**Genesis The Story of the Flood (New American Bible)  
*Chapter 7***

1

Then the LORD said to Noah: "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for you alone in this age have I found to be truly just.

2

Of every clean animal, take with you seven pairs, a male and its mate; and of the unclean animals, one pair, a male and its mate;

3

likewise, of every clean bird of the air, seven pairs, a male and a female, and of all the unclean birds, one pair, a male and a female. Thus you will keep their issue alive over all the earth.

4

Seven days from now I will bring rain down on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and so I will wipe out from the surface of the earth every moving creature that I have made."

5

Noah did just as the LORD had commanded him.

6

Noah was six hundred years old when the flood waters came upon the earth.

7

Together with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, Noah went into the ark because of the waters of the flood.

8

Of the clean animals and the unclean, of the birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground,

9

(two by two) male and female entered the ark with Noah, just as the LORD had commanded him.

10

As soon as the seven days were over, the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

11

[1](http://old.usccb.org/nab/bible/genesis/genesis7.htm#foot1) In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month: it was on that day that All the fountains of the great abyss burst forth, and the floodgates of the sky were opened.

12

For forty days and forty nights heavy rain poured down on the earth.

13

On the precise day named, Noah and his sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of Noah's sons had entered the ark,

14

together with every kind of wild beast, every kind of domestic animal, every kind of creeping thing of the earth, and every kind of bird.

15

Pairs of all creatures in which there was the breath of life entered the ark with Noah.

16

Those that entered were male and female, and of all species they came, as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut him in.

17

The flood continued upon the earth for forty days. As the waters increased, they lifted the ark, so that it rose above the earth.

18

The swelling waters increased greatly, but the ark floated on the surface of the waters.

19

Higher and higher above the earth rose the waters, until all the highest mountains everywhere were submerged,

20

the crest rising fifteen cubits higher than the submerged mountains.

21

All creatures that stirred on earth perished: birds, cattle, wild animals, and all that swarmed on the earth, as well as all mankind.

22

Everything on dry land with the faintest breath of life in its nostrils died out.

23

The LORD wiped out every living thing on earth: man and cattle, the creeping things and the birds of the air; all were wiped out from the earth. Only Noah and those with him in the ark were left.

24

The waters maintained their crest over the earth for one hundred and fifty days,

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***Chapter 8***

1

and then God remembered Noah and all the animals, wild and tame, that were with him in the ark. So God made a wind sweep over the earth, and the waters began to subside.

2

The fountains of the abyss and the floodgates of the sky were closed, and the downpour from the sky was held back.

3

Gradually the waters receded from the earth. At the end of one hundred and fifty days, the waters had so diminished

4

[1](http://old.usccb.org/nab/bible/genesis/genesis8.htm#foot1) that, in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat.

5

The waters continued to diminish until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains appeared.

6

[2](http://old.usccb.org/nab/bible/genesis/genesis8.htm#foot2) At the end of forty days Noah opened the hatch he had made in the ark,

7

and he sent out a raven, to see if the waters had lessened on the earth. It flew back and forth until the waters dried off from the earth.

8

Then he sent out a dove, to see if the waters had lessened on the earth.

9

But the dove could find no place to alight and perch, and it returned to him in the ark, for there was water all over the earth. Putting out his hand, he caught the dove and drew it back to him inside the ark.

10

He waited seven days more and again sent the dove out from the ark.

11

In the evening the dove came back to him, and there in its bill was a plucked-off olive leaf! So Noah knew that the waters had lessened on the earth.

12

He waited still another seven days and then released the dove once more; and this time it did not come back.

13

In the six hundred and first year of Noah's life, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the water began to dry up on the earth. Noah then removed the covering of the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was drying up.

14

In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry.

15

Then God said to Noah:

16

"Go out of the ark, together with your wife and your sons and your sons' wives.

17

Bring out with you every living thing that is with you--all bodily creatures, be they birds or animals or creeping things of the earth-and let them abound on the earth, breeding and multiplying on it."

18

So Noah came out, together with his wife and his sons and his sons' wives;

19

and all the animals, wild and tame, all the birds, and all the creeping creatures of the earth left the ark, one kind after another.

20

Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and choosing from every clean animal and every clean bird, he offered holocausts on the altar.

21

[3](http://old.usccb.org/nab/bible/genesis/genesis8.htm#foot3) When the LORD smelled the sweet odor, he said to himself: "Never again will I doom the earth because of man, since the desires of man's heart are evil from the start; nor will I ever again strike down all living beings, as I have done.

22

As long as the earth lasts, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, Summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

***Chapter 9***

1

God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them: "Be fertile and multiply and fill the earth.

2

Dread fear of you shall come upon all the animals of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon all the creatures that move about on the ground and all the fishes of the sea; into your power they are delivered.

3

Every creature that is alive shall be yours to eat; I give them all to you as I did the green plants.

4

Only flesh with its lifeblood still in it you shall not eat.

5

For your own lifeblood, too, I will demand an accounting: from every animal I will demand it, and from man in regard to his fellow man I will demand an accounting for human life.

6

If anyone sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; For in the image of God has man been made.

7

Be fertile, then, and multiply; abound on earth and subdue it."

8

God said to Noah and to his sons with him:

9

"See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you

10

and with every living creature that was with you: all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals that were with you and came out of the ark.

11

I will establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth."

12

God added: "This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and every living creature with you:

13

I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

14

When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds,

15

I will recall the covenant I have made between me and you and all living beings, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings.

16

As the bow appears in the clouds, I will see it and recall the everlasting covenant that I have established between God and all living beings--all mortal creatures that are on earth."

17

God told Noah: "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all mortal creatures that are on earth."

18

The sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.)

19

These three were the sons of Noah, and from them the whole earth was peopled.

20

Now Noah, a man of the soil, was the first to plant a vineyard.

21

When he drank some of the wine, he became drunk and lay naked inside his tent.

22

Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father's nakedness, and he told his two brothers outside about it.

23

Shem and Japheth, however, took a robe, and holding it on their backs, they walked backward and covered their father's nakedness; since their faces were turned the other way, they did not see their father's nakedness.

24

When Noah woke up from his drunkenness and learned what his youngest son had done to him,

25

he said: "Cursed be Caanan! The lowest of slaves shall he be to his brothers."

26

He also said: "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem! Let Canaan be his slave.

27

May God expand Japheth, so that he dwells among the tents of Shem; and let Canaan be his slave."

28

Noah lived three hundred and fifty years after the flood.

29

The whole lifetime of Noah was nine hundred and fifty years; then he died.