

# Noah And The Covenant



The element of hope and promise is a constant refrain in biblical narratives which distinguishes them from stories of other cultures.

The descendants of Adam and Eve multiplied and increased in numbers. But they were unable to live peacefully as God's children. Jealousy, greed and desire for wealth and power led to violence and even murder.



When God saw how wicked the humans had become He felt sorry for having made them and put them on earth. God was so filled with regret that He decided to wipe them out along with the animals and the birds from the face of the earth.

However, God looked around and found that Noah and his family had remained faithful to Him. God instructed Noah to build an ark and board it with his family and a pair of each kind of living creature in order to escape the flood that He would send on earth.

The flood narrative shows how man destroys God's plan of order and harmony on earth. The flood is also an image of the baptismal waters that destroy the forces of sin.

After the deluge, God vowed never to destroy man and nature. He put the rainbow between the earth and sky as a reminder of His covenant with humankind.

When God pledged never to destroy life on earth, He showed that He still loved humans and that His tenderness knew no bounds. Through Noah, God made a covenant with the entire human race.

The covenant is a bonding not only with the immediate descendants of Noah but the people across the world.



## Word of God

**Genesis 9: 13 – 17**

"I am putting my bow in the clouds. It will be the sign of my covenant with the world. Whenever I cover the sky with clouds and the rainbow appears, I will remember my promise to you and to all the animals that a flood will never again destroy all living beings. When the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between me and all living beings on earth. That is the sign of the promise which I am making to all living beings."

## Insight



**Shahu Modak, Actor**

Shahu Modak (1918 – 1993) was a veteran actor who acted in a number of Hindi and Marathi films. He was born in a Christian family in Ahmednagar. Modak was famous for the mythological characters that he played. His roles of Krishna acted in nearly 30 films are most acclaimed.

