

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

Genesis 8

"God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the animals that were with him in the ark" (Genesis 8:1). God did not forget righteous Noah and He will not forget you. But I want you to observe something that is often overlooked in this portion of Sacred Scripture. God did not forget about the animals. Do you mean that God remembered the animals in the same way that He remembered Noah? That is what this passage says. God made animals and He loves them. He cares for them in all of nature that He also created. Animals took on a different character after the flood such as they had known previously. In the ages to come, all the animals will revert to the antediluvian age, the days before the flood. The Prophet Isaiah tells of an age to come when, "The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, says, the LORD" (Isaiah 65:25). During this present time, many go beyond what is a Biblical normal in their treatment of animals and place them on a level of love and treatment above even other human beings. This is wrong in the natural order of the world which God made. However, because of some who elevate animals beyond what they should, those who are followers of Jesus should maintain a proper balance, as in all things.

Finally, we should look to the words of Jesus to see that the animals and even the grass and flowers are a witness to all who follow Him, that He sees our every need and will take care of His own. "Therefore, I say unto you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Ae you not of more value than they? (Matthew 6:25-26). This is the proper perspective for everyone.

Prayer and Action Steps:

Thank God that He cares for you. Thank God that He cares for animals and every living thing. Thank God that He sees your needs and He will meet them. He promised this to His children. Just as He remembered Noah and his family, He also remembered the animals small and large in the ark. He remembers you. He sees you. He hears your crying, and He knows your needs. Call out to Him. He will meet you in your need. Ask God to help you to not worry about the things in life that trouble you, but to trust Him. He is faithful in all things.

Date _____ Scripture _____

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?
