

Story 1092 (1980 Tape 1

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Location: Doğla village, Karacabey
kaza, Province of Ankara

Date: February 6, 1980

How the Devil Entered the Ark

Many hundreds of years ago all of the tribes were rebelling against their leaders. No one was able to control all of the problems that this caused. God finally decided to do something about this. Before He did this, He told Noah in a dream to build a very large ship. He ordered Noah to take aboard that ship a pair, male and female, of every kind of animal.

When the ship had been built and the time came to load it, a pair of every kind of animal--even the ants--filed into it. The Devil had also wanted to board the ship, but he had not been permitted to do so, for he had turned against God and refused to believe in Him. The Devil therefore decided to enter the ark in the body of one of the animals being loaded. He entered the body of one of the two donkeys

As that donkey was being loaded onto the ark, it became balky. When it got near the edge of the ark, it drew itself back. It became stubborn and would not move forward any farther. Noah pulled him hard and said, "Get in there, cursed one!" It was in this way that the Devil got aboard with the

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donkey.

Later when Noah discovered that the Devil was aboard the ark, he said to him, "I did not invite you aboard this ship because God would not have wanted me to do so. You failed to obey God's orders, and then you turned against Him. Therefore I do not want you aboard my ship. Get off!"

"No, you invited me here," said the Devil. "When you were loading the donkey you invited me to come too, for you said, 'Get in there, cursed one!' and I got in

When the ark was all loaded and Noah wanted to launch it, it would not move. The people on the ark said, "We have some evil person among us. That is why it will not move."

Then it was discovered that Jonah, who had failed to govern his tribe well and did not have God's permission to enter the ark, had sneaked aboard unnoticed. Confronted by the other people, he held up his finger and said, "I am the guilty one."

"Throw him overboard!" everyone shouted

They threw Jonah--may he rest in peace--into the sea, where a fish swallowed him. After he had been there for a while, the angels pleaded with God, "O God, please rescue Jonah for our sakes."

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Jonah, who was in the belly of the fish, prayed in a different way to God: "I am here because of the cruelty of people. Please forgive my fault!"

In the meantime Noah had been able to launch the ark. But after the ship had sailed only a short distance, Noah was unable to find among its residents an old woman whom he had intended to take aboard. He turned the ship back and began searching for this old woman. Gabriel guided him to where the old woman lived. There Noah asked her, "O woman, haven't you noticed that something very unusual is happening?"

"Well, I have noticed for several days now that there has been mud on my cows' feet when they came home at night. That is the only unusual thing that I have seen."

By then the whole world had become one large sea cannot remember how long that great flood lasted

/-Ahmet Uysal: Can you tell us any more about that old woman?

Narrator: When God told Noah that He was going to flood the world and that Noah should build an ark, that old woman went to Noah and asked him to take her aboard at the proper time. She went to visit Noah every day while he was building

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the ship, and every day she took him a jar of her cows' milk. But when the ark was leaving he forgot to get her, and so he had to return in order to do so. By then the whole world was covered with water; she had not noticed this because she was one of God's beloved people. 7