

GENESIS

(BERE'SHEET)¹

6:9 These are the bringings-forth of Noah. Noah *was* a just man—he was whole² in his *life-cycles*³—with the ELOHIM Noah walked about.⁴ **10** And Noah brought forth⁵ three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japeth. **11** And the land was ruined⁶ before the face^p of the ELOHIM, and the land was filled with violence. **12** And ELOHIM saw the land, and look!—it was ruined, because all flesh had brought to ruin its⁷ way upon the land. **13** And ELOHIM said to Noah, “An end of all flesh has come before my face^p,⁸ for full of violence is the land from before their face^p;⁹ Look!—I am bringing them to ruin, with the land.” **14** Make for yourself a vessel¹⁰ of trees of gopher;¹¹—nests¹² you will make with the vessel, and you will cover it from house¹³ and from outside with a covering.¹⁴ **15** And this *is the way* that you will make it: three hundred cubits^s *is the* length of the vessel, fifty cubits^s its width, and thirty cubits^s its height. **16** A light¹⁵ you will make for the vessel, and toward a cubit finish it, up-ward, and the opening of the vessel you will

¹ The books of the Hebrew Bible are named from their opening words: here *Bere'sheet*, meaning “At *the* first of . . .”

² Or “complete,” in the sense of sound and without flaws.

³ Or “generations,” a cycle from birth to death.

⁴ This form of the verb carries an iterative meaning, thus “to walk back and forth.”

⁵ Lit “cause bringing forth.” This verb is in a form carrying a causative meaning in the active voice that is difficult to bring out in this case.

⁶ Heb *shachat*, “spoiled,” “corrupted.”

⁷ Or “his.”

⁸ Hebrew idiom, meaning “I have determined to end all flesh.”

⁹ I.e., because of their presence.

¹⁰ Heb *tevah*, unlike the Latin word *arca*, does not refer to a chest or box. It is most likely a reed-like boat (Exo 2:3).

¹¹ The Hebrew word is transliterated here, as the species is unknown.

¹² Heb *kinim* can mean “rooms” or “nests,” but also “reeds.”

¹³ I.e., “inside.”

¹⁴ Or “pitch.”

¹⁵ Or “roof,” Heb *tzohar*, meaning uncertain, perhaps a window or opening for light (see Gen 8:6), the verbal root means “to shine,” or “gleam.” The word is commonly used for “noon,” referring to the “top” or midday, or perhaps the “light” of the sun.

place in its side; under-part, second, and third¹⁶ you will do it. **17** And *I*—look, *it's* me!—am making come^c the flood of waters upon the land to ruin all flesh, in which *is* a spirit¹⁷ of life^p from under the skies; all that *is* on the land will expire. **18** And I have made rise^c my pact with you^s, and you will come toward the vessel—*you*, and your sons, and your woman, and the women of your sons, with you. **19** And from every living thing of all flesh, two of all, you^s will make come^c toward the vessel, to make them live^c with you, a male and a female they will be. **20** From the flyer, according to its type, and from the animal according to its type, and from every moving thing of the soil, according to its type—two from all will come toward you^s, to make them live^c. **21** And *you*^s will take for yourself of every eatable *thing* that is eaten, and you will gather toward yourself, and it will be to you and to them for an eatable *thing*.” **22** And Noah did according to all that ELOHIM charged him—thus he did. **CHAPTER 7:1** And YHVH said to Noah, “Come *you*, and all of your house, toward the vessel, for you I have seen—a just one, before my face^p in this *life-cycle*.¹⁸ **2** From all of the clean animals^s, you will take for yourself seven *by* seven,¹⁹ a man and his woman,²⁰ and from the animal that *is* not clean, it *will be* two, a man and his woman; **3** also from the flyer of the skies, seven *by* seven, a male and a female, to let live seed upon the face^p of all the land. **4** because for still seven days I am sending rain upon the land forty days^s and forty nights^s; and I will wipe out all the substance that I have made²¹ from upon the face^p of the soil.” **5** And Noah did according to all that YHVH charged him. **6** And Noah *was* a son of six hundred years^s, and the flood was waters upon the land. **7** And Noah came—and his sons, and his woman, and the women of his sons, with him—toward the vessel, from the face^p of the waters of the flood. **8** From the clean animal, and from the animal that *is* not clean, and from the flyer, and everything that moves about upon the soil, **9** two *by* two, they came toward Noah, toward the vessel, male and female, as ELOHIM charged Noah.

¹⁶ I.e., levels.

¹⁷ Heb *ruach*, lit “wind.”

¹⁸ Or “generation,” a cycle from birth to death.

¹⁹ I.e., seven pair.

²⁰ This is the same phrase used in Gen 2:23-24 for humans, but different from v. 3, “a male and a female.”

²¹ Or “done.”

10 And it was, for seven days, and the waters of the flood were upon the land. **11** In the year of six hundred years^s of the life of Noah, in the second new *moon*, on the seven *and* ten day *belonging* to the new *moon*, on this day, were split open all *the* springs of *the* abundant deep, and the slots of the skies were opened. **12** And the rain was upon the land forty days^s and forty nights^s. **13** In the bone of this day²² Noah came—and Shem, and Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and the woman of Noah, and the three women of his sons with them—toward the vessel, **14** they and every living thing^d according to its type, and every animal^d according to its type, and every moving thing^d that moves about upon the land according to its type, and every flyer^d according to its type—every bird—every winged one. **15** And they came toward Noah, toward the vessel, two *by* two from all flesh^d, in which *is* a spirit²³ of life^p. **16** And those coming, male and female from all flesh, came, as ELOHIM charged him, and YHVH shut *it* after him. **17** And the flood was forty days^s upon the land, and the waters were abundant, and lifted the vessel, and it rose from upon²⁴ the land. **18** The waters were strong and were abundant, exceedingly, upon the land, and the vessel walked upon the face^p of the waters. **19** And the waters were strong, exceedingly, exceedingly, upon the land, and all the high mountains were covered that *were* under all the skies; **20** five *and* ten cubits^s up-ward, the waters were strong, and the mountains were covered. **21** And all flesh expired, the ones^s moving about upon the land, among the flyer, and among the animal, and among the living thing, and among every swarming^d thing that swarms upon the land, and every soil-creature^d; **22** everything in whose two nostrils *was* breath of a spirit²⁵ of life^p—from all that *was* in the dry ground—died. **23** And he wiped out all the substance that *was* upon the face^p of the soil, from soil-creature, unto animal, unto moving thing, and unto flyer of the skies; they were wiped out from the land. And only Noah was left, and that which *was* with him in the vessel. **24** And the waters grew strong upon the land fifty and a hundred days^s. **CHAPTER 8: 1** And ELOHIM remembered Noah, and every living thing^d, and every animal^d that *was* with him in the

²² I.e., “in the selfsame day,” meaning in the very substance of the day.

²³ Heb *ruach*, lit “wind,” cf. v. 22. This is a different Hebrew expression from that used in Gen 2:7.

²⁴ I.e., above.

²⁵ Heb *ruach*, lit “wind,” see v. 15. LXX omits “of a spirit.”

vessel. And ELOHIM made a wind²⁶ pass over^c, upon the land, and the waters subsided; **2** and *the* springs of *the* deep and the slots of the skies were closed, the rain from the skies was held back, **3** and the waters returned from upon the land, walking²⁷ and returning. And the waters were lacking²⁸ from the end of fifty and one hundred days^s; **4** and the vessel rested on the seven *and* ten new moon, on the seven *and* ten day *belonging* to the new moon, upon the mountains of Ararat. **5** And the waters were walking and lacking until the tenth new moon—in the tenth—on *day* one *belonging* to the new moon, the heads of the mountains were seen. **6** And it was, from the end of²⁹ forty days^s, Noah opened the window of the vessel that he had made,³⁰ **7** and he sent³¹ the raven, and it went out, going out and returning, until the drying of the waters from upon the land. **8** And he sent the dove from with him, to see if the waters were lightened from upon the face^p of the soil; **9** and the dove did not find a resting place for the sole³² of its foot, and it returned toward him, toward the vessel, for the waters *were* upon the face^p of all the land. And he sent forth his hand and took it, and made it come^c toward him, toward the vessel. **10** And he waited anxiously³³ still another seven days, and he added,³⁴ sending the dove from the vessel; **11** and the dove came toward him at evening, and look!—a leaf of an olive tree torn off in its mouth; and Noah knew that the waters were lightened from upon the land. **12** And he waited anxiously still another seven days, and he sent the dove; and it did not add³⁵ returning toward him still. **13** And it was, in the one and six hundredth year—in the first—on *day* one *belonging* to the new moon, the waters were dried up³⁶ from upon the land; and Noah turned aside the covering³⁷ of the vessel, and he saw, and look!—dried up^p was the face^p of the ground.

²⁶ Same word translated “spirit,” in 7:15, 22, cf. Gen 1:4.

²⁷ I.e., moving, here and v. 5.

²⁸ I.e., they were diminishing, here and v. 5.

²⁹ I.e., after.

³⁰ Or “done.”

³¹ The verbs for “sending” here and in vv. 8,10, and 12 are intensive (Piel).

³² Lit “curve.”

³³ Lit “to writhe” or “twist” here and v. 12.

³⁴ I.e., continued on with the effort.

³⁵ I.e., it did not continue returning.

³⁶ Lit “made desolate” in the sense here of removed.

³⁷ This expression implies a skin covering (Exo 40:19).

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14 And in the second new *moon*, on the seventh and twentieth day *belonging to* the new *moon*, the land was dry.