Read verses 1 through 9 for review.

Try to imagine what the physical world might have been like in pre-flood days. Can we even understand the conditions in which people lived?

Creation scientists have found some fascinating things about those days.

The canopy that surrounded the atmosphere was a protective "umbrella" around the earth, reflecting cosmic radiation, enabling people to live longer by eliminating dangerous rays.

According to Josephus, Jewish historian, the canopy was such that people were able to see stars through it.

Air bubbles caught in amber have been tested and found to have double the oxygen levels of today. Coupled with higher atmospheric pressure, it would have been much easier to breath. Twice the pressure actually triples the amount of oxygen that can be taken into the lungs. Dinosaurs, for example, had small lungs, so would have needed an atmosphere such as this to survive.

Because of such findings they were able to create a biosphere (larger version of a hyperbaric chamber) for experiments.

Tomatoes in Japan were grown to the height of 20-30 feet with huge fruit.

Experiments with astronauts found grey hair turning back to natural color in two weeks and the men's health rejuvenated.

Additionally, also, is a strong electro-magnetic field included, a D.C. Pulse energy. Those things in combination prolong life greatly. It would be easy to see people living hundreds of years as well as huge growth of everything, including people.

One amazing finding was a experiment with poisonous snake venom left in that environment 4 weeks, the venom was altered to the point of being non-venomous!

Something to remember: According to Dr. Carl Baugh, a poisonous spider, scorpion, or snake bite can be zapped with an electric stun gun and, used immediately, it will neutralize that venom. He carries one on his discovery treks.

There were no extreme temperatures because heat was equally distributed around the globe.

It is believed that climate was tropical everywhere. Mammoths have been found quick-frozen with tropical grass in their mouths.

There was no violent wind or weather. No rain storms.

A mist came up from the earth to water and keep things green and growing.

Despite that desired environment, Wickedness was so great every thought of men was

continually evil and God's heart was "broken," despite the truth that He knew before time those things would happen after only 10 generations of mankind.

Having just read 2 Kings 6:28-29, when people resorted to cannibalizing their own families, it's difficult to picture things worse than that, but the pre-flood period was such that the Lord had to destroy everyone but those 8 people, and even animals, in order to preserve His plan.

Verse 6 gives us the impression God regretted the creation of man, however, this is an anthropomorphism; that of giving God human characteristics. The Lord regrets nothing. He knows everything before it happens. A better understanding is that, though God knew that would happen, His heart was still so hurt to see it. We certainly can grieve the Holy Spirit.

Verse 8- The number "8" indicates "new beginnings," and God, evidently, is hinting that Noah will be part of a new beginning for the future.

Noah found "grace" in the eyes of the Lord. Grace, "chen" in Hebrew, is to bend or stoop in kindness to another as a superior to an inferior. It is favor not earned. Verse 9

Noah was "perfect" in his generations. The Hebrew word is "tamim," the same used to define a sacrificial lamb; one without spot (genetic flaws) or blemish (injuries from exterior causes.) If the view of fallen angels and human women producing children is correct, we can understand this verse to mean Noah's gene pool was not contaminated by hybrid DNA.

In order to protect the line of Messiah, God had to destroy everyone who might corrupt that line.

Noah walked with God. Enoch walked with God. He was a just man, not conforming to the world in which he lived. As the old saying goes, "It's easy to swim with the current; much harder to swim against it."

Verse 10 again mentions Noah's three sons who would be ones to re-establish the entire earthly population. The birth of those sons points to the year God gave Noah the commandment to begin building the ark.

Verses 11 through 13 is God's pronouncement that He would destroy the corruption in the world, with Noah receiving that information.

Interesting word used here is "violence," Hebrew word is 'hamas." Familiar? Verses 14-16

Instructions for the ark. The Hebrew word is "teivah," meaning a 'box'; used for Noah's ark and the basket used for baby Moses. It implies a storage box that floats. So, Noah was told by God to build, under His direction, a big box.

What must have been going through Noah's mind at hearing this!

2 peter 2:5

"(God) did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness...." thus, we know that Noah preached, no doubt, the entire time of the

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building of the ark.

In Chapter 6:3 it can be understood that God planned to shorten the lifespan of humans, but there is another understanding that the verse refers to the time of God's mercy, for Noah to preach and warn; 120 years, then he would strive to reach their hearts no more.

THE ARK

A big box. A really big box. At least 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, three stories tall. Same storage capacity as 450 semi-trailers. It could hold 120,000 sheep.

Our battle ships were built on the these specifications.

An ark of gopher wood. No one understands the meaning of this. It may be that it refers to a now unknown type of wood, or possibly, a wood that has been preserved. It was to be treated with pitch inside and out. Treating inside would have bee necessary only if it was to be preserved for future generations, as a witness.

Noah was to make compartments, or in Hebrew, nests within the ark for the creatures. There was to be a long opening wrapping around the whole top floor of the ark for ventilation and what little light there might be.

Verse 17

Behold! (Pay attention to this) "I will bring a deluge of water...." A deluge is catastrophic by its very meaning. Nothing like that had ever happened. People hearing Noah would have found it unbelievable.

Today, if you tell someone Jesus is soon returning to rapture us, you might receive the same reaction. Skepticism, outright disbelief, ridicule.

Isn't the Bible an amazing Book? It testifies that people are the same, whether living today or many thousands of years in the past, and it alone of all books is able to relate to every generation.

Verse 18

God announces he will establish a covenant with Noah to preserve him and his family, thus insuring future generations. Noah was obliged to do his part in obeying the Lord. Verses 19, 20

The question always comes up: How could Noah get all the animals on earth on the ark? The "kinds" would be species, as a species of dogs, for example. Only one set of dogs would be needed. Any possible breed of dog would be in their DNA.

Just as all variations of human beings were in the DNA of those 8 people. They are the fathers and mothers of of person since that flood.

The two of every kind, male and female. Even dinosaurs. Most of the types of dinos were only about the size of a sheep.

It is thought that most animal two-somes were young, and Jewish teaching is that there were no young born on during the time on on the ark, man or beast.

Having only young, being smaller, they would need less food. Also, some animals may have

been a hibernation state, requiring less food, water, and care.

The Lord told Noah

the creatures would be sent to him at the right time. Noah did not have to gather them. Verses 21, 22.

Simply gathering all the food and water needed for the big adventure would have been a daunting enterprise.

Noah obeyed God. He didn't question God. He didn't have to think about it and weigh the possibilities.

Our lesson: Trust and obey. When the world is crazy, trust God. He has a plan and he has a covenant with us, too

But, unlike Noah, who is a picture of the Jews who will go through the time of Jacob's Trouble,

We Christians will be taken out of the tribulation as Enoch was taken out before the flood. So, be of good cheer and look up.