

# The Story of Noah and the Ark.

Long, long ago, God noticed that the people on earth took no notice of him, and were starting to behave badly.

I know, thought God, I will drown the people of the earth, but I must save Noah and his family, as they have lived nicely. So one day God spoke to Noah.

“Noah, Noah. “ said God. “I want you to build a boat.”

“Aboat ? “ replied Noah.

“Yes, a boat. I needs to have three decks, and be 130 metres long, 20 metres wide and 15 metres high.”

“When should I start ? “ questioned Noah.

“As soon as you can. As there is going to be a great flood.” replied God.

“OK. I will have it built by the end of the week.”

So Noah started building. His sons asked what he was doing, and he replied that God had asked him to build him boat. So the brothers decided to help. When it was finished, Noah stood back and looked at his work.

“Excellent Noah. “ said God. “ Now I want you to go and get two of every animal. Please do not forget any animal, as all will be needed after the flood.”

So Noah went to all edges of the world, with his brothers, and very soon a mass of animals were assembled outside the ark.

“What on earth is Noah doing ?” jeered the people. “Why has assembled a boat, and now ha two of every animal.”

But Noah never replied, he just checked to make sure that he had two of every animal. Then he, his sons, and their families all went into the boat, followed by all the animals, two by two.

After all were in, Noah pulled up the ramp, and shut the doors.

“Come on Noah, please tell us, why have you built a boat in the middle of the land ?” the people shouted up at Noah. “Was it that God told you to ?

“Yes he did. “replied Noah sharply.

“Well that’s just weird.”

“God will have it planned. “ said Noah.

Then as if by magic, a cloud appeared in the sky, and it started to rain. Not just a light shower, but real heavy rain. The animals on the boat started to moan, and as many as could went below deck to stay out the heavy cold rain. Within minutes the rain had wetted all the ground, and was starting to form large puddles. These puddles then became ponds, and the ponds joined together to make large lakes. The people who had shouted at Noah started to run away to find higher land, to get out of the rain.

Eventually, the water had become so deep that the boat started to float. The rain didn’t stop though, it just kept raining, for forty days, and forty nights. By the time the rain stopped all the towns in the land were under water, and all the people not on the ark had drowned.

Noah stayed safe on the boat with all the animals, but soon he became really worried that the waters would not go down, so he sent off a dove to find land. The dove disappeared for a day, but eventually came back and landed on the deck of the boat, with an olive branch in its mouth.

Noticing which way the bird had flown in, Noah steered the boat towards the land. Within 3 days, Noah could see dry land, and sailed towards it. Eventually the boat came to rest on Mount Ararat.

The animals stayed on the boat for another 3 days until the waters around the mountain went down, and then when Noah opened the doors the animals streamed off in the pairs and disappeared onto their new fertile land.

Noah knew now that he had completed the job that God had asked of him, and he also left the ark with his family, and went to live in the new land, building himself a new home, for himself and his family.