



# The Tri-Cities Edifier

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## The Ark Had Only One Door

by Heath Rogers

God was specific when He commanded Noah to build the ark. He was to make it of gopher wood, supply it with rooms, and cover it inside and outside with pitch. It was to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet tall (Gen. 6:14-15). The instructions continued, "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" (v. 16).

I find it disappointing today to see so many pictures depicting Noah's ark with multiple windows. The Bible says there was only one window – and only one door.

The ark was a vessel of salvation. God's wrath was being poured out on the entire world. The only air-breathing creatures (man and animal) that survived the global flood were those inside the ark. The only way into the ark was through this one door. Everything outside the ark perished in the flood.

We know that God's wrath will again be poured out on the earth one day. Instead of water, God will completely destroy the earth with fire (2 Peter 3:10-13). The ark of safety from this coming destruction is the Lord's church. Those who are in the church (the body of God's people) will survive the wrath of God's coming judgment. Those who are outside will perish.

Just as there was only one ark in Noah's day, there is only one body of saved people today. And just as there was only one door to Noah's ark, there is only one way to enter the church.

One must **believe** Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24), **repent** of their sins (Luke 13:3), **confess** their faith in Christ (Rom. 10:9-10), and be **baptized** into Christ (Gal. 3:27).

There is no other way into Christ. There is no other way to be saved. The world abounds with various religions, but they can't all be right. "Christianity" abounds with groups believing and practicing different things, but they can't all be right. There is only one door.

God closed the door of the ark in Noah's day (Gen. 7:16). Those who were inside were protected from the outpouring of His wrath. Those who were outside perished. One day God will close the door of His church. God's longsuffering will come to an end, the gospel invitation will stop being extended, the trumpet will sound, and judgment will take place.

Once God closes the door, it will not be reopened. "And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming" (Matt. 25:10-13).

Why would you wait another moment? Prepare yourself for eternity right now by obeying the gospel.

**\*\*\*The below article is a very telling about false teaching of the day when you NOTICE THE DATE. STACY**

# The Signs Of The Times

Weldon B. Bennett

"There has not been a war in the eastern hemisphere in the last fifty years that has failed to induce the belief that Jews would go back to Palestine as a result of it. Still wars have ceased, peace has followed, but the Jews are scattered as before."

Thus wrote Dr. T. W. Brents in his "Gospel Sermons" published by the Gospel Advocate Company in 1891. Twenty-three years after this publication the great World War began. One of the results of the war was the promise of the British government to favor the Jews giving to them a national home in Palestine. The move to reestablish the Jews in their native land has since been known as "Zionism."

In order to complete their theory of speculation the Premillennialists assert the return of all Jews to Palestine to be with Christ when He returns to sit on the literal throne of David at Jerusalem for one-thousand years. Like a drowning man grabbing at a straw they take hold of such events as "Zionism" and shout "the signs of the times."

Last winter I corresponded at length with a Premillennialist Baptist preacher. He thought he saw in Matt. 24:32, 33 a direct fulfillment today. There Jesus said, "Now from the fig tree learn her parable: when her branch is now become tender, and putteth forth its leaves, ye know that the summer is nigh; even so ye also, when ye see all these things know ye that he is nigh, even at the doors." Quoting from the Baptist preacher: "Throughout scripture Israel is referred to as a 'Fig Tree'...Israel has been apparently dead as a nation. But like a fig tree in spring is being revived in Zionism today."

Unfortunately for the theory, however, the British government decided last spring in favor of the Arabs thus bringing to an end the hopes of Jewish restoration through Zionism. I recall a newspaper article expressing the dejection of countless Jews as a result of the government's action. But I'm sure that the Jews themselves were not much more disappointed than some of the premillennialists who thought they saw a scriptural fulfillment in the Zionist move. But why should they worry? If they missed it yesterday it is comparatively easy for them to decide it refers to current events today. Especially with a new war in progress and a Jewish-hater destined to lose (or win-I wonder which it will take to uphold their theory).

Several years ago some premillennialists thought the "king of the north" referred to the Czar of Russia-now it seems to be Mussolini-tomorrow?

Dr. Brents says again, "But are there scriptures that speak of the return of the Jews to Jerusalem? Yes, many of them; but most of them were written either before or during the captivity, and had their fulfillment in the return of the Jews from Babylon. We think it likely that many of the Jews will become weary of waiting for their long-looked for Savior, and will accept the Christian religion, but as a nation, never. This is not only unreasonable, but impossible their is an individuality about the Christian religion that cannot be dispensed with."

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