

February 12th

## NOAH'S LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

*“When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, he said, “Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be to his brothers.” He also said, “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Shem; and let Canaan be his servant. May God enlarge Japheth, and let him dwell in the tents of Shem, and let Canaan be his servant.”*

**GENESIS 9:24-27**

If you had five minutes left to share your heart with someone that you love before death, what would you say? The words you choose tell a story of your life...your priorities, your work, and your relationships. It's not any different for Noah. God doesn't waste space here with what Moses writes about Noah. God is clear in 2 Timothy 3:16-17: "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." What is God showing us in another obscure passage in Genesis?

Have you ever noticed in Noah's life that these words are the only recorded words that he ever spoke? Look again at Genesis 6 through Genesis 9. You won't find any dialogue between Noah and God. So what does this mean for you men? When God records spoken words in the Bible, He's telling you something. And here we find Noah's last will and testament.

What do we find in this curse and blessing? First of all, we see why Canaan was cursed (and this gives us a prequel to the conquest of Canaanites in the book of Joshua). Genesis 9:22 states, "And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside." Why would Noah bring a curse because of Ham's actions? Ham added to his father's shame by telling his brothers. He didn't do anything to cover his father's shame. Instead, he used it as a moment to mock Noah. This is why his family was cursed.

Now contrast the curse with the blessing: Shem and Japheth are blessed by their father. What did they do to gain this blessing? They covered their father's nakedness. They covered his shame. Sounds familiar, doesn't it? Someone else covered someone's shame...God covered the shameful nakedness of Adam and Eve after their sin in the Garden of Eden. They act as God's representatives to cover the sin of their father. This points to Another that will also cover the shame of sin. Except not we aren't talking about the sin of thousands of years ago...we're talking about our sin being covered by the blood of Christ! Jesus blood covers and takes away our penalty for sin. Our shame is covered by His blood. Even this event points forward to Jesus who brings our forgiveness. There is therefore now no condemnation for those in Christ!

***Take time to reflect on Jesus sacrifice to take away your shame. Thank Him for His sacrifice today.***

**For Further Reading: Hebrews 10:1-14**