



Sunday Worship Bulletin

North Blvd church of Christ
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Welcome!!

We're glad you're here today. Whether you are a member or a visitor, we pray you feel God's presence and love among us, as we worship in "*spirit and truth*" – *John 4:24*

Noah and the Tigers

Critics of the Bible and the book of Genesis sometimes challenge believers regarding the credibility of the account of Noah and the ark. One point of contention is regarding the question of how Noah could manage to put Tigers (and other meat-eating animals) on the ark without being killed. How would he keep these animals from attacking the other animals on the ark and eating them for a meal?

It is interesting that God foreknew that scoffers would rise up to dispute the truth of this account. Knowing this, the Holy Spirit incorporated information in Scripture to

provide Christians with an answer. There are two statements made in Genesis that gives a refutation of this apparent paradox.

Our minds tend to wander toward the idea of "wild animals." How would Noah be able to coax these animals onto the ark?

The interesting answer to this question is found in Genesis chapter 9 as Noah was disembarking the ark. "*So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move on the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand'*" (Genesis 9:1-2). It is difficult for us to imagine the earth as it was first created. To conceive of all of the animals being unafraid of humans is a foreign concept to our minds. However, that is how God first created these creatures. So when God sent the animals to Noah to load them on the ark, they would not have had the fear of mankind instilled into them at this point in time.

The other major objection raised is that many animals on the ark would be carnivorous. What would keep these animals from killing and eating Noah and/or the other animals on the ark?

Again, the Lord gave us an answer to this objection to give us assurance that the Bible is trustworthy. A logical explanation is found again in the early days after creation. After creating the plant and animal kingdom, Jehovah made man. His words are recorded in the Genesis 1: "*Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'*" And God said, "*See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to*

everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food'; and it was so" (Genesis 1:28-30).

Man, when first created, had a vegetarian diet. This was true also of all of the animals which God had created. After leaving the ark, Noah was given authority by Jehovah to eat meat. *"Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs" (Genesis 9:3).* It is safe to assume that the same was true for the animals at this point.

Many people try to paint the Bible as being a fantastical work dreamed up in the minds of people who were afraid to "face the reality" of the pointless existence of humankind. While in fact, the Bible gives us explanations for these so-called contradictions that are commonly presented. Brothers and sisters, this book has the all the earmarks of inspiration. Don't be shaken by the question of Noah and the tigers!!

Prayers

The Dedmon family,
Jewel Chastain,
Craig Norton,
Julia Gibson- home recovering from surgery!
Gloria Bell,
Wendy Newman's mother,
Leucetia Stephens, still very weak,
"getting a little better each day."
Please pray for her strength.

Need encouragement? Would you be interested in a Bible study? Please call 210-393-0048!