

FOR THEY DID NOT KNOW



(Genesis 7: 11-13, 23; Matthews 24: 37-39;
I Thessalonians 5:3)

There went in two and two with Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah. And after the seven days the flood waters came upon the earth (Gen. 7:9-10).

They did not know, consequently, they suffered. The phrase, They did not know implies lack of knowledge about something. Or does it? One can hear something without giving heed, or paying attention, or not believing it. YAHSHUA uses this as an illustration in Matthews 7: 24-27. He said, So everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts upon them will be like a sensible man who built his house upon the rock. And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat

against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not do them will be like a stupid man who built his house upon the sand. And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house and it fell and great and complete was the fall of it. These two men heard the message. One acted upon it and was saved; the other ignored and suffered the consequences because his heart was hard. They both heard, they both had a choice to accept or not, and both made their decision. God will always warn men before He sends judgment upon them. He gives them an opportunity to process the information they had heard. One thing that will deafen the ears of men and harden their heart is pride. YAHSHUA said that they may look and look but not see and perceive, and may hear and hear but not grasp and comprehend, lest haply they should turn again and it [their willful rejection of the truth] should be forgiven them (Mark 4:12).

This parallels to the parable of the sower. He sowed his seeds randomly, falling on several types of soils. These were along the path-way, stony ground, thorny and good soil. The first is like a passerby on the hurry to get somewhere; he heard from a distance and with a distant heart. All kinds of winds blew the information he heard before he made the time to consider all he had heard. The seed never found a soft place to germinate and become a plant. It was stepped on and blown away without a possibility to grow into a tree. The seed falling on stony ground, of course, had no chance. It died unable to penetrate that hard soil. Yes, the hardness of the heart of men is the obstacle of pride. Pride is like a cemented pavement; nothing penetrates it. Although the word is heard, it is like water falling on the back of a duck. Israel's heart was like that of a stony ground. The miracles, the signs, the wonders God performed among them, as in crossing the Red Sea on dry ground, being fed with manna from heaven for forty years, drinking water from rocks, hearing God's audible voice and experiencing His presence with Mount Sinai wrapped in smoke, its smoke ascending like that of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaking greatly, so fearful was that experience, that they preferred to hear from Moses directly, instead of God. Yet, what did they do later? They made for themselves an image of a calf and worshiped it in place of God. Yes, they knew, but did not care to heed and obey. Yes, Israel lived as if they did not know, although having heard, they went their own way all through their lives. They even crossed the Jordan River on dry land to the Promised Land. God, in return, hardened their hearts even more so that they would suffer the consequences of their indifference to His teachings and

warnings. The thorny ground is people which the world has great influence on. Their heart's desires are geared toward the things and worries of the world, and hearing the word, they listen for a while, but fall short of producing fruit because the world's worries suffocate them. They lack the oxygen that sustains life and so they die. All these soils were fruitless because they did not perceive and considered what they had heard. At the end of times when judgment comes upon the earth, they will be judged with it for they refused to know.

In Noah's day, before judgment, people lived their lives as if things were perfectly normal in their life-styles. They married; they partied until the day of judgment, when it was too late for them to consider the warning from Noah. They were caught in the midst of not knowing and paying with their lives lost in hell for eternity.

YAHSHUA had this to say concerning hearing and listening: If any man has ears to hear, let him be listening and let him perceive and comprehend. Be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure that comes back to you – and more [besides] will be given to you who hear (Mark 4:23-24). The difference between hearing and listening is that we hear with our ears, but we listen with our heart. When we listen we perceive and comprehend the message and obey it. Hearing without listening results in not knowing, not comprehending. Judgement came upon those who lived in the time of Noah as a result of not listening; judgment will come again to those who fail to listen today. The good soil referred in the parable of the sower is compared to those who hear the truth, accept it and act upon it. They are the ones producing fruit by the hundreds into eternity and will be rewarded greatly on that day when all believers will be judged and rewarded for their works.

The days of Noah are here. Warnings are everywhere one turns the knob, click the mouse, or touch the screen of an electronic toy. Many, however, don't want to know, not to interrupt their life-styles or the comfort of believing a lie. But the time will come, for it will come with certainty, that when people will be saying, All is well and secure, and there are peace and safety, then in a moment unforeseen destruction will come upon them, as suddenly as labor pains come upon a woman with child; and they shall by no means escape, for there will be no escape (I Thess. 5:3). They will be submerged in their belief of deception because they did not

welcome the Truth but refused to love it that they might be saved (II Thess. 2:10b). Do you know the Truth my friend? Seek the Truth while He might be found. Know the Truth, and accept Him in your heart, and you will be able to escape the judgment that is coming soon; you will not be caught by surprise for not knowing the Truth, like those in Noah's day. You will be children of Light and free from God's wrath; you will be chosen to salvation through YAHSHUA your Lord and Savior.

THINK ABOUT IT!