

Noah's DOVE

in Genesis 8:8-12 **was** / is ...

“He also sent out from himself **a dove**, to see if the waters had receded from the face of the ground. But **the dove** found no resting place for the sole of her foot, and she returned into the ark to him, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her, and drew her into the ark to himself. And he waited yet another seven days, and again he sent **the dove** out from the ark. Then the dove came to him in the evening, and behold, a freshly plucked olive leaf was in her mouth; and Noah knew that the waters had receded from the earth. So he waited yet another seven days and sent out **the dove**, which did not return again to him anymore.” (*Genesis 8:8-12*)

an ideal
bird to send out

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

**

careful
rather than bold

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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encouraging
Noah with the leaf

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

exploring
an unknown world

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

free to
go and do as she wished

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

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helping
Noah decide what to do

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

important as
a probing-measuring device

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

Descriptive



Meditation

sent out three times

instinctively
interested in plants

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

like the
spies sent to Jericho

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

looking for
dry land, food, & shelter

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

more helpful
than the raven (8:7)

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

providentially
guided by the Lord (8:11)

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

quick to
return the first time

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

slow to
return the second time

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

unable to
swim like a duck, etc.

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

unnecessary
in a way ultimately (8:15-19)

(Agree? yes, no, partly)

Directions: after reading through **Genesis 8:1-19** and some website articles on doves, consider and discuss the way the dove that Noah sent out is described above. **Do you agree with the points made? Would you change or add to them in any way? At the end, discuss the most important descriptive phrases and make applications.** In this, think about why Noah chose a dove and sent it out multiple times. Was this good to do even though God himself would decided when it was time to leave the ark (8:15-19)? Is Noah's approach a pattern for us to follow when making decisions involving unknown factors? — © 2022 by Jon F. Mahar, Hakusan City, Japan and Alexander, Maine, U.S.A.