

Timeline of Truth: Genesis 6:8-9 – Noah Finds Grace

⁸ But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. ⁹ This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.

1. Noah Finds Favor with God

“But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.”

a. **Grace or Favor?**

*We know clearly that salvation is not of works – it is by belief alone in the finished work of Jesus Christ. This grace or favor seems to be connected to Noah’s **performance** because of his belief **and** behavior.*

The term is used often of non-salvation related favor (often conditional favor):

- Gen 30:27 And Laban said to him, "Please *stay*, if I have found favor in your eyes, *for* I have learned by experience that the LORD has blessed me for your sake."
- Gen 32:5 "I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, and male and female servants; and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find favor in your sight."""
- Gen 39:4 So Joseph found favor in his sight, and served him. Then he made him overseer of his house, and all *that* he had he put under his authority.
- Ruth 2:10 So she fell on her face, bowed down to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I *am* a foreigner?"
- Ruth 2:13 Then she said, "Let me find favor in your sight, my lord; for you have comforted me, and have spoken kindly to your maidservant, though I am not like one of your maidservants."
- Esther 5:8 "If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, then let the king and Haman come to the banquet which I will prepare for them, and tomorrow I will do as the king has said."
- Prov 3:4 *And* so find favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man.
- Prov 3:22 So they will be life to your soul And grace to your neck.
- Prov 3:34 Surely He scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble.

Noah stood out in the midst of the entire rest of the violent and corrupt world in his God-honoring belief and conduct. God noted him and had favor on him because of that.

We will look at these “favor factors” in Part 2 in this lesson.

b. **Can We Walk Pleasing to God Today?**

In the sense that we can do what God desires through the power of the Holy Spirit (God’s enabling), YES!

- Rom 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
- Rom 14:18 For he who serves Christ in these things *is* acceptable to God and approved by men.
- 2 Cor 5:9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.
- Col 1:10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- Eph 5:8-10 ⁸ For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), ¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.
- Phil 4:18 Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things *sent* from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.
- Col 3:20 Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.
- 1 Thes 2:4 But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.

- 1 Thes 4:1 Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God;
- 1 Tim 2:1-3 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, ² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.³ For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,
- 1 Tim 5:4 But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety at home and to repay their parents; for this is good and acceptable before God.
- Heb 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a **rewarder** of those who **diligently** seek Him.
- Heb 13:21 make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* glory forever and ever. Amen.
- 1 John 3:22 And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

2. Factors of Favor with God

a. **Noah's Belief**

*Heb 11:6-7 "But without **faith** [it is] impossible to please [Him], for he who comes to God **must believe that He is**, and [that] He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. By **faith** Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and **became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.**"*

Noah first believed in God (Who He is and What He's revealed about Himself) and then believed God's revelation to him about the flood.

b. **Noah's Works**

"Noah was a just man,"

Just could mean "righteous in standing" (like being saved) or "righteous in actions." Here it appears to be the latter, because the Bible lists the characteristics of Noah as seemingly conditional reasons. You see this stated by God in Genesis 7:1 also:

Then the LORD said to Noah, "Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen [that] you are righteous before Me in this generation."

Further, Heb 11:7 says, *"By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, **moved with godly fear**, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith."*

c. **Noah's Reputation**

"perfect in his generations."

Perfect can mean "mature" or "blameless" - There was nothing he was doing wrong behind the scenes. He consistently lived for God in mature way up to this point.

d. **Noah's Walk**

"Noah walked with God."

Noah had an ongoing daily relationship with God – a habit or lifestyle. It is a similar description as is used with Enoch (Gen 5:24). God wasn't a token of Noah's life; God was the center of Noah's life.

e. **Noah's Obedience**

We can see that Noah promptly and completely obeyed God: 6:22; 7:5; 7:9.

f. **Noah's Preaching**

*2 Pet 2:5 "and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, **a preacher of righteousness**, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;"*

Noah was not just one who did right, but someone who declared the truth also. (By Works AND Words)