

The Bible says that “faith without works is dead.”⁶ Now don’t get me wrong. I am not claiming that my boat saved me. God saved me. I was saved by grace. However, I did do what God asked me to do. I obeyed Him. The Bible speaks about people who fail to “obey the gospel.”⁷

That brings me to God’s blueprint, God’s Plan of Salvation. It is called the Gospel. 1) You must believe God when He tells you that He loves you. You must believe Him when He says He wants you to walk with Him. You must believe Him when He makes it clear that He will not walk with those who live in sin. Sinners are walking away from God, not with Him. “All have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God.” (Rom. 3:23).

2) You must turn around (Repent) if you want to walk with God. If you don’t turn around you will perish.⁸ To repent also means to agree with or come into agreement with God. Amos the prophet asked a good question. “How can two walk together except they be agreed?”⁹

3) You must believe God’s Word when it says that Jesus Christ (God’s Son) came to rescue you. The only way He could rescue you was for Him to pay the penalty for your sin. You must accept His sacrifice for you as a free gift by faith. By faith in Him, you are spiritually placed “in” Him in much the way I was placed “in” the ark. My wife, my sons, and their wives also came into the ark. We were the only ones who survived.

Don’t delay. The Bible says that “Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of Salvation” (2Cor. 6:2).

¹(Gen. 6:8); ²(1Pet. 5:5); ³(2Pet. 2:5);
⁴(Prov. 13:20); ⁵(Lk. 17:26-27); ⁶(James 1:20); ⁷(1Pet. 4:17); ⁸(Lk. 13:3); ⁹(Amos 3:3)



HOW I SURVIVED THE FLOOD

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There I was on top of the world. I survived the flood. How did I do it? I am tempted to say it was easy, but that would be very misleading. Some people think “being saved” is easy.” It is not. I am tempted to say it was hard, (some people think “being saved” is hard) but that would not be right either, because nothing is hard for God. Well, let me tell you about it. Let me tell you how you can be saved also, that is, be a survivor too.

First of all, I found grace in the sight of the LORD.¹ No one can ever be saved without God’s grace. The good news is that God gives grace to the humble.² There is enough grace for all. There was enough for me and my family, and there is enough for you.

If you had to build an ark, wouldn’t you like to have some blueprints? God has a wonderful plan. I’ll tell you about those plans for salvation in a minute, but first let me tell you how I fit into it and followed God’s plan.



I. I walked with God in spite of my environment. Things were bad throughout the whole world. People were living the “low” life. They were doing wicked things and trying to think up a lot of “new” wicked things to do. People were being violent and vicious, but worst of all, they were living as if there was no God. Crime was rampant. Morals were in ruins, and righteousness (right living and thinking) was ignored.³

Some people like to blame their behavior on their environment. That is just a “cop-out” (excuse my language). Don’t blame your problems or failure on others. God deals with people “one by one.” I chose to walk with God. How about you? The book of Proverbs says “He that walketh with wise men shall be wise, but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.”⁴ You can make the choice to walk with God regardless of your environment. Walk with God today? Yes, just make up your mind and say “I have decided to follow Jesus.”

II. I believed God in spite of the evidence. God said He was going to flood the earth. No one would believe it. I did. I didn’t believe it because I heard a bad weather report on the radio. I didn’t believe it because I saw any dark clouds gather. There were no clouds to speak of. I didn’t believe it because I had a barometer or some special equipment. I believed it because I believe God.

You see, I believed God when He said he hated sin. I believed God when He said I was a sinner. I believed God when He said He was going to punish sinners. I just believed God’s Word. Everyone else had some way of explaining it away or ignoring it. They just seemed to go about their plans as if nothing was going to happen.⁵ They made a big mistake. I knew that God never lies. I didn’t know how He was going to do it. I just knew He would. Today, people are still trying to figure out how He did it. I hope you will believe God.



III. I obeyed God in spite of the effort. Building an ark was not easy. Getting all the animals collected and cataloged was not simple either. I preached and built for one hundred and twenty years. That was not easy. Often, if people don’t like what they hear the preacher say, they will find another preacher who is predicting “better weather” and sunny conditions.

Many folks will obey God as long as it does not involve a lot of effort. Many fail to do the easy things He asks, let alone the harder things.