

## Genesis 7:7-10

*So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth, two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah. And it came to pass after seven days that the waters of the flood were on the earth.*

Noah's Ark, when you hear that, what is one of the first things you think of right away? Usually we think of all the animals being lead two by two into the ark. After all, aren't there so many pictures of this that you can find?

In the church I went to in California, there was an awesome artist who actually did a mural on the entire wall in one of the children's classrooms there at church, with that very picture of Noah's ark. It's just beautiful.

But if you think about it, what that does is, it sugarcoats the truth about what really happen. The purpose of Noah's Ark was not to save the animals, but to save mankind from God's judgment on the earth. With that judgment, millions of people died and they all drowned.

Wouldn't a truer picture be with the ark closed up, because it was, and a true picture is that there where no cute animals hanging their heads out like the paintings depict (There was only one window on the ark, and the animals were not hanging out on the deck of the ark).

But the truth would be people drowning, and screaming, and hanging onto the outside of the ark as long as they could until their strength gave out, and they would finally let go and they drowned. That's the true picture of what happen.

But we don't paint that picture because it would scare our kids as they tried to sleep every night. Now I am not saying to get rid of those pictures, because they do show God's grace and mercy upon the earth and mankind as well as the animals.

What I am trying to get at is that we sugar coat the bible so that we will not offend anyone.

We say to just accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, and everything will be ok.

Well, yeah that's kind of true. If you accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, everything will be ok.... when you die. But it may not change what they are going through at that moment.

We sugar coat the bible to sell Jesus, not save people, because salvation is more then just a pray, but a relationship with Jesus. One very important part we leave out is that they are to repent from their sins also. Oh yeah, we seem to forget to throw in that part too, all because we don't want to offend someone and turn them away from Jesus.

Really? We tend to forget that when Jesus began His ministry that *from that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."* Matthew 4:17

And how many people followed Him anyway? So no, teaching what the bible says about repentance will not chase people away when you tell them the whole truth, it will make them free.

† John 8:32 *And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

*The truth shall make you free*, you couldn't paint a sweet picture then that!!!