



Jan Van Kessel Noah and the animals entering the ark (Painting) 1690

In this painting you can see a landscape filled with animals and a group of people in the distance. There is a man in a red shirt and blue trousers on right with a stick herding animals, he is called Noah. He is getting the animals to enter the Ark whilst the people in the distance watch. This was painted in 1690.

The painting has been made by gluing two bits of wood together, if you look closely you can see the join in the middle.

Things to think about.

Why do some of the animals look slightly odd? *We can tell the difference between the animals and we can work out what the animals are however they all look a little bit different to how they look today. Think about the date this was painted. Think about where you have seen a tiger, bats or even a parrot, chances are they weren't in the wild but on the tv or in a zoo. At the time when this was painted there were no TV's and no zoos for Jan Van Kessel to see animals, so he had to rely on how people had described the animals to him!*

Why is there only one horse? *Perhaps it's because Jan Van Kessel owned a horse and felt that this is the most important animal this may be why its in the centre of the picture too. Remeber he wouldn't have a car, so his horse would be his only transport!*

Or

perhaps the other horse is already inside the ark

Or

it is somewhere in the background.

Who are the people in the background? *Perhaps it's Noah's Wife - Did you know that in the bible Noah's wife is never officially named!*

Or

perhaps its the people teasing Noah for building the Ark.