



A Torah Study Guide
for the Young
& Young at Heart

by
Ya'acov Natan Lawrence
& his kids

PARASHAT
NOACH

פרשת נח

Genesis 6:9-11:32

Note to the adult teacher: It will be necessary for you to give the scriptural context and background for each of the points listed below.

Great Discoveries In This Week's Parashah (Torah Portion)

- 6:9 Noah and His Sons
- 6:13 YHVH Elohim Pronounces Judgment Upon the Earth and Instructs Noah on Building the Ark
- 7:1 YHVH's Final Call to Enter the Ark; the Animals Are Gathered
- 7:10 Elohim's Wrath Against Wickedness: the Flood Inundates the Earth
- 8:1 The Floodwaters Recede
- 8:6 Noah Sends Out a Raven and a Dove
- 8:13 The Earth Dries Out and Noah Leaves the Ark
- 8:20 Noah Makes an Offering to YHVH
- 9:1 The Command to Repopulate the Earth; YHVH Gives Man Basic Moral Guidelines for the Post-Flood World
- 9:8 The Noachic Covenant and the Rainbow as the Sign of That Covenant
- 9:20 Noah's Drunkenness and Shame
- 9:24 Noah Curses Canaan and Blesses Shem and Japheth
- 10:1 The Sons of Noah, Their Descendants and the Seventy Nations
- 10:8 Nimrod and the Descendants of Ham
- 10:21 The Descendants of Shem
- 11:1 The Tower of Bavel
- 11:10 Shem's Family Record and the Ten Generations From Noah to Abraham

Exploring This Week's Parashah: Let's Explore the Life of Noah, the Preacher of Righteousness

1 Noah Walked with Elohim (Genesis 6:9)

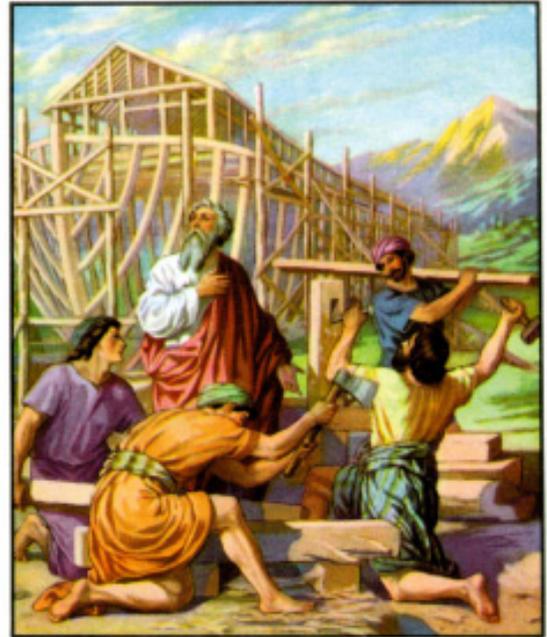
What does it mean to walk with Elohim? Did you ever go for a long walk with someone that

you discovered you really didn't like, or they didn't like you? That you didn't have anything in common with? Who wasn't your friend? Did you ever go for a walk with them again?

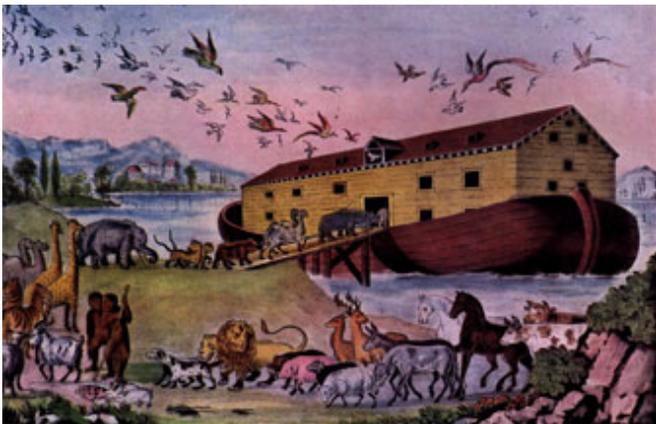
Can just anyone choose to "take a walk" with YHVH Elohim, the Creator of the Universe whenever they want and on their own terms? Do you think that maybe YHVH might just choose to walk with whom he wants on his own terms and conditions—that it's his choice, not ours?

What kind of a person gets to walk with YHVH?
(For some clues, read Psalms 15:1-5 and 24:3-6.)

So what does it mean to walk with Elohim? Genesis 6:9 says that Noah walked with Elohim. The word "walk" in Hebrew is "halak" and means "to walk with the feet, or to walk or go in a certain direction with your heart and mind." This was the case with Noah. He probably didn't take a literal stroll down an actual path with Elohim, but in Noah's heart and mind he was walking spiritually with YHVH because he loved and obeyed YHVH's truth, words and instructions. In the Bible, the word "halak" is used to describe someone who walks a Torah-obedient lifestyle. In Psalm 119:1 and 3, David talks about the blessings of walking with YHVH, following his ways and not walking in the path of sin.



-  (a) Read and discuss Isaiah 59:9, what it means to walk in (spiritual) darkness.
-  (b) Read Amos 3:3 and discuss.



You see, there are always two ways to walk: we can walk in the path that leads upward: the path of truth, light, love, goodness, life, purity, holiness, and in step with YHVH's Torah-instructions in righteousness; OR we can walk in the path that leads downward: the path of error, darkness, hatred, evil, death, filth, wickedness, and against YHVH's Torah-instructions of righteousness. Each of us has to make the choice as to which direction we will walk.

What kind of a person was Noah that Scripture says of him that he walked with Elohim?

2 What Kind of a Person Was Noah?

-  (c) Read Genesis 6:9. Let's explore what kind of man Noah was.

This verse says, "These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with Elohim."

- "Generations" is the Hebrew word "toledaw" meaning "descendants, genealogies, or results." Noah raised his sons to be righteous. He was a good father.
- "Just" is the Hebrew word "tzaddiyq" meaning "a lawful or righteous man." Noah followed the Torah—YHVH's instructions in righteousness.

"Perfect" is the Hebrew word "tamiym" meaning "entire, integrity, truth, without blemish,

complete, full, undefiled, or upright.” In other words, Noah kept YHVH’s commands completely—he did what YHVH told him to do!

Is it possible to be just and perfect while NOT walking in a Torah lifestyle and while NOT having a faith in and a love for YHVH? Noah kept himself separate and unspotted from the world around him spiritually. He and his family lived set-apart (holy) or kadosh (Hebrew for “holy”) lives apart from the evil and immorality of the world around them.

What else can we learn about Noah that makes him such a special man that YHVH loved?

-  (d) What was the condition of the earth prior to the flood of Noah? (Read Genesis 6:5,11-12.)
-  (e) What did YHVH say he was going to do with the earth? (Read verse 6-7,13.)
-  (f) What did YHVH tell Noah to do? (Read verses 14-21.)
-  (g) What was Noah’s response to the commands of YHVH? (Read verse 22.) Was Noah obedient or disobedient to YHVH?
-  (h) How much time did Elohim grant man to repent of his wickedness before bringing on the flood? (Read verse 3.)

Prior to Noah’s building the ark, the earth had never seen rain.

-  (i) How did YHVH water the earth prior to the flood? (Read Genesis 2:5-6.)
-  (j) When did rain first appear on the earth? (Read Genesis 7:4.)

Now imagine this: Noah is building a huge boat (or ark) on dry land, and it had never rained before, and probably boats weren’t something that people had needed to use yet.

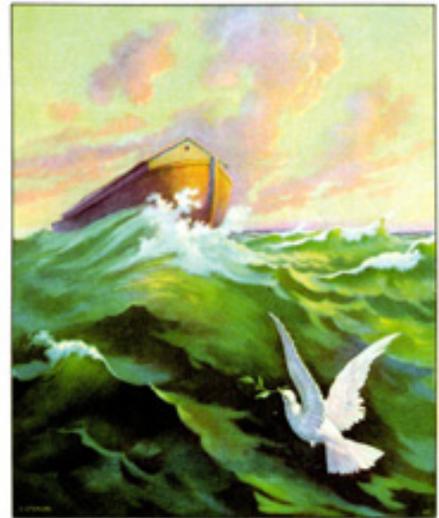
-  (k) What did Noah do while building the ark? (Read Hebrews 11:7; 2 Peter 2:5.)

Not only did Noah raise his sons to be righteous, but he preached righteousness to those around him and condemned the evil around him. To be a preacher of righteousness means that one is telling other people to turn away from their sins (to repent) and to start obeying YHVH.

-  (l) Do you think that this would have been a popular message in Noah’s day? Do you think that people would have made fun of Noah for what he preached and for building a huge boat on dry land? Did this stop Noah from obeying YHVH and building the ark? We learn from this that Noah stood strong and faithful despite the pressure of wicked men around him to disobey YHVH. Is this the kind of person you want to be?
-  (m) How does the Bible summarize the life of Noah in one verse? (Read Hebrews 11:7.) Would you like this to be said of you after you die?

Like a mighty oak tree in a hurricane wind, Noah stood strong against the winds of wickedness that blew against him in his day. It is not easy to do this when the whole world comes against you, but Noah did so, and the prophet Ezekiel pays Noah a high compliment for it.

-  (n) Read Ezekiel 14:14 and 20.



Here we see that Ezekiel is prophesying against the idolatry of Israel and is predicting the judgment (punishment) of YHVH that will come upon the wicked Israelites who have turned away from him. Noah, Daniel and Job had three things in common. They all had to stand strong and walk in righteousness even though all those around them were walking in wickedness. Even though they were under great pressure to disobey YHVH, they remained faithful to the end.



(o) Can you list some other biblical heroes who stood faithful to YHVH and who resisted the temptation to go the way of the world?

3 Noah Found Grace in the Eyes of YHVH (Genesis 6:8)



(p) Do you think that the fact that Noah found grace in the eyes of YHVH had anything to do with his walking in righteousness before YHVH, and that he stood strong even though evil was pressing against him from every side?

The story of Noah is the story of YHVH's redemption or salvation of mankind. In the Bible we see a several-step pattern of how YHVH saves man from his sin:

1. Like Noah, man must find grace (preciousness, favor, kindness) in the eyes of YHVH (Genesis 6:8).
2. This favor or love of YHVH for man attracts man to YHVH causing man to have faith in him.
3. Man's faith in YHVH leads man to love YHVH and to begin to trust and obey YHVH's instructions—the Torah (Genesis 6:9, 2 Peter 2:5 and John 14:15).
4. This results in man living a set-apart (holy) life so that he is not following the evil world around him (Genesis 6:9-12).
5. This results in the righteous man being delivered from Elohim's judgments upon the wicked (Genesis 6:13-14).



(q) Has this been the pattern of your spiritual walk before YHVH? Have you received YHVH's grace through Messiah Yeshua? Are you living a set-apart or righteous life and walking in obedience? Do you know that you have been saved from the wrath of Elohim because of your past sin and rebellion against him (John 3:18; 5:24)? Have you, by faith and through YHVH's grace, entered into YHVH's spiritual ark of safety by putting your faith in Yeshua? YHVH invites you to come to Yeshua, who is our spiritual ark of safety from the judgment of Elohim against the wicked in that final day when he will judge all the wicked of the world.

