

Deane Parish Church Home Groups
w/b Sunday 8th November 2015

"I can't believe in a God who..."

1. Why do you think people might say "I can't believe in a God who..."
?
2. Look up Genesis 1:31 and 6:5.
What are the differences?
What has changed?
Which is Britain today most like?
Which is God's Church most like?
3. Looking at the account of Noah and the flood (Genesis 6-9), what are some parallels between what God did then and what he did at the Cross?
4. When we think about God, in what ways do we start with ourselves rather than with God and his word in the Bible?
5. What are the potential problems with that approach?
6. If someone were to say to you "I can't believe in a God who...", what general principles might help you to help them?

TC 6-xi-15

Genesis 6:11-22

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence.

¹² God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³ So God said to Noah, 'I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. ¹⁴ So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. ¹⁵ This is how you are to build it: the ark is to be three hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide and thirty cubits high.

¹⁶ Make a roof for it, leaving below the roof an opening one cubit high all around. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. ¹⁷ I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath

of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. ¹⁸ But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark – you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹ You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. ²⁰ Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. ²¹ You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them.' ²² Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

Genesis 7:22-24

²² Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died.

²³ Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; people and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.

²⁴ The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days.

Genesis 8:8-11

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: ⁹ 'I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you ¹⁰ and with every living creature that was with you – the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you – every living creature on earth. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you: never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.'

Matthew 24:37-42

³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

⁴² 'Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.