Last Days - Part Two The Days of Noah

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Why God Sent the Flood

We want to explore the Word of God to see what the times will be like before the rapture, and take a look into what the days of Noah were like before the flood, to see if we can unlock the reason for God's sending the flood of waters upon the earth.

Matthew 24:37

But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Genesis 6:1, 2

And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

Why did God send the flood? What was God's reasoning? Why was there such harsh judgment in the days of Noah? Why was all flesh destroyed except for Noah and his family?

When did He send it? Look at the timing here: the very time when men began to multiply on the earth. This gives the idea that quite a bit of time had probably passed before this event took place.

Who are these men? The men referred to in these verses are the descendants of Adam's son Cain. Cain was the son who had forsaken the way of God, choosing to go the modernistic way. He chose to bring an offering of fruits and vegetables unto God.

Cain was rejected of the Lord and he killed his brother, Abel. He went on to become a vagabond in the earth, a fugitive. Certainly, the curse of God was upon Cain because of his ways.

When we use the word *men* here, we are talking about the seed of Cain.

The Scripture goes on to say that daughters were born unto these men; that, somewhere in the process of time, when men began to multiply, daughters were born.

Then it says that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair. The Scripture says they took wives of all which they chose. These sons of God are of the lineage of Seth.

The sons of the seed of Seth took unto themselves of the daughters of men, which were of the seed of Cain.

What does it all mean? Did God send a great flood of water on the earth just because daughters were born unto these men and the seed of Seth began to marry into the seed of Cain? Is this the reason why?

Genesis 6:3

And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

God said that He wouldn't always strive with man; He wouldn't always put up with ungodliness and rebellion. This is the beginning of God's decision to bring judgment and destruction upon the face of the earth.

Now, as I have said, the sons of men were of the seed of Cain. And in the process of time, as the earth was becoming populated with multitudes of people, daughters were born unto the sons of men.

Note that the sons of God were of the seed of Seth.

- Sons of men were of the seed of Cain
- Sons of God were of the seed of Seth

God gave us two genealogies to study. The first is the genealogy of Cain and his descendants: We find seven generations of the descendants of Cain are given — see Genesis 4:16-18. Look at the list and see if you can find that a daughter was born unto the seed of Cain during the first six generations:

Cain . . . begat sons
Enoch . . . begat sons
Irad . . . begat sons
Mehujael . . . begat sons
Methusael . . . begat sons
Lamech . . . begat sons

No mention is made of any daughters during this time. There were no daughters born in these six generations. But in this sixth generation, which would be the time when men began to multiply upon the face of the earth, Lamech took unto him two wives.

Genesis 4:19

And Lamech took unto him two wives; the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah.

We can see here where polygamy had its beginning — see Genesis 4:20-22. The breakdown of society began right here, the breakdown that led to a total breakdown in the world before the flood.

- Adah begat Jabel & Jubal
- Zillah begat Tubal-cain & Naamah (his sister)

This is the very first mention of a daughter being born unto the house of Cain: Naamah, the very first daughter! Remember that it said, when men began to multiply, daughters were born unto them. This is what the Word was talking about.

No daughters were ever born unto Cain. He was cursed from the earth. God didn't allow him to have daughters because He didn't intend for him to multiply. Until the time of Lamech, there is no mention of any daughters.

Then we find Naamah coming into the picture. She was a most unusual woman, being the first woman in this lineage of Cain.

Now, where did Cain and his descendants get their wives? Certainly, it wasn't from their own descendants, as there were no daughters.

When this daughter was born unto Lamech, something began to happen. Remember, now, this Lamech was of the seed of Cain.

We saw in Genesis 6:2 that the sons of God began to marry. As more and more daughters were born unto the seed of Cain, the sons of God began to look and see they were fair. All of these godly men of the seed of Seth began to intermarry, taking wives of the daughters of men. We find a lot of things began to transpire, all because the sons of God took wives of the daughters of men.

Adam to Noah — the godly seed (see Genesis 5:3-32)

Adam . . . begat sons and daughters Seth . . . begat sons and daughters Enos . . . begat sons and daughters Cainan . . . begat sons and daughters Mahalaleel . . . begat sons and daughters Jared . . . begat sons and daughters Enoch . . . begat sons and daughters Methuselah . . . begat sons and daughters Lamech . . . begat sons and daughters Noah . . . begat Shem, Ham, Japheth

Notice, daughters were born in every generation from Adam all the way down to Lamech, Noah's father. Before the flood, Noah had no daughters. Notice also that the daughters listed in this genealogy weren't referred to as daughters of men. Thus, men of this lineage found their wives among these daughters of the godly seed.

Genesis 4:22

And Zillah, she also bare Tubal-cain, an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tubul-cain was Naamah.

Naamah

We want to make a conclusion here: When this woman Naamah was born, it was the beginning of the fall of the world in the days of Noah. Remember, this was the first daughter born unto the descendants of Cain. Right here is where we can mark the breakdown in society that brought the flood upon the earth.

Figuratively speaking, we see that Naamah was an instrument of the devil. During the days of Noah she was used to bring down righteousness and cause the fall of mankind, which ushered in the flood.

God often uses women as a figure. When He does, it's not an indictment against women. It doesn't mean, nor does it imply, that women are bad. He merely uses various women as types to portray something He wants to get across.

In the Garden of Eden, the original fall of man was the result of a woman. And in Noah's time, the fall of the entire antediluvian (pre-flood) civilization came because women began to be born unto the seed of Cain.

This woman Naamah became a tool of the devil. And every woman born unto Cain's seed after this also became a tool of the devil. Yes, the daughters of Cain's seed were used to undermine God and bring down righteousness. They were used to bring forth ungodliness and corrupt the world.

Intermarriage and Compromise

We want to look carefully at this to see what happens: The sons of God began to notice that the daughters of men were fair. They began to intermarry, letting down and mixing with the ungodly. They began to take these daughters of men for wives as fast as they could. And when these wives began to bear children, the Bible says that giants were born of them!

Genesis 6:4

There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

Big people came forth as the result of these intermarriages. I can't explain to you why giants should come forth of them. All I can say is that, evidently, there was such a vast difference between the godly seed of Seth and the ungodly seed of Cain that the two mixing together brought forth giants upon the earth.

Wickedness was great because:

- women were born to the seed of Cain
- intermarriages took place between the godly and the ungodly
- they gave themselves in marriage

Genesis 6:5

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

God looked the situation over and saw such a wicked thing developing upon the face of the earth that He repented He had ever made man in the first place!

Genesis 6:6

And it repented the LORD that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.

Seeing such a spiritual breakdown grieved God's heart. Man had taken the spiritual and the carnal and mixed them together, bringing forth apostasy upon the face of the earth. The things that were of God began to be so watered down that, in a short season, everything on the face of the earth became corrupted.

God looked at it all and decided He had had enough; it had come to the place where He regretted He had ever made man and He would now destroy the world with the flood.

When God begins to speak of bringing destruction, you've got to look at His reason: He was going to destroy man here because civilization had broken down; wickedness prevailed and evil imaginations controlled the hearts of man.

And you can look around and see the wickedness that's in the world of our day: the violence, the evil, and the breakdown of that which is pure and holy. It's easy to see why God will bring judgment upon the earth in these last days.

A Righteous Man Is Found!

Genesis 6:8

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

God looked down and saw something in Noah. Noah walked with God. He didn't corrupt himself upon the earth like others had done. Noah kept the victory. He kept the faith.

Genesis 6:9

These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

It boiled down to this: Of all the people who were on the face of the earth, only Noah had the testimony that he walked with God. And Noah brought his three sons up to walk with God. God had just this much testimony left upon the earth.

Genesis 6:11, 12

The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt: for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

God saw that the earth was filled with violence and corruption. He saw that the whole thing was ready to fall. He saw that nothing good was left. There was no righteousness except for what He saw in Noah and his family.

This brings it right down to the wire! God was coming to the point of sparing Noah and his family, the last good there was in the entire world.

Apostasy

The days of Noah reflect to us a great time of spiritual decline, a time of apostasy. It was a time of denying the faith. The church of that day was dead and dormant. It had drawn back, no longer serving God. It was a day when the believers didn't keep their testimony, when they didn't walk uprightly with their God — a day when they got involved with the world and with the things of the world.

Yes, the sons of God had corrupted themselves, by mixing with the world to the point where nobody walked with God — nobody, that is, except Noah.

The Church Today

We've got to look at our present generation. As time goes on we can't help but see that things are being watered down more and more. The church is in the world . . . and the world is in the church. This worldliness has such

a grip on God's people of our day. They compromise more and more as the days go by. They're dragging the world into the church and the church into the world. And this mixing together has brought the church into a lukewarm state.

As our generation draws to a close, as we feel the climax of the hour upon us, we can't help but see that the world is heading for another decline. And the church is headed for a sharp decline into lukewarmness to the point where there will be no remedy nor cure. Then the Lord will have to spit it out of His mouth.

Stop and look at your own life. Realize how important it is for you to keep your testimony, to keep the victory, to keep a separation from the world. Do what the Lord said to do: Come out from the world and be separate unto the Lord. Touch not the unclean thing, but walk holy before the Lord in victory — II Corinthians 6:17.

If you let down in your Christian testimony, if you begin to intermingle with the world and give yourself over to its ways, you will soon become so worldly that you will lose all spiritual insight. And you will eventually be pulled under by that worldly way — I John 2:15-17.

There is no limit to how far souls can draw away! They can go to the point from where they can't return, where they just can't get back.

In the days of Noah they couldn't get back to God. They couldn't come to the point of repenting. Their lives were so messed up that they didn't want to walk uprightly before the Lord.

God's grace can save to the uttermost *IF* a person is willing to repent. But in Noah's day they were in that terrible place called apostasy: a place where, once they had gone down that road, they never were able to turn back. And we're going to see the church of the last days headed in that same direction of apostasy.

Enoch's Translation

Genesis 5:24

And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.

Enoch had the testimony that he pleased God. Like Noah, Enoch walked with God. One day, as he was walking with God, God reached down His hand to lift him out of this world.

He stands as a type of those who are going to be raptured, those who are taken home to be with the Lord. He was raptured out of this world before judgment began to fall, before that time when the flood came and destroyed the world. In fact, Enoch was raptured out of this world before much of the apostasy and breakdown ever occurred. He didn't have to endure all of the ungodliness of society breaking down in that day and hour. He was down here for a period of that time but was taken up before it ever reached its climax.

There are only 1656 years from the creation of Adam until the flood.

I want to take you through some figures that may help you to understand this period of time that is referred to as the Antediluvian Age. This is a relatively short period of time: 1656 years.

As we think about the sons of God, we can look in the Word and find the exact year each was born. We will start with Adam coming into being at the year 0 — see Genesis 5:3-32.

0 . . . Adam

130 . . . Seth

235 . . . Enos

325 . . . Cainan

395 . . . Mahalaleel

460 . . . Jared

622 . . . Enoch

687 . . . Methuselah

874 . . . Lamech

1,056 . . . Noah

Think of that! Only 622 years after the creation of Adam, Enoch was born! And Noah was born only 1,056 years after Adam's creation! Thus, we find all of these events took place during a very short period of time.

The Bible says that Adam died at the age of 930. He had a good, long life. But do you realize that Lamech, the father of Noah, was only 56 years old when Adam died? So we would have to say that the father of Noah knew Adam very well. In fact, Adam was Noah's great - gre

Stop and look at the life of this Enoch who walked with God. In the year 987 (which is 987 years after the creation of Adam), Enoch was translated out of this world. That wasn't too long before the birth of Noah (roughly 75 years). It was 669 years from the time he was translated until the time when the flood came and destroyed the whole world.

Enoch's translation represents the church being taken out of the world. That period of roughly 700 years speaks figuratively of the span between the time the church is taken out of the world until the end: when the battle is over, and God has poured out His wrath and accomplished all He intends to accomplish before bringing forth the Kingdom Age.

This is as in the days of Noah, when the flood was over and Noah came out of the ark to repopulate the earth.

Enoch's son Methuselah, the oldest man ever recorded in history, lived 969 years. Methuselah was 300 when his father, Enoch, was translated, and he lived 669 years after that event. Old Methuselah died just prior to the flood. In fact, he died the same year it came!

So, all of these sons of God died before the flood ever came — that is, all but Noah. Enoch was translated, Methuselah lived right up to that very year, and the rest died during previous years.

Think of those years, now. A lot of things happened during that time. The whole world broke down! All of society caved in! And God, seeing it all, spoke unto Noah, commanding him to build an ark and giving him the grace and wisdom to build it.

Noah

You see, God was going to use that ark to preserve Noah and his family and to preserve life upon the earth.

Genesis 7:1 & 4

And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before

Me in this generation . . . For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

God commanded Noah and his family to climb aboard the ark. He was longsuffering, waiting seven days before sending rain, still giving the world some time to enter the ark and be spared. God's mercy had an open door, an entrance into the ark. That door was left open for seven days before God shut it.

Anybody could have decided to enter in and be saved. Anybody could have come aboard if they wanted to.

Noah and his family were in the ark as a sign to the world. The people, no doubt, knew what Noah was doing and why he was doing it — yet they weren't willing to believe.

This is the picture of many today: You tell them that Jesus is coming; you tell them there's a day of judgment coming; you tell them the hour is coming when God is going to pour out His wrath upon this earth — yet, they look you in the eye and smirk. Instead of taking you seriously, they joke about it.

Well, no doubt, they did the same in Noah's day. God left the door of mercy open, but nobody wanted to enter in. And when those seven days were over, God shut the door. When that door was shut, the time of the flood came! Nobody else was going to go into the ark; they had waited too long.

They didn't take advantage of the age of mercy that had been allotted to them.

Are you going to wait too long? Are you going to put off the day of salvation? Are you going to continue playing church and miss out when Jesus comes? Realize that if you spurn the mercy of God, you'll have to face His wrath.

This is the one thing you should get out of this message: God wants you to understand that He is being loving and merciful to our generation. He is warning us to get ready, to get right with Him. He warns, time after time, about getting prepared for the coming of Jesus.

Fool around all you want, but I'll tell you, the Lord is going to come on schedule. If you're not ready, you'll be like those back in Noah's day: left behind to face the wrath of God.

It rained forty days and forty nights, and the waters were upon the earth for thirteen months and ten days before Noah came out onto dry ground. When he came out, there was nobody around! The only people left on the face of the earth were the souls he had taken into the ark with him.

God had kept His Word: Judgment had fallen. The majority of the world lost their lives because of sin and apostasy, refusing to heed the Word of the Lord.

Learn from the Days of Noah

Jesus said that as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it also be in the days of the coming of the Son of Man.

We have looked extensively at Noah's day and have seen why God poured out His judgment and wrath upon the world of that day. Here's what we must do: We must let such messages have a powerful affect upon our hearts and minds lest we be carried away, lest we get careless and forget about walking uprightly with the Lord from day to day! I want to exhort you to be very careful. Walk carefully and prayerfully with the Lord. Don't be as the fool and become careless in your Christian experience.

Jesus is surely coming. And He's coming in an hour that we think not. We want to be prepared to meet Him.

Multitudes left behind

I'm going to tell you the truth: Multitudes of people in that day will regret they are alive when the Lord comes. Multitudes will scream and pull their hair. They'll be in despair when they find out that Jesus came and they were not taken, because they didn't live a sanctified and separated life.

Yes, multitudes will find they had part in Matthew 25, where the foolish virgins took no oil for their lamps and weren't prepared unto the coming of the Bridegroom. It's going to be a horrible day for the multitudes who realize they didn't make it! Others went on to be with the Lord, but these were left behind.

Don't you suppose there was weeping and wailing in the day when the rains descended upon the earth, bringing the great flood? Just imagine the scurry and the panic, as they tried to find higher ground and escape death. Imagine how they perished, one by one. No matter how high they may have climbed, the multitudes perished in that flood.

A Warning to Us

We look at that and see it as a warning. It's a warning to the world of today, warning that they get ready for the coming of the Lord.

II Peter 3:4

And saying, Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

This portion of Scripture refers to the mockers and scoffers who try to put that day off. They may mock and scoff, but we must keep warning them from the Word to flee the wrath to come. Yes, we must keep warning people, whether they pay heed or whether they don't pay heed.

II Corinthians 5:11a

Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men . . .

God is not prolonging the coming of Jesus. That day is going to come right on schedule, just as He promised.

II Peter 3:5a

For this they willingly are ignorant of . . .

Don't tell me! If you tell me, then I'll be responsible.

That's what it means to be willfully ignorant.

Now, another form of being willfully ignorant is staying out of God's Word. Many won't study the Word because they don't want to find out what's expected of them. As God's people, we certainly don't want to be guilty of such a thing.

II Peter 3:5b, 6

... that by the Word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished

God in His Word said He was going to destroy man, and He did just that! It took a season to get prepared, giving people a chance to escape. But when the day came, God fulfilled His Word, and all those who refused His way of escape perished in the flood.

Judgment by Fire

II Peter 3:7

But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

Once again, our present world, this planet earth, is held in reserve to judgment: but this time it won't be through a flood. God put His bow in the sky as a sign that He would never destroy the world with a flood again. By the same Word we find that the world is reserved unto judgment. Only this time it will be fire judgment.

What will such a judgment be like? Make the rapture and you won't have to find out! You won't be around to face any of the flames.

II Peter 3:10

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

When the day of the Lord comes, God will punish the world for its wickedness. The heavens are going to pass away with a great noise. The elements are going to melt with fervent heat. Just think of the heat it would take to melt all the solid metals and stones that make up this earth! What a frightening thing that will be!

Yes, the Word makes it very clear that a day is coming when God's wrath will destroy the earth for its wickedness. This is similar to the destruction in Noah's day.

One day, God will have to bring this world to judgment. It's the only way things will get cleaned up, the only way they'll get straightened out. When God gets through with burning everything up, things will be different.

A Way of Escape

But for now, the door of mercy is wide open, and it is open to you!

I Peter 3:18

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.

Jesus paid it all. He took the suffering to pay the price of the unjust and the guilty. He wants to give us everlasting life. And as we turn our lives over to Him, entering through the door of mercy, we will find that what He said He would do, He will do.

I Peter 3:19, 20

By which also He went and preached unto the spirits in prison; which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

Jesus had mercy on those souls. He preached to them when He descended into hell. I can't altogether tell you what that means or what the outcome was. Nevertheless, it is recorded that He did it. And we know that today the Lord is still merciful. He wants us to look unto Him, considering what He has spoken to us.

Separation is Essential

One big issue pertains to the sons of God. They were God's people of that day, the godly line, the seed of Seth. They were called apart to love and serve the Lord. But in the process of time, they began to intermarry with the daughters that were born unto the seed of Cain — the saved with the unsaved, the godly with the ungodly.

These sons of God began to mix themselves with the world. They began to lose their separation unto God. The farther they went astray, the more lukewarm and watered down they became. Finally, they became so apostate that, when it came down to the time of the flood, only Noah had the testimony of walking with God.

My, things really got bad, didn't they! There wasn't anybody who wanted to stand apart and serve God — nobody except for this one man, Noah.

Let's look at a few Scriptures that will help us to apply what we have learned thus far and prevent us from also falling.

II Corinthians 6:1

We then, as workers together with Him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

Imagine receiving the grace of God in vain! To receive something in vain is to receive something that is profitless, something that doesn't give what it was intended to give, something that is useless.

Now, the grace of God has appeared unto all men. The grace of God is meant to bring salvation. It is meant to teach us how we might deny ungodliness and obtain everlasting life. That's what it is meant to accomplish. But you can receive it in vain by tossing it aside and mixing with the ungodliness of this world.

II Corinthians 6:14

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Whenever a believer and an unbeliever become merged together in any capacity, it is an unequal yoke.

How many times we have counseled someone not to marry a sinner, because it's against God's Word for a believer to marry an unbeliever.

The majority of those who yoke themselves unequally with sinners in marriage wind up like the sons of God did in the days of Noah, becoming defiled and turning away from the Lord.

I know some feel they'll eventually get their mate saved, but that is rarely the case. Though there are times it does happen, in most cases it tends to work the other way. The pull and influence of the ungodly gets a hold, and the godly become just like them.

Some of you are in that place and are stuck; you have a problem on your hands. Bear up to it. Make the best of it. Consider your soul and consider what you're doing. If you allow it to, it will drag you away from God and into the carnality of the world. Be on guard and don't allow that to happen.

Being unequally yoked doesn't just refer to marriage, though. You can become unequally yoked in other areas, such as in business. I've seen times when a believer will go into business with a sinner as his partner. Soon problems rise. The believer wants to be honest, while the unbeliever wants to make a fast buck through some deceitful practice. And, eventually, the believer finds himself getting greedy too. All he wants now is money. It doesn't matter anymore if he has to be dishonest to get it, as long as he gets it.

What fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? What do you have in common with an unrighteous person? Your interests aren't the same. What communion has light with darkness? Your experience with the Lord can't be mixed with the world and remain pure. When you get saved, God calls you to come out from among the sinners. God calls you to walk with Him in holiness. After all, what fellowship can light have with darkness?

In the days of Noah, the sons of God tried to fellowship with darkness. All it accomplished was to put out the light, bringing forth apostasy and bringing the flood upon the world!

II Corinthians 6:15

And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

What does Jesus have to do with the devil? What fellowship does He have with that wicked one? None at all!

We have to realize that we're in that same position. We are God's children, and we should find our fellowship amongst God's children. If we love the Lord, we won't find our fellowship with those who hate Him. Worldly fellowship is a bondage that leads a person further and further away from the Lord. If we try to mix ourselves in with the ungodly, we will only find ourselves losing out in the end.

II Corinthians 6:16

And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Our body is the temple of the Holy Ghost. How can we take this temple down the street and go to a honky-tonk for the evening? How can we take this temple and defile ourselves with the world? How can we do corrupt and evil things with the temple of God?

Before the flood, that's what the sons of God did. They defiled the temple of God. Let's be careful that we don't follow the same route.

II Corinthians 6:17, 18a

Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing: and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

God started out by talking about receiving His grace in vain. When you receive the grace of God, you should separate yourself unto the Lord. Then He will receive you and will become a Father unto you.

Christian separation really pays off. So, stay clean and free. Stay separate from the things of this world.

You'll be glad you did!