

Genesis 9

God's Promise to Noah

Tonight we will look at Genesis 9. We pick up in the middle of the rainbow promise.

Genesis 8:20-22

20.] Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. 21.] And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.

Noah offered praise to God for His remembering him and the deliverance of mankind.

- Noah could have been depressed living in the dark with only candlelight for 279 days and then on his birthday, opening the roof and seeing sunlight. What a joyous day.

When fail to return thanks it leads to pride. Pride leads to more sin. More sin is how we got to this point in history.

The word heart "lave" in Hebrew. It doesn't refer to the physical organ beating in your chest but to your mind or your understanding, the things you consider or ponder. Maybe even dream about.

God's thought was "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake."

Psalms 103

14.] For He knows our frame;
He remembers that we are dust.

God knows that we, being dust, cannot endure the full weight of His curse. Jesus became dust just as we are. Noah brought the sin nature

he inherited from his father through Adam through the flood. Jesus, having God as His Father, didn't have the sin nature of Adam.

2 Corinthians 5

21.] For He (God) made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

He didn't just take our sin but became our sin, trading our sin for His perfect sinlessness so that we could enter in to rest with God.

22.] "While the earth remains,
Seedtime and harvest,
Cold and heat,
Winter and summer,
And day and night
Shall not cease."

This is the covenant that He said He would establish back in Genesis 6 100 years ago. God speaking with Noah about destroying all living things.

Genesis 6

18.] "But I will establish My covenant with you;...

19.] "And of every living thing of all flesh ...

Gods' promise is not to destroy the world with a worldwide flood again, and the normal processes of nature would continue. Through all the storms of life, personal and ecologically, we are still to go out of the ark into the world so others can find rest in the ark...in the presence of Jesus.

Matthew 28

20.] ... and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*"
Amen.

Starting here in chapter 9 we see God speaking directly to Noah and his family...

1.] So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth."

Notice ... God speaking to Noah and his sons vs. God speaking to Adam only. God blessed Noah and his sons because of their faith. They had faith to build the ark and then acknowledge God in praise with sacrifice.

Hebrews 11

6.] But without faith *it is impossible to please Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

100 years or so of building, being laughed at by the people, facing the Nephilim.

7.] By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

He had the fear of God more than the fear of man or even the nephilim. Paul wrote in Romans 8

31.] ...If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us?

1 Corinthians 1

27.] But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;

In this case here, the "foolish things" was the simple task of building a really big boat when it had never rained. The mighty Bene Elohim and the Nephilim were put to shame. With all their strength and mighty deeds they never learned how to swim. God still uses this principal today.

1 Corinthians 1:18

18.] For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

2.] “And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move *on* the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand.

This is an interesting verse. It implies that before the flood the animals were docile. You could just go up and pet a tiger, rub his ears and wrestle around for a while without any fear of harm. But all has changed now. Back in chapter 1

26.] Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

3.] “Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs.

Genesis 2

16.] And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17.] “but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Adams conditions...eat only fruit and the green herbs

Noahs conditions...every green herb along with the fruit of the trees, also every animal.

4.] “But you shall not eat flesh with its life, *that is*, its blood.

This is reinforced in the law.

Leviticus 17

10.] ‘And whatever man of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell among you, who eats any blood, I will set My face against that person who eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people. 11.] ‘For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood, and I have given it

to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it *is* the blood *that* makes atonement for the soul.'

Blood must be treated with respect. Leviticus 19

26.] You shall not eat *anything* with the blood, nor shall you practice divination or soothsaying.

I found this verse...interesting...God equates the eating of blood with sorcery and witchcraft.

5.] "Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a *reckoning*; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man.

6.] "Whoever sheds man's blood,
By man his blood shall be shed;
For in the image of God
He made man.

In verse 6, God likens shedding man's blood to killing God, because we are made in His image. Cain was the first murderer and God punished him by removing him from his family and cursing him from the ground.

Exodus 20

13.] "You shall not murder.

Capital punishment instituted in verse 6, "by man his blood shall be shed". The conditions of the shedding of blood are outlined in Leviticus. It notes the differences between killing and murder. Foundation of government...capital punishment. Putting the murderer to death must not be taken lightly. A governing body...in Israel's case, the elders in the gate of the city...weighs the evidence and makes a judgement according to the law.

Deuteronomy 17

6.] "Whoever is deserving of death shall be put to death on the testimony of two or three witnesses; he shall not be put to death on the testimony of one witness.

7.] And as for you, be fruitful and multiply; Bring forth abundantly in the earth And multiply in it.”

Multiply and spread out in the Earth. They multiplied but didn't spread out. Nimrod brought everyone together to build the tower of Babel in chapter 11.

Jesus said in Mark 16

15.] And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

In Acts, the newly formed church stayed around Jerusalem until they were persecuted. Act 8

1.] ...At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria,...

8.] Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying: 9.] “And as for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after **you**, 10.] “and with every living creature that *is* with you: the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you, of all that go out of the ark, every beast of the earth. 11.] “Thus I establish My **covenant** with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

Covenant...Gods' promise not to flood the entire Earth again. And “You” being plural...everyone and every animal that was on the ark. It would be a major cause of fear every time it rained that the flood was coming again. So God gave a token of His covenant...

12.] And God said: “This *is* the sign of the covenant which I make between Me and you, and every living creature that *is* with you, for perpetual generations: 13.] “I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.

This is the token of Gods' covenant with man and animals.

Unconditional covenant. God will honor the covenant in spite of what man does.

Deuteronomy 28 would be an example of a conditional covenant. The covenants of obedience and disobedience. I will do...if you do...



14.] “It shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow shall be seen in the cloud; 15.] “and I will remember My covenant which *is* between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; **the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.**

16.] “The rainbow shall be in the cloud, and I will look on it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that *is* on the earth.”

We were in Arizona and saw this rainbow. It was just in the clouds because it wasn't raining anywhere. It's formed by light refracting through water droplets in the clouds. The rainbow we normally see is light refracting through rain drops. No one really knows but I think if

it were a curved rainbow and it was raining somewhere it would have brought fear into the hearts of the passengers on the ark.

17.] And God said to Noah, “This *is* the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that *is* on the earth.”

Covenant is ber-eeth' in the Hebrew. It means an alliance or a pledge. We usually call it a promise. In this case here it means a divine ordinance with signs or pledges. The sign would be the rainbow and the pledge is never to flood the entire Earth again. This doesn't mean we won't have local floods, which we have seen, just not a worldwide flood. The next time when sin gets to the point that the Earth must be destroyed it will be by fire. For reference you can see 2 Peter 3.

Noah and His Sons

18.] Now the sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And Ham was the father of Canaan. 19.] These three *were* the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was populated.

Canaan—first mention

20.] And Noah began *to be* a farmer, and he planted a vineyard.

Life begins to get back to normal as Noah knew it. He planted his garden to provide food for his family. The food that he had put on the ark would have been running out. During the time of Elijah in 1 Kings 17

14.] “For thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the LORD sends rain on the earth.’ ”

Or in this case until the harvest was in. It wasn't like Noah got off the ark made his wine, it took many years. During this time children were born to the boys.

21.] Then he drank of the wine and was drunk, and became uncovered in his tent.

It doesn't seem like the conduct of the man who walked with God back in chapter 6. These are some of the possibilities that I have found. This is a question that seems not to have a clear answer. It's one of those things, because no one was there and nothing is recorded, we like to make up reasons for someone else's actions.

.

22.] And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and **told** his two brothers outside.

Told is in Hebrew. naw-gad'. Some of its meanings are not just to tell but to declare or expound, possibly even with glee.

23.] But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid *it* on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces *were* turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness.

Here we have Shem and Japheth giving Noah the respect he is entitled to as their father and the righteous man that he was. This is an example of how we should treat a brother when he falls down. In Proverbs 24 it says,

16.] For a righteous *man* may fall seven times
And rise again,
But the wicked shall fall by calamity.

I don't necessarily need to look at the next few verses, but they are important...

17.] Do not rejoice when your enemy falls,
And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles;
18.] Lest the LORD see *it*, and it displease Him,
And He turn away His wrath from him.

Paul wrote to the Galatians in chapter 6

1.] Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

God never wants to see us humiliated over our sin. His desire is to see our repentance and restoration.

24.] So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him.

This phrase "his younger son" ... bane kaw-tawn' bane...this can also be translated youngest son or youngest grandson. The sons of Noah are listed as Shem, Ham and Japheth. Back in chapter 5

32.] And Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

We talked about the boys being triplets.

25.] Then he said:

"Cursed be Canaan;
A servant of servants
He shall be to his brethren."

The question has always been with a cursory reading is "If Ham did what was wrong why did Noah curse Canaan?" It takes a little more research to make sense of this. In Genesis 5 we looked at the three boys being triplets as they were all born when Noah was 500 years old, Ham being the middle child, and Canaan being Hams' youngest son.

Notice in the last part of verse 24, it says
...what his younger son had done **TO** him.

The children of Canaan are listed in chapter 10. They are the people that Joshua conquered in the promised land. Genesis 10

15.] Canaan begot Sidon his firstborn, and Heth; 16.] the Jebusite, the Amorite, and the Girgashite; 17.] the Hivite, the Arkite, and the Sinite; 18.] the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite...



26.] And he said:

“Blessed be the LORD,
The God of Shem,
And may Canaan be his servant.

27.] May God enlarge Japheth,
And may he dwell in the tents of Shem;
And may Canaan be his servant.”

We see verse 26 fulfilled in Joshua 9. The Hivites living in Gibeon making a treaty with Joshua to keep from getting destroyed. When their deception was discovered ...verse 21

Joshua 9:21

21.] And the rulers (in Israel) said to them, “Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water carriers for all the congregation, as the rulers had promised them.”

28.] And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years. 29.] So all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years; and he died.

We like to think that now all things were perfect again just like in Eden. All Adam and Eve knew was the goodness of God until they had a close encounter with a snake. Noah's family carried the old world with them into the new world. They brought technology, remember from chapter 4, music, metalworking, herding and camping. They also brought the knowledge of polytheism and demonism and whateverism was prevalent in that day. No matter how hard we try, our past has a way of finding its way into our new life with Christ. But Jesus does not want to leave us in that state. We as followers of Christ and fellow sinners we need to come along side and help restore a fallen brother, after all every time I fall, God helps me up and every time you fall He helps you up also. We're all in this together, one body, the Bride of Christ.