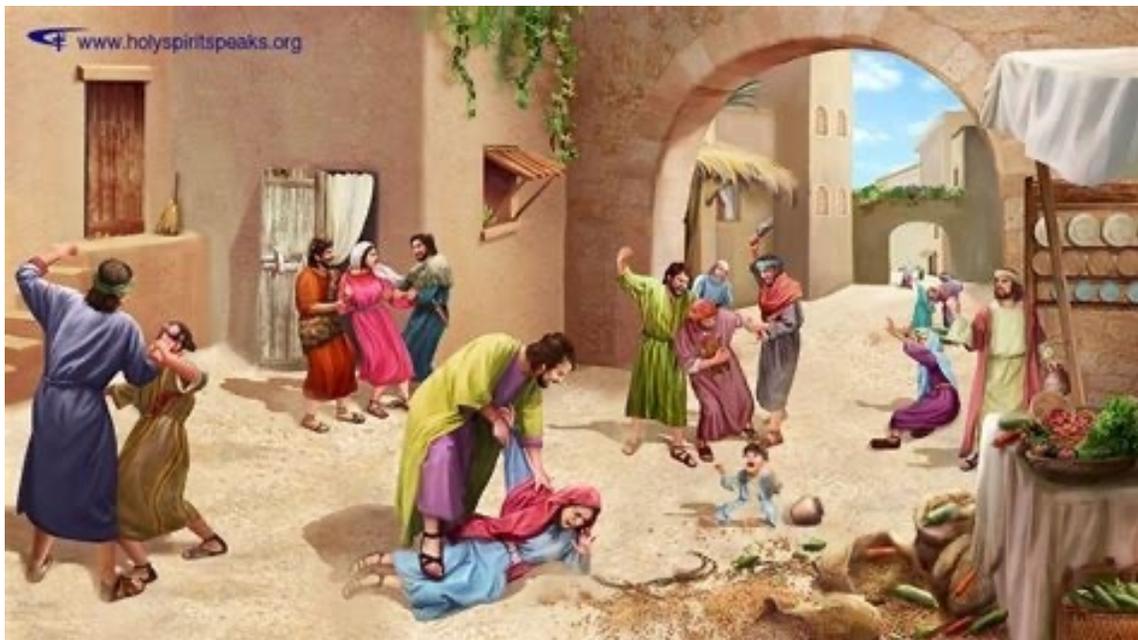


After Cain killed Abel and was sent away, there came to be more and more people on the earth. They continued to multiply and they all started doing things they knew they shouldn't be doing.

They hurt others, were being mean to others, loving their Self the most, not obeying their mother and father, loving money. They were arrogant, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God. (see 2 Tim 3:4)



The Lord looked at it all and saw that everything they thought about was only evil, and he was sorry he made them. (Gen 6:5-6)

It broke his heart.



And he said to himself, “I will wipe out this human race that I have created and destroy every living thing; all the people and all the animals, even the birds of the sky.” (Genesis 6:7)

Was God being mean? It seems that way, doesn't it? But remember the story of Cain and Abel? What did God tell Cain? “If you do what's right, you'll be accepted. But if you won't do what's right...” What's at the door?

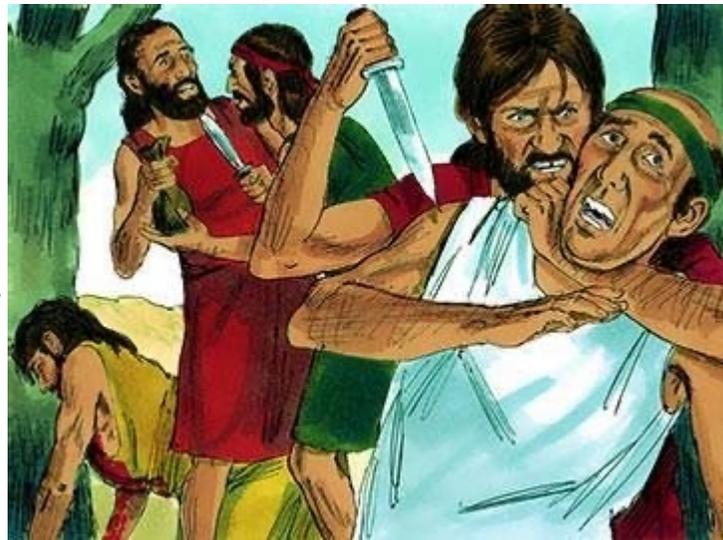
Yes.. a
TIGER!



And what did these people do? Did they keep the door shut and tell the TIGER to go away!?

No. They opened the door and the TIGER got them!

They became evil
and violence
covered the earth.
And **blood** cried out
from the ground!

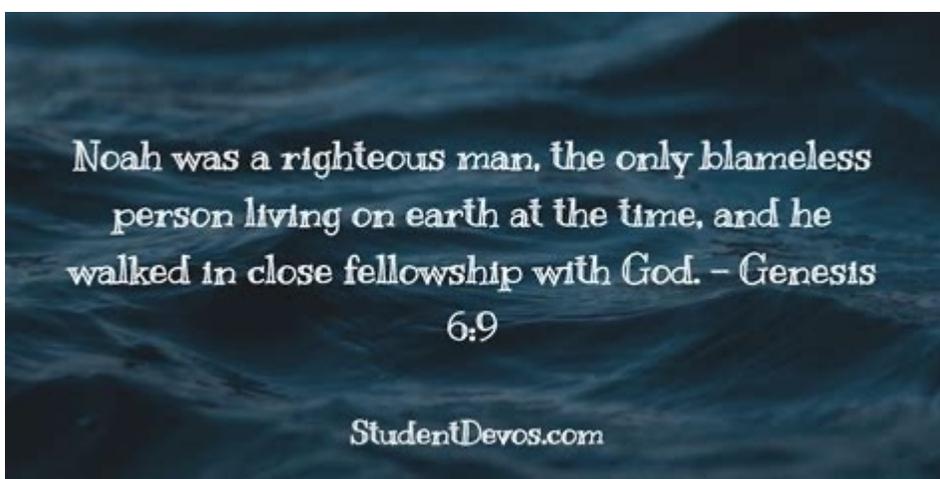


What was it crying
out for? There had to be a punishment.

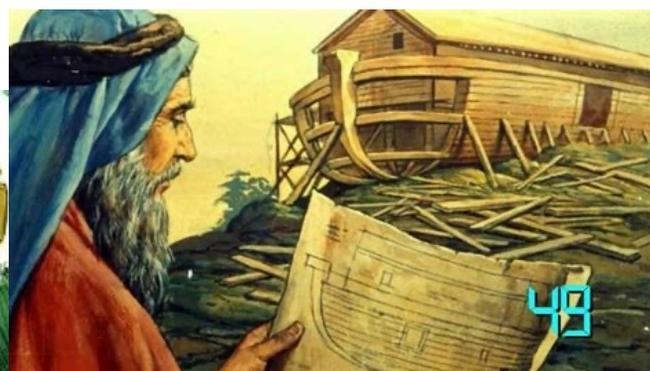
God's heart was broken and he didn't want to be mean. It's just that when people choose to do evil then there's always judgment and punishment that comes.

But God loved them SO much and is SO kind that he made a way that they could escape.

God called a man named NOAH and his family. They loved God and they loved what



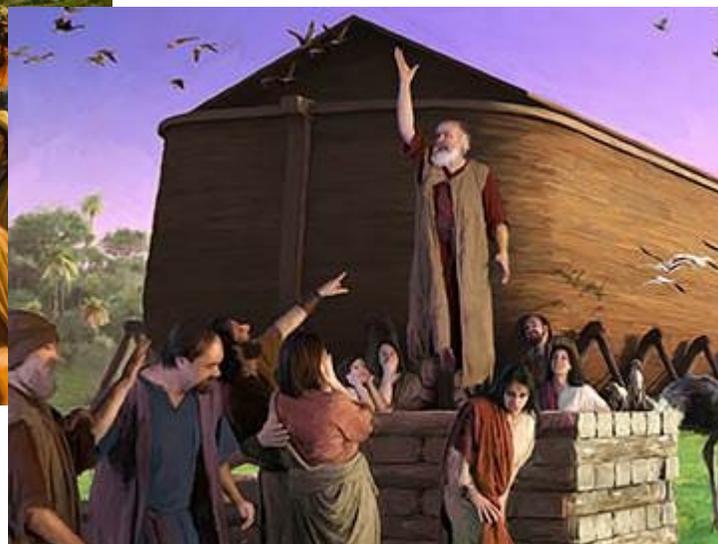
was right, and God said to Noah that he should build an ark and told him how. God said he was going to destroy the earth because everyone was so evil.



So Noah obeyed God, but everyone thought he was CRAZY! They laughed at him as he built it. It probably took about 100 years to build. And Noah probably

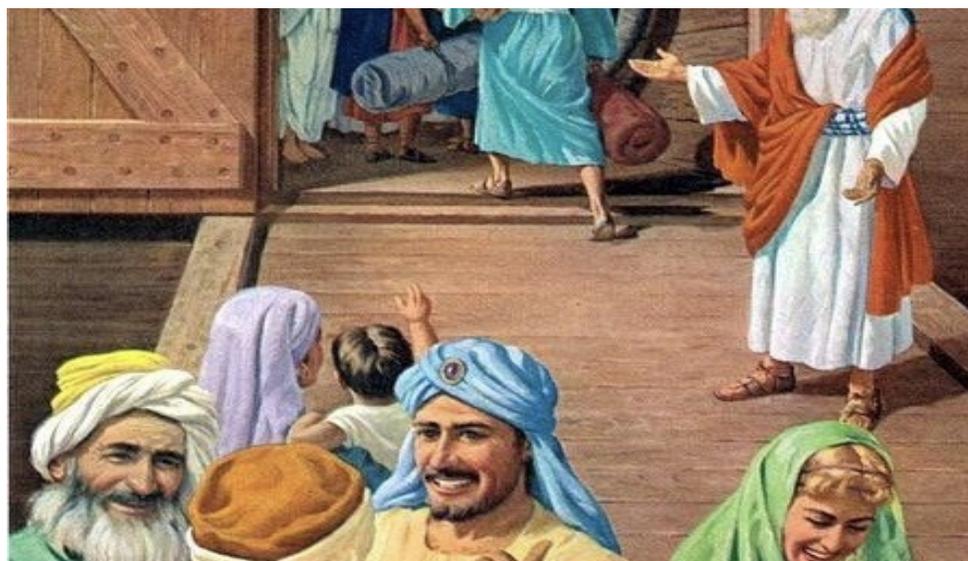


warned them for all that time.

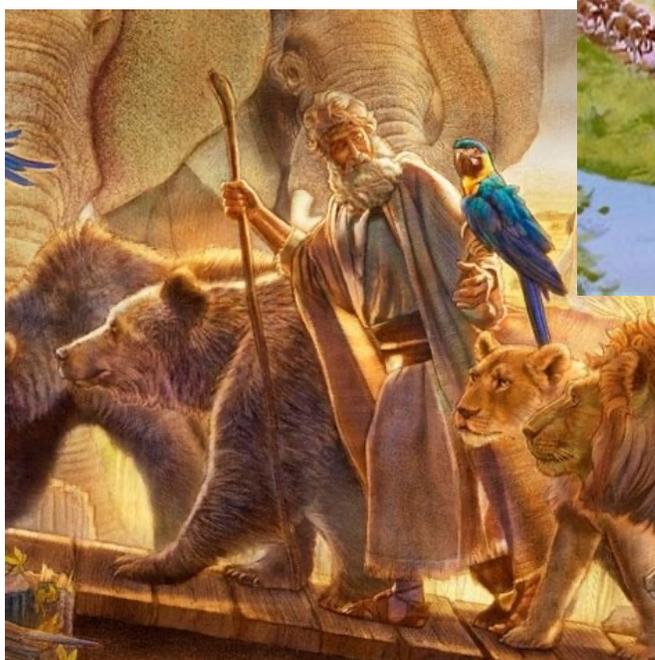
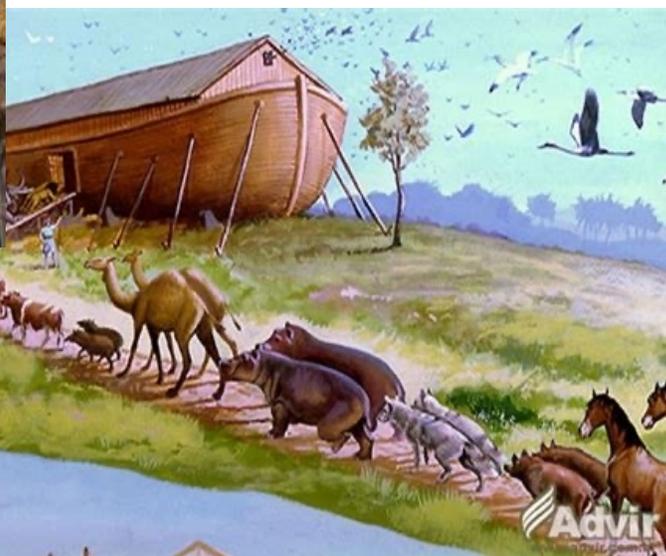


But they laughed and laughed at him and wouldn't believe him.

But Noah did believe God and obeyed him and kept building.



Because of their evil hearts the bad people had to be punished, but God didn't want everything to die. So when the ark was finished, he sent all the animals, two by two, male and female, to go and get aboard the ark.



When all the animals got in--God shut the door.

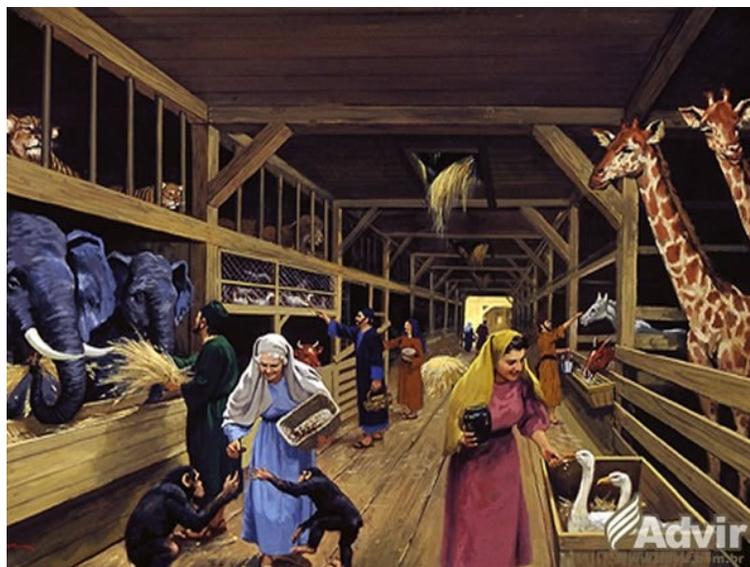
And then it started raining and raining and raining and *raining* more, and water under the ground came up and water was everywhere and filled the earth.





Just as Noah had warned them for over 100 years--the great flood came and they all died.

Thankfully, Noah and his family were safe in the ark. They trusted and obeyed what God told them--and God saved them.



Eventually, the water went down and the ark landed on a mountain and all the animals were released. The earth started over with righteousness.



Then God made a promise: “never again will flood waters kill every living creature. I have placed my rainbow in the clouds as a sign.” (Gen 9:11-12)



And that's why there are rainbows after it rains, so that we'll remember God's promise to never destroy the earth again with a flood of water.

The End

Bible lessons on the Number TWO

Noah's Ark—Two by Two

by Mary Beth Wine
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Dedicated to:
Josiah, Caleb, Johnathan, Adam, Caitlin,
Zachariah, Isaac, and Ryker
Love, Grandma