

Genesis 5-9

Sunday | January 15th, 2015 | Pastor Patrick Bowler



Genesis 5-9 1 Peter 3:18-22

(See also 2 Cor. 5:17, Rom. 6:1-11, Col. 3:10, Eph. 4:24)

CONSULT THE SCHOLARS

[R. Kent Hughes] "The shape of the flood account indicates exacting care by Moses as to its content and literary style. In literary terms it is a chiasmus.¹ That is, the flood story divides into halves, with the second half being a mirror image of the first, but in reverse order. The first half,

which describes the beginning and the 150-day rise of the flood, is a kind of de-creation, while the second half, which gives the 150-day receding of the floodwaters and its end, is a kind of re-creation. The center of this mirror-imaged structure is in the opening line of chapter 8, 'But God remembered Noah.' Allen Ross has provided this helpful diagram:" ²

[Note: text in red has been added by Pastor Patrick for clarity]

- A God resolves to destroy the corrupt race (6:11-13).
- B Noah builds an ark according to God's instructions (6:14-22).
 - C The Lord commands the remnant to enter the ark (7:1-9).
 - D The flood begins (7:10-16).
 - E The flood prevails 150 days, and the mountains are covered (7:17-24).
 - F God remembers Noah (8:1a).
 - E The flood recedes 150 days, and the mountains are visible (8:1b-5).
 - D The earth dries (8:6-14)
- C God commands the remnant to leave the ark (8:15-19).
- B Noah builds an alter (8:20).
- A The Lord resolves not to destroy humankind (8:21-22).

R. Kent Hughes, Preaching The Word: Genesis (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2004), p. 132.



1. Growing up, how did you view the story of "Noah's Ark?" How is your view different today?

- 2. Read *Gen 6-8* with the aforementioned chiastic structure in mind and discuss.
- 3. Pastor Patrick mentioned several similarities between the story of Noah (*Gen. 6-9*) and the story of Adam (*Gen. 1-4*). As a group see how many you can identify.
- 4. How does the story of Noah and the flood point us to Christ?
- 5. Read 1 Peter 3:18-22. What is the story of the flood a picture of according to Peter?
- 6. What is baptism a picture of (see Rom. 6:1-11)?
- 7. What does it mean to be a "new creation" (2 Cor. 5:17)?
- 8. What immediate applications can be made in light of this text?

Notes:

- Origins 15 -

¹(Footnote added by Pastor Patrick) Chiasmus or chiasm is Latin from the Greek, chiasma, which means "crossing," or chiazo, which means, "to shape like the letter X (22nd letter in the Greek alphabet, [Chi])."

²R. Kent Hughes, Preaching The Word: Genesis (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2004), p. 132.