

Genesis 6:22 & 7:1

Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

Then the LORD said to Noah, "Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation."

In our fast-paced world where we can shop online and get things delivered the next day, or even the same day in some cases. We tend to read the bible with that mentality. The problem is that when we do, we miss so much, because we think everything happens so quickly and that we get the entire story right there.

But in a lot of cases when we read the bible, that's not true. Take today's verses in Genesis chapter 6:22 and 7:1. Verse 22 is the end of chapter 6, and obviously, verse 1 in chapter 7 starts a new chapter. But when we read that, we think it tells the who story, but if you read the bible a little more slowly, you realize that there are 120 years between the end of chapter six and the beginning of chapter seven in Genesis. In chapter six, God tells Noah to build the ark, and it took 120 years for Noah to build it. So starting in chapter seven God comes back and gives Noah instruction what to do next after he has built the ark.

So you may be wondering why I am putting so much emphasis on this? I will answer that, but first, also think of Moses and how he was born, and for the first forty years of his life, he was raised as an Egyptian, but he felt his calling from God and tried to do things his own way by killing an Egyptian. But he found out his way was wrong, and he fled Egypt and got married and had two sons and lived life until forty years later when God called Moses to release the children of Israel from their bondage.

So, to answer the question of "why I am putting so much emphasis on this?" If there are 120 years between Genesis chapter 6 and 7, what was Noah doing for those 120 years? *"Well, he was building the ark."* Which is correct? But is that all he did? Didn't he have a family to provide for, sons to raise and life to live as well?

What about Moses, the first 40 years of his life, what was he doing? Sure he was being raised as Pharaoh's sister adopted son, but what was he doing for those 40 years. Or how about after he left Egypt as was gone for another 40 years, what was he doing before he came back to Egypt? We know that he had his normal job as a shepherd and was married and had two sons to raise as well.

But in both cases the bible does not tell us the details or even anything about those many years that they just lived life. One thing we do know is that they walked with God during those silent times, because God still called and used them when the time was right.

I say this because we sometimes feel we are not doing anything for the Kingdom of God. Yet these two mighty men of God that we just read about didn't feel that way. They knew they had a family and jobs to do, and they did them wholeheartedly, as unto the Lord. But they didn't sit around complaining because they weren't doing enough for the Lord. Because for that time, God had called them to raise their family and teach them about God in word but also by example of how they lived those 40 or 120 years of silence. They were normal people just like you and me. They lived life, and they lived it walking with God. And we need to remember that walking with God is not where every day God does these awesome things through us. No, we simply walk with God and when He wants to do awesome things through us, He will. Until then we are just to walk with God. Just like Enoch did.

† **Genesis 5:22-24** *After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.*

So let's remember that we are to be godly men and women during those times when awesome things are not being done through us, just as we are when the Lord does awesome things through us. But then if you think about it, isn't raising a godly family an awesome thing that the Lord has called us to do!

† **Galatians 6:9-10** *And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.*

† **Matthew 6:31-33** *Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*