

Old Testament Lessons 5b and 6

ENOCH AND NOAH

Prepared by Duane S. Crowther, February 2002

1. The Righteous Lineage from Adam to the Sons of Noah:

A. *Genesis 5:1-32*: (1) **Adam** [vv. 1-5]; (2) **Seth** [vv. 3-8]; (3) **Enos** [vv. 6-11]; (4) **Cainan** [vv. 9-14]; (5) **Mahalaleel** [vv. 12-17]; (6) **Jared** [vv. 15-20]; (7) **Enoch** [vv. 18-24]; (8) **Methuselah** [vv. 21-27]; (9) **Lamech** [vv. 25-31]; (10) **Noah** [vv. 29- 9:29]; (11) **Japheth, Shem, and Ham** [v. 32- 10:32].

2. **Notes on Bible Chronology:** [See *Bible Dictionary*: “Chronology,” p. 635] The reality is that we don’t know the exact dates of events for the first 3,000 years of the Old Testament within hundreds of years. If we take the chronology provided by Archbishop Ussher, and assume the fall of Adam to be c. [circa = about] 4000 B.C., and use Genesis 5 as a calculation basis: we might have approximately the following dates: **Adam: 4000-3070** [Gen. 5:5; Moses 6:10,12]; **Seth: 3870-2958** [Gen. 5:3,8; Moses 6:13,16]; **Enos: 3765-2860** [Gen. 5:6,11; Moses 6:17-18]; **Cainan: 3675-2765** [Gen. 5:9,14; Moses 6:19]; **Mahalaleel: 3605-2710** [Gen. 5:12,17; Moses 6:19-20]; **Jared: 3540-2578** [Gen. 5:15,20; Moses 6:20,24;]; **Enoch: 3378-2948** [Moses 6:21; 8:1; D&C 107:49]; **Methuselah: 3313-2344** [Gen. 5:21,27; Moses 6:25; 8:7]; **Lamech: 3126-2349** [Gen. 5:25,31; Moses 8:5,11]; **Noah: 2944-1994** [Gen. 5:28-29; 9:29; Moses 8:8]; **Japheth: 2494-** [Moses 8:12; Gen. 5:32]; **Shem: 2452-** [Moses 8:12; Gen. 5:32]; **Ham: 2444-** [Moses 8:12]. **The Flood: 2344** [Gen. 9:28: “Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years.”]

3. The Account of Enoch—a Rich Scriptural Treasure:

A. (1) He was Noah’s great-grandfather. (2) Main scriptural source on his life is Moses 6:21-7:69. See also D&C 107:40-57. (3) Was taught in the ways of God by his father, Jared [Moses 6:21]. (4) Was ordained by Adam when he was 25 [Adam was 647, Enoch’s 5th great grandfather.] [D&C 107:48]. (5) Was called by God to prophesy and preach repentance [Moses 6:27-33]. (6) Was promised power over the mountains and rivers [Moses 6:34]. (7) Saw in vision the spirits God had created, was called a “seer” [Moses 6:35-38]. (8) Enoch’s great speech to Mahijah concerning the fall, atonement and the plan of salvation [Moses 6:39-7:1]. (9) His vision of the Lord, war between the people of Canaan and Shum, and the cursing of the land of Canaan [Moses 7:2-11]. (10) Enoch led the people of God, and commanded the mountains and rivers; the nations feared him [Moses 7:12-15]. (11) “The Lord came and dwelt with his people, and they dwelt in righteousness.” He built a city called Zion [Moses 7:16-20]. (12) The Lord showed Enoch all the inhabitants of the earth, angels coming to the earth bearing testimony, and Satan leading people astray, that Zion would be taken to heaven, and that God wept for his wicked children [Moses 7:21-41].

B. **Enoch saw Noah in vision:** (13) He saw Noah and his family, and that they would be saved with a temporal salvation [Moses 7:42]. (14) Enoch saw in vision that Noah built an ark, and that the floods swallowed up the residue of the wicked [Moses 7:43-44]. (15) Enoch saw in vision that all the families of the earth descended from Noah [Moses 7:45].

C. (16) Enoch saw in vision the coming of Christ in the meridian of time, his atoning sacrifice, the resurrection, the bringing forth of spirits from the spirit prison, and their crowning as Christ is crowned

[Moses 7:45-49, 53-57].

D. (17) Enoch plead with the Lord that the earth would never be covered with a flood again. The Lord covenanted with Enoch that (A) he would stay the floods, and (B) decreed with an unalterable decree that a remnant of [Noah's] seed should always be found among all nations, while the earth should stand [Moses 7:50-52]. See Gen. 9:8-17, where God speaks to Noah, repeats his covenant, and establishes the rainbow as a sign of the covenant.

E. (18) Enoch asked, and the Lord said that he would “come in the last days, in the days of wickedness and vengeance,” and that he would fulfill the oath which he had made with Enoch concerning the children of Noah (to not destroy the people of the earth with a flood again) [instead, he will cleanse the earth by fire]. Enoch was told by the Lord that “great tribulations shall be among the children of men, *but my people will I preserve*” [Moses 7:59-61, 66]. See Jude 1:14.

F. (19) Enoch saw the day of the coming of the Son of Man, to dwell in righteousness upon the earth for a thousand years, dwelling in Zion, the New Jerusalem. The Lord told him: “Then shalt thou and all thy city meet them there” [Moses 7:62-65]. See Eth. 13:2-12; Rev. 21:1-27.

G. (20) “The Lord showed Enoch all things, even unto the end of the world.” [Moses 7:67]

H. (21) Enoch and his people, who dwelt in the city of Zion, lived together in righteousness for 365 years [from the time he was 65 till he was 430 years old] [Moses 7:68; see Gen. 5:21-24], then they were caught up into heaven. [Moses 7:16-20, 68-69]. See Heb. 11:5

G. (22) “Methusaleh, the son of Enoch, was not taken [up into heaven], that the covenants of the Lord might be fulfilled, which he made to Enoch” [Moses 8:2].

4. The Account of Noah—an Example of Faith, Obedience, and Hard Work:

A. (1) Noah was the son of Lamech. his father was 182 when Noah was born; he lived another 595 years, and begat other sons and daughters [Moses 8:8-11]. (2) Noah was ordained by Methusaleh [Methusaleh, his grandfather, was 379] [D&C 107:52].

(3) After Noah's ordination, he was commanded to “go forth and declare the gospel unto the children of men, even as it was given unto Enoch [Moses 8:19]. (4) Noah preached the first principles [Moses 8:24] but the people ignored him and didn't hearken to his words [Moses 8:19-24]. (5) Noah was 450 when his wife begat Japheth, 492 when she begat Shem, and 500 when she begat Ham [Moses 8:12]. (6) “Noah and his sons hearkened unto the Lord, and gave heed, and they were called the sons of God [Moses 8:13]. (7) “Noah prophesied, and taught the things of God.” “Noah was a just man, and perfect in his generation; and he walked with God, as did also his three sons, Shem Ham and Japheth” [Moses 8:16,27].

5. The Table of Nations: Genesis 10: This chapter is very important because it tells “the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood.” [Gen. 10:32]

A. *Gen. 10:2-5:* The *sons of Japheth*: “His descendants were dispersed over the European coasts of the Mediterranean and the districts adjoining the Black and Caspian seas, . . . forming what is now called the Indo-European family of nations.” [“Japheth,” *Bible Dictionary*, p. 710]

B. *Gen. 10:21-31:* The *sons of Shem*: “Shem was the traditional ancestor of the Shemitic or Semitic races, i.e., a group of kindred nations, which includes the Arabs, the Hebrews and Phoenicians, the Aramaeans or Syrians, the Babylonians and Assyrians. The languages spoken by these various nations were . . . known as the Semitic languages.” [“Shem,” *Bible Dictionary*, p. 773]

C. *Gen. 10:6-20:* The *sons of Ham*: “They were the southern nations: *Cush*=the dark-skinned race of eastern Africa and southern Arabia; *Mizraim*=Egyptians; *Phut*=Libyans; *Canaan*=inhabitants of Palestine before arrival of the Semitic races.” [“Ham,” *Bible Dictionary*, p. 698]

THE FLOOD

1. Great Wickedness upon the Earth:

A. Enoch's vision of Noah's day: "The Lord spake unto Enoch, and told Enoch all the doings of the children of men; wherefore Enoch knew, and looked upon their wickedness, and their misery, and wept and stretched forth his arms, and his heart swelled wide as eternity; and his bowels yearned; and all eternity shook." [Moses 7:41]

B. The wickedness of Noah's day: "God saw that the wickedness of men had become great in the earth; and every man was lifted up in the imagination of the thoughts of his heart, being only evil continually." [Moses 8:22] "And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted its way upon the earth." [Moses 8:28-30]

C. The children of Japheth, Shem and Ham fall away and won't believe Noah's words. [Moses 8:14-15; Gen. 6:1-4]

D. "There were giants on the earth, and they sought Noah to take away his life." "And it repented Noah, and his heart was pained that the Lord had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at the heart." [Moses 8:25; Gen. 6:4]

E. "And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created, from the face of the earth, both man and beast, and the creeping things, and the fowls of the earth." [Moses 8:25; Gen. 6:6-7,11-13]

2. The Ark: The Lord commanded Noah to build an ark and to assemble animals and food in it:

A. Description: of gopher wood, with pitch within and without to seal it. [Gen. 6:14] Length: 300 cubits (400-450 feet); breadth: 50 cubits (75 feet); height: 30 cubits (45 feet), with three levels of rooms (stories) [Gen. 6:14-16]. It had "a window" on top and a door in the side. [Gen. 6:17]

B. Noah had 120 years to build the ark [Gen. 6:3]

C. Noah was commanded to bring seven of all "clean" beasts and fowls into the ark, male and female, and two of all "unclean" animals and creeping things, and food for all of them . [Gen. 7:2-3; 6:19-21] (For definitions of "clean" and "unclean" animals, see Leviticus 11:1-31.)

3. The Flood and the Voyage:

A. Only eight people went aboard the ark: Noah and his wife, and three of his sons and their wives. [Gen. 7:7]

B. The flood begins: "All the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. The rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights." [Gen. 7:11-12] See Genesis 1:7: "God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from *the waters which were above the firmament.*"

C. A worldwide flood: "*After the waters had receded from off the face of this land [America] it became a choice land above all other lands.*" [Ether 13:2] (See also Gen. 10:25 concerning Peleg, a descendant of Shem: "in his days was the earth divided" [Gen. 10:25])

D. The rains started on the second month, seventeenth day [Gen. 7:11]. The ark rested on the top of Mount Ararat five months later, on the seventh month, 17th day [Gen. 8:4]. They saw land for the first time on the 10th month, 1st day [Gen. 8:5]. Forty days later, he began sending forth birds to find land [Gen. 8:6-12]. On the second month, 27th day, the land was dry enough that the Lord told them to disembark. [Gen. 8:14] **Total time in the ark: one year and 10 days!**

E. Other events: (1) Noah built an altar, and offered an offering of every clean beast. [Gen. 8:20-21] (2) "God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth." [Gen. 9:1-8] (3) God renewed his covenant. [Gen. 9:9-17] (4) The sons of Noah "overspread" the earth. [Gen. 9:19] (5) Noah became a "husbandman" and planted a vineyard. [Gen. 9:20] (6) Ham saw his father, drunk and naked. Noah cursed him (that he will be "a servant of servants" unto his brothers) and

blessed his brothers. [Gen. 9:21-27]. Noah lived another 350 years and then died at the age of 950 years. [Gen. 9:28-29]

4. Likening Noah's Time to the Last Days: See Matthew 24:36-39.

A. President *Ezra Taft Benson*: "The revelation to produce and store food may be as essential to our temporal welfare today as boarding the ark was to the people in the days of Noah." [*Ensign*, November 1987, p. 49]

B. Elder *L. Tom Perry*: "Just as it is important to prepare ourselves spiritually, we must also prepare ourselves for our temporal needs. . . . We have been instructed for years to follow at least four requirements in preparing for that which is to come.

First, gain an adequate education. Learn a trade or a profession to enable you to obtain steady employment that will provide remuneration sufficient to care for yourself and your family. . . .

Second, live strictly within your income and save something for a rainy day. Incorporate in your lives the discipline of budgeting that which the Lord has blessed you with. As regularly as you pay your tithing, set aside an amount needed for future family requirements. . . .

Third, avoid excessive debt. Necessary debt should be incurred only after careful, thoughtful prayer and after obtaining the best possible advice. We need the discipline to stay well within our ability to pay. . . .

Fourth, acquire and store a reserve of food and supplies that will sustain life [if local laws permit such a storage]. Obtain clothing and build a savings account on a sensible, well-planned basis that can serve well in times of emergency. As long as I can remember, we have been taught to prepare for the future and to obtain a year's supply of necessities. I would guess that the years of plenty have almost universally caused us to set aside this counsel. I believe the time to disregard this counsel is over. With events in the world today, it must be considered with all seriousness." [*Ensign*, November 1995, p. 36]

C. President *Spencer W. Kimball*: "[When Noah built the ark] there was no evidence of rain and flood. . . . His warnings were considered irrational. . . . How foolish to build an ark on dry ground with the sun shining and life moving forward as usual! But time ran out. The ark was finished. The floods came. The disobedient and rebellious were drowned. The miracle of the ark followed the faith manifested in its building." [*Faith Precedes the Miracle*, 1972, pp. 5-6]