God saw how sinful the earth had become. But Noah was a godly man. So God said to Noah, “Make yourself an ark. I am going to bring a flood that will destroy every living creature.” You and your family will go into the ark. Bring a male and a female of every living thing into the ark. They will be kept alive with you. Take every kind of food that you will need. Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

Noah and his family entered the ark. Rain fell on the earth for 40 days and 40 nights. The waters rose on the earth. Every living thing on earth was wiped out. Only Noah and those with him in the ark were left. The waters flooded the earth for 150 days.

Then the ark came to rest on a mountain. After 40 days Noah sent out a raven. It kept flying back and forth. Then Noah sent out a dove. But water still covered the whole earth and the dove returned to the ark. Noah waited seven more days and sent the dove out again. In the evening the dove returned with a fresh olive leaf in its beak! Noah waited seven more days and sent the dove out again. This time it did not return.

So Noah, his family and all the animals came out of the ark. Then God said to Noah and his sons, “I will never destroy all living things again. I have put my rainbow in the clouds. It will be the sign of the promise between me and the earth.”