

Genesis 6:13-22
The Command to **Build** the Ark

- 1) God's revelation of His sobering plan to destroy humanity—6:13
 - a) The plan
 - i) Make an end of all living creatures
 - ii) Destroy living creatures along with the earth
 - (1) The word “destroy” is the same as “corrupt” in 6:11-12 (cf. 6:17). They ruined God's earth with sin, so now God will ruin them with water. (Fruchtenbaum)
 - b) The cause
 - i) Saturated with violence
 - ii) Characterized by normalcy (cf. Matthew 24:37-39; Luke 17:26-27)
 - iii) Ungodliness/no awe of God (cf. 2nd Peter 2:5)
 - c) The Destroyer (cf. 6:17)
- 2) God's revelation of His detailed plan for the ark—6:14-16
 - a) Ark—6:14 (used outside of Genesis 6-9 only in Exodus 2:3, 5)
 - b) Rooms/compartments/cells/ literally “nests”—6:14
 - c) Materials—6:14
 - i) “Gopher” is a transliteration from Hebrew. It is an unknown species of tree.
 - ii) “Cover” [*kaphar*] is sounds similar to “gopher” [*gopher*] and “pitch” [*kopher*]
 - d) Dimensions—6:15
 - i) Roughly 4380' long x 72.9' wide x 43.8' tall (assuming an 17.5" cubit)
 - ii) Approximately 95,700 ft², or 1,400,000 ft³, equal to approximately 525 box cars.
 - e) Basic design—6:16
 - i) An 18" window for light and ventilation along the top, one door, and three decks
- 3) God's revelation of His destructive plan for all flesh—6:17
 - a) The means of destruction: water (cf. 2nd Peter 3:6)
 - i) The word for “flood” refers elsewhere only to the flood of Noah's time. Unique.
 - ii) The Greek word is *kataklysmos* (cataclysm) (cf. 2nd Peter 2:5; 3:6)
 - iii) Cf. Isaiah 54:9; Ezekiel 14:14
 - b) The completeness of destruction: all, everything
 - i) Apparently not all water creatures are to be destroyed, though many will be
- 4) God's revelation of His gracious plan (covenant with Noah)—6:18-20 (cf. 9:8-17)
 - First covenant mentioned in the Bible
 - a) Provision for Noah's family of eight—6:18
 - b) Provision for a limited number of living creatures—6:19-20
- 5) God's revelation of His practical plan for feeding passengers on the ark—6:21
 - Noah was responsible for gathering the appropriate food
- 6) Noah's habitual obedience to God's revelation—6:22 (cf. 7:5, 9, 16)
 - a) This obedience springs from faith in the God who has spoken and who promised to accomplish His plan. (cf. Hebrews 11:7) (cf. Deuteronomy 30:2-3)
 - b) This stands in stark contrast to the habitual disobedience of his contemporaries.