



Reflection Questions

August 23, 2026

New World, Familiar Problems

Genesis 9:18-29

Through Noah's failure, the contrasting responses of his sons, and the resulting blessings and curses that followed, we were reminded that no new beginning, no fresh start, and no changed circumstance can solve the deepest problem we face as human beings. Only the promise of Genesis 3:15 - fulfilled in Jesus Christ - offers the lasting deliverance our hearts truly need.

Reflection Questions:

1. Noah is described as a herald of righteousness and a man of great faith, yet his story ends in a moment of shameful sin -- what does this reveal about the nature of human faithfulness, and how should it shape our expectations of spiritual leaders and ourselves?
2. This passage draws a parallel between Adam and Noah, suggesting that sin survived the flood just as weeds survive in a cleared garden -- in what ways do you see this pattern of sin persisting through fresh starts in your own life or in the broader culture?
3. Ham's response to his father's sin was to proclaim it to others, while Shem and Japheth chose to cover their father with dignity -- what does your instinctive reaction to someone else's sin reveal about the condition of your own heart?
4. We can see a connection between Ham's behavior and Satan's role as the accuser of the brethren in Revelation 12, social media can act as a modern amplifier of this tendency -- how should an awareness of this connection change the way Christians engage with others' failures online and in conversation?
5. Noah's fall into sin came not during the trial of the flood but in a season of comfort and routine -- where in your own life might spiritual complacency be allowing sin to take root unnoticed?
6. God preserves the difficult and unflattering stories of His people in Scripture precisely to point us toward our need for Him -- what story of failure or loss in your own life has most clearly revealed your dependence on God rather than on human effort?
7. Salvation rests on God's grip on us rather than our grip on Him -- how does this truth both comfort you in your own failures and challenge you in how you view the ongoing struggle with sin in the Christian life?