



Deciding to be Determined and On Fire

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Big Thought: When we describe someone as **“on fire,”** we are saying they have a burning passion that cannot be put out. In scripture, there are several leaders that were imperfect but determined to carry out their individual assignments. They burned with a passion for God and people that made them exceptional. In this study, we will look at the passion that drove them.

Big Question:

- What if someone told you that they were building a spaceship to save the world from an alien invasion that would destroy everyone and their family. Would you help them build the ship? This is what Noah sounded like to his community.

Introduction: Five amazing observations about Noah

1. He never stopped building (Have you?)
2. He never complained (Do you?)
3. He never lost sight of his mission
4. He invested his own money
5. He focused on his own family

I. God’s Plan

1. God liked Noah’s maturity

- Genesis 6:9–10 This is the genealogy of Noah. **Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations.** Noah **walked** with God. 10 And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

2. God did not like striving with man (HE ESTABLISHED A SPECIFIC TIMETABLE)

- Genesis 6:3 And the Lord said, **“My Spirit shall not strive (or shield) with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”**

3. God was committed to ending unhealthy behaviors

- Genesis 6:13–14 And God said to Noah, **“The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 Make yourself an ark of gopherwood;**

4. God was committed to a specific design

- Genesis 6:14–18 (Bible Knowledge Commentary): a flat-bottomed rectangular vessel 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high

- 14 **Make yourself an ark** of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark and cover it inside and outside with pitch. 15 And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. 16 You shall make a window for the ark, and you shall finish it to a cubit from above; and set the door of the ark in its side. You shall make it with lower, second, and third decks.

5. God set specific consequences

- Genesis 6:17 And behold, **I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life**; everything that is on the earth shall die. 18 But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your **wife**, and your sons’ wives with you.



6. God had specific people in mind

- Genesis 6:18 But I will establish My covenant **with you**; and **you** shall go into the ark—**you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives** with you.

II. Noah's Determination

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being **divinely warned** of things not yet seen, **moved** with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

1. He listened (to the warnings)
2. He moved (with godly fear)
3. He prepared (His family)

III. Four Lessons God Is Determined To Teach Us

1. Everything that will save you will come with a cost
2. Everything you have now eventually will end
3. Everyone and every relationship will end
4. **Everything that has started will start over again (Someone will start over at OBF)**

- Ecclesiastes 1:9 That which has been is what will be, That which is done is what will be done, And there is nothing new under the sun.10 Is there anything of which it may be said, "See, this is new"? It has already been in ancient times before us.

Note: If you don't believe me just ask a retired person who went back to work, a widow who is dating again, or a child who lost his parents and is now raising his own children.

Closing: Are you the kind of person God could have chosen to build an ark or would you have died in the flood?

Next Time: Determined to be on fire after being demoted

Four Question For You to Think About This Week:

1. Have you ever had your sins publicly exposed?
2. Have you ever been wrong and everyone knew it?
3. How can your flame ever burn again?
4. How can you become greater than your past failures?