

The Closer

Genesis 7:16-24

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- We live a life of opportunity
- We have opportunities to make money & support ourselves
- We have opportunities to do things that we enjoy
- We have opportunities to travel and see different parts of the world

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- We also have opportunities to lay hold of salvation from sin in this life
- That enables us to be sure we have eternal life after this life
- However, there will come a day when it is closing time
- II Pet. 3:10 describes that time

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- There was once a time like that in the Old Testament
- Noah was asked by God to build a boat
- This boat would be built as a saving device
- Noah preached to those of that time that the closing time was coming

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- God eventually shut the door and no one else was allowed in
- The door stood open long enough for others to enter
- There are several spiritual lessons that we learn from this story
- Here they are...

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- 1. Sinners will be punished for their sins
 - Make no mistake about it, God will punish sinners – Gen. 6:11-13
 - We live in a world that doesn't truly believe this
 - According to the obituaries, everyone is going to heaven!

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- 1. Sinners will be punished for their sins
 - Rom. 2:2, 5-11
 - II Thess. 1:8-9
 - Heb. 2:1-4
 - We need to realize this, but also we need to teach and preach this!

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- 2. God provides a way of escape from the eternal punishment of sin
 - God had Noah build an ark so that he, his family, and anyone else who chose to could be saved
 - There was an option to those who were alive during that period
 - I Cor. 10:13

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● 3. God is gracious to those who walk with Him

- Gen. 6:9 – Noah walked with God
- Gen. 6:22-7:1
- Heb. 11:7 – Noah did what he was told by God to do
- Eph. 2:10 – We are to walk in good works

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- ④ 4. God judged who went into the ark and who perished
 - God did this, not Noah
 - It is not for you or I to determine who will be saved and who will be lost
 - Noah's job was to preach God's word
 - II Pet. 2:5 – He was a preacher of righteousness

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- 5. There is no partiality with God
 - Gen. 7:23 – God destroyed all living things, He gave no special favor to anyone
 - Rom. 2:11 – “there is no partiality with God”
 - Acts 10:34 – “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality”

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- 6. God will one day close the door
 - Gen. 7:16 – God shut the door and after that it was too late
 - Matt. 25:1-14 – Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins
 - v.10 – “and the door was shut”
 - God will shut the door, so we better be prepared

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- For some, the door is shut early (Lk. 12:16-21)
- For others, it may be left open for a long time (Job 42:17)
- No one knows if their door will close early or late (Js. 4:14)
- Will you be ready when you hear keys and the phrase “It’s closing time”