

God Cares for Noah, Part 2

Genesis 8:1-9; 17

Alexis and her mom and dad sat on the covered patio that overlooked the lake. It was raining, and mom was reading a story out loud. It was an exciting story, and no one noticed it had stopped raining and the sun had come out. A bird began to sing cheerily, and everyone looked up.

“Oh, isn’t it beautiful!” Alexis exclaimed. Mom and dad just kept looking and nodded their heads up and down.

What do you think Alexis and her mom and dad were looking at? (A rainbow). This week we will learn that when we see a rainbow in the sky, we should remember a special promise. See if you can find out what that promise is in our story.

For many, many days and nights, Noah and his family and all the animals and birds and reptiles they had brought with them on the ark stayed inside the ark. Every day it rained! Every night it rained! For forty days and forty nights, it rained without stopping. The water outside the ark got deeper and deeper. Everything in the **WHOLE WORLD** was covered with water – except the ark.

But one day everything was quiet. There was no pitter-patter of raindrops falling on the roof of the ark. The rain had stopped! All the people and animals inside the ark waited. For forty more days they waited for the deep, deep water outside the ark to go down.

Noah s-l-o-w-l-y pushed open the window in the ark. As he looked outside, he could see sunshine and blue, blue sky with fluffy clouds. Carefully he took two birds and gently tossed them out the open window. The big black raven flew up into the air and did not come back to the ark. All the trees were still covered with water, and the little dove could not find any place to stop and rest. So she came back to the ark.

After seven more days, Noah put the dove outside again. This time when she came back to the ark, she had a small leaf from an olive tree in her mouth. Noah knew that the very tips of the trees were no longer covered by water. The next time Noah put the dove outside, she flew away and did not come back. The waters were going down.

Finally, God Himself told Noah that it was time to leave the ark. Noah and his family and **ALL** the animals and birds and reptiles that had been inside the ark for so many day and nights went outside onto dry land. The animals scampered off in every direction. The birds flew away into the big open sky, happy to be able to use their strong wings again. The reptiles slithered away from the ark as they looked for new homes to live in.

How thankful Noah and his family were! God had done **EXACTLY** what He told Noah He would do! Noah built a special place, called an “altar” to pray. Noah and his family thanked God for keeping His word to them and taking care of them.

God made a promise to Noah that NEVER again would He cover the whole world with water as a punishment for sin. So that Noah and all the people who have lived after him would remember God's promise, God made the very first rainbow and placed it in the clouds.

Rainbows remind people of God's promise not to destroy the world by covering it with water. Anytime you see a rainbow, you can remember God's promise. God ALWAYS keeps His promises because He is our great God.

Did you remember to look for God's promise?

Bible Verse to Learn

“The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.” (Psalm 145:17).