

# **The End of the Old**

*Ray Stedman*

## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Genesis 7:1-24.

B. Scientism claims that Christians have no right to expect a supernatural intervention of God in the running of the earth.

C. Peter counters that God has intervened and will intervene again. (II Peter 3:5-7)

## II. The flood of Noah.

A. It involved unusual forces.

B. Its effects were world shaking.

C. It points to a future physical disturbance in the earth by fire.

D. God does intervene in human affairs and will do it again.

## III. The basis on which salvation occurs.

A. Noah's invitation is to come into the ark with the implication that God is in the Ark.

B. Noah was given the invitation because he was seen as righteous. (Hebrews 11)

1. One can never say he believes God unless he obeys him.

2. Christians are not to be conformed to the world. The Christian's belief will be reflected in how they do not adhere to the world around them.

C. A distinction between clean and unclean was made long before the flood.

1. There are no clean and unclean animals—this is an artificial distinction.

2. This was meant to teach a spiritual truth—each animal represented a characteristic that God approved or that God did not approve.

## IV. The thoroughness of judgment.

A. God keeps His datebook on the progress of the people of God.

B. When the church fulfills its appointed task, then it will be removed and the judgment will come.

C. The fountains of the deep were broken up suggesting the ocean beds were raised.

D. The water canopy covering the earth collapsed.

V. God sealed in those who were in the ark to protect them.

VI. The Scripture warns of the suddenness of God's judgment.

A. The fabric of a society can grow so decrepit that it cannot support itself.

B. We are being subjected right now to the decisive moments of our lives.

**Application questions:**

1. How was the basis of Noah's salvation reflective of our own?

---

---

2. How would you respond to someone who says that all natural catastrophes are merely the result of nature working its course?

---

---

3. How should the believer respond to the promises of judgment in the Scripture? Explain.

---

---