and third stories. And behold! I, even I, am bringing a flood of waters upon the earth in order to destroy all flesh (in which is the breath of life) from under the heavens. Everything which is in the earth shall die.

Vs.16 One Door- The Ark had only one door. There is only 1 entrance into the Church of Jesus:

Jn.10:9 "I am the door, if any man enters by Me, he will be saved..."

Jn.14:6 "Jesus said, I am the way, the truth & the life; no one comes to the Father except by Me"

Acts 4:12 "There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved"

-Not in the name of Mohammed: he wrote in the Koran that Christ was sinless, but he also prayed for the forgiveness of his own sins- which is the greater, the sinner or the Sinless?

- Not the name of Bhudda- Gautama, called the Bhudda, was a great man- he was the son or a wealthy ruler, renounced it to try to find peace- before he died, he told his disciples not to worship him after he died- Asia is filled with statues that are worshiped even though Gautama knew he was not worthy of worship- but Christ accepted worship, because He was worthy! Enlightenment after many lifetimes? Millions? Salvation now!

Vs.16 One window finished above- not to look out, but look above! Col.3:1-3, Heb.12:1-2
Ex: Martin Luther: When I look at myself, I don't see how I can triumph- but when I look at Christ, I don't see how I cannot overcome!

Vs.16 Three levels built into the Ark (and the Church), 1 Jn.2:12-13, Eph.4:13-14. We are to grow to full maturity!

V.14 "You shall make rooms in the Ark" There are different places for us each in the Church- one Body of Christ but many members.

V,14 "you shall pitch the Ark inside and outside with pitch." Pitch is the same word in OT as cover or atone, when the Jewish priest used the blood to cover from sin.

V.15 Three Hundred cubits long- we measure something long by our footsteps, by walking: speaks of walking with God, Gen.5:22 "Enoch walked with God 300 years" (Law of 1st mention). Gal.5:16 Walk in the Spirit."

Ex: I felt not to go to the bank one day- our friends went & met robbers!

V.15 "Fifty cubits wide" We measure how wide something is by stretching out our hands. The number 50 has 2 meanings: Pentecost (Acts 2) and Jubilee (Lev.25:10). The Church must reach out with the power of the Holy Spirit, and with the message of liberty & restoration.

V.15 "Thirty cubits high." We measure how high something is by our stature. 30 in the Bible speaks of coming to full maturity: Jesus, John the Baptist, Joseph, and David all began their ministry at age 30. The Levites also started their full ministry at age 30. We also need to grow to full maturity, Eph.4:13-14.

When Noah built the Ark according to God's directions, it was able to overcome the great flood and safely bring the people inside into a new age- a new world- from which all sinners had been destroyed. God wants us to build the Church according to His directions, so that the Church will be a strong place of safety to bring us through the storms of these Last Days into the millennium, into God's age of righteousness, peace, and joy!