

Curse Breaker 2

Noah & The Root of Racism

(preached 6/11/23)

Please turn to *Genesis 9:18*.

LAST WEEK:

- The Biblical definition of a cursing goes way beyond cussing—it's directed like a bullet at a person, place, or thing.
- A curse is meant to 1) weaken, belittle, make smaller, 2) hinder, slow down, stop, 3) to corrupt/defile.
- A curse also binds itself to someone to do all the above in the present and future: "you'll never amount to anything or change for the better" is a curse far worse than saying "blank you."
- Curses are more powerful when spoken by someone we're in relationship with, and/or an authority figure.
- After Adam rebelled, God cursed THE GROUND and since we're made from ground, death transferred to us. As the Lord said: "dust you are and to the dust you shall return" which is death.
- The result were thorns and thistles which symbolize both earth in its fallen state...and us.
- Jesus BROKE this curse for any who believe in Him, which is why the main point of His preaching was "everlasting life."
- Him wearing the Crown of Thorns signified He took the curse meant for us upon Himself! Praise Him!!!
- The curse could find nothing within Him as He was without sin! It could not bind itself to Him!
- It died on the Cross with Him, and you and I inherited eternal life!
- At the resurrection we shed the body of dust and replace it with one made from the stuff of Heaven!
- Jesus broke the curse of Genesis 3, and replaced it with blessing!

TODAY I ask you a question and before I do, please put do your best to put aside any political divide or influence and just give an answer:

- Do you believe racism exists?
- Do you believe it's harmful and is a real problem in our world today?

Growing up half-Vietnamese in mostly white Addison wasn't easy and there were times when I found myself on the receiving end of racism. The first time I can remember it happening was the first day of 4th grade. I was sitting with two classmates I'd known well since Kindergarten, gotten along with, and played with. The teacher hadn't come into class yet, so we

were all just sitting there talking. Something weird was going on though: my 2 buddies were acting like I wasn't there and I didn't know why. I kept trying to insert myself into their conversation, and they didn't acknowledge me.

PULLING AT HIS EYES! Finally one of them faced me and began pulling at the corners of his eyes and speaking in tongues...OK he didn't really speak in tongues, but he was imitating some Asian language and trying to make his eyes look slanted. I had no idea what was going on. Every time I tried asking him, he kept doing the same thing and both he and my other "friend" would laugh. Then the second guy got tired of me asking and responded: "he's imitating you, because you're a yellow skinned Viet Cong Communist!" The real kick in the pants was the anger and vitriol coming from him when he said it.

MOM FROM THE NORTH! Again: these weren't strangers...but buddies I'd known since Kindergarten. I went home and asked my Vietnamese mother what they were talking about, and she did her best to explain. I already knew about the Vietnam War, that the North were the bad guy Communists and the South were the good guys and I automatically assumed Mom came from the South...I was wrong. She explained she was from Hanoi which was North, but that she fled there when the Communists took over. She explained that her father owned his own business and was prosperous, and the CP took everything and forced her brother to join them. She fled South to Saigon where she meant my dad, who was in the Army.

BACKED AGAINST LOCKER. Things got worse at school. Others got caught up in what my 2 "friends" started and joined in. I recall being in 7th grade when 3 guys—all of whom I'd grown up with—slammed me into a locker and asked if I was from North or South Vietnam. They were all looking at me like they'd never seen me before. I quickly answered "South" because I knew that if I told the truth, they wouldn't understand. They let me go and the guy who'd been holding me by the scruff of my shirt with his fist cocked back said "oh...that's good. 'Cause if you'd said 'North' I would have decked ya!"

TRIED ARGUING. I used to argue with a few of them, the ones who were the worst and called me names. I explained that 1) not only was I born in America like them, but 2) in the same Corning Hospital they were. One fellow who was particularly mean to me, who often proudly proclaimed that he was both Irish and American at the same time, never received any of my rationalizations. I would say that just as he was both Irish and America, that I was both Vietnamese and American. I would go on to say that Ireland was across the ocean from the USA just as Vietnam was, and that he wasn't any more American than me.

INCOMPREHENSION. He would give me a blank stare of incomprehension for a moment, then go back to calling me racist names and telling me he was more American than I was.

So that gave me cause to wonder **where racism came from?**

What was its origin?

THE FALL & NOAH'S CURSE. After becoming a Christian and reading about what happened as a result of the Fall yes, our capacity to sin came from that event. Yet I wondered if there was something else that happened which encouraged this particular form of trespass? I came to find out there might just be...a curse that was pronounced by a major Biblical figure right after the Flood. Our reading begins with Genesis 9:

[Gen 9:18-21 ESV] 18 The sons of Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.) 19 These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the people of the whole earth were dispersed. 20 Noah began to be a man of the soil, and he planted a vineyard. 21 He drank of the wine and became drunk and lay uncovered in his tent.

NOAH 3 SHEETS. The flood is over, the waters have dispersed, and Noah & family are back on dry ground starting fresh. Apparently the first thing Noah discovered was how to ferment grapes and get drunk! Anyway, he gets to feeling a little too good and passes out.

TRANSPARENT. Before I continue let me say this: one of the things about the Bible that shows you its' true is that it reveals the good, bad, and ugly. If it truly were written by a bunch of men trying to enforce religious patriarchy to control everyone, they wouldn't be this honest and transparent. Moses wrote Genesis and, if he were interested in painting a more rosy picture to justify male rule, he could have just said that Noah got tired and went to bed. Instead, you get stark honesty! It can make for some uncomfortable reading, but we also realize that even righteous men of God like Noah who had just done a great thing, also has flaws and gives into them every now and again. Let's read on:

[Gen 9:22-27 ESV] 22 And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside. 23 Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned backward, and they did not see their father's nakedness. 24 When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, 25 he said, **"Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be to his brothers."** 26 He also said, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of **Shem; and let Canaan be his servant.** 27 May God enlarge **Japheth**, and let him dwell in the tents of Shem, and **let Canaan be his servant.**"

I'm not getting into why Noah was so angry over such a seemingly small thing as Ham seeing him naked. You can ask me about it in private and I'll give you my opinion on why it was a greater sin than what it appears to be.

Why did Noah curse Canaan instead of Ham himself? Biblical scholars debate this, but one of the more prevalent answers is that the Lord had previously blessed Ham and Noah wasn't about to undo that...so he cursed Ham's son Canaan instead. Let's focus on said curse and the affects it's had on the human race until this day which is racism.

Please understand that **all of humanity springs from Noah's 3 sons and their wives**. If Ancestry.com could go back that far, you could find out which one of them you came from on both sides of your parents!

SPECIFICITY OF CURSE. Now look at the specificity of Noah's curse: Canaan AND ALL OF HIS DESCENDENTS would serve the descendants of the other two sons. Remember that curses diminish, make smaller, and throw stumbling blocks to impede and hold back.

When Noah spoke these terrible words over Canaan, yet chose to bless his other two sons, he created terrible divisions which have lasted to this day.

NOT WOKE. Any of you who have attended here know that I'm not woke and don't believe in things like reparations. That being said here's a list of things that resulted from Noah's curse:

- The idea that there are superior races—the “master race” which was capitalized on by the Nazi's and the Eugenics movement, which founded Planned Parenthood.
- The idea that there are inferior races who are supposedly less intelligent, healthy, and destined to serve and be slaves...be ruled over.

This problem doesn't just exist in modern America, but has been around since Noah said what he said.

Slavery in America is a horrible mark on our history and, believe it or not, people calling themselves Christians and Pastors back then preached this very thing to JUSTIFY the ownership of slaves. They pointed to Africans being the descendants of Cush, who was a descendant of Canaan.

CURSE BREAKER. While that's factually true, these blind and deaf Christians ignored the great work of Jesus our Curse Breaker, who repealed and replaced what Noah said and made us all sons and daughters of the Most High God!!! More on that coming soon.

YOU'VE HEARD OF THE ARYANS? Hitler didn't create them and while they were termed “fair skinned invaders” they're not all blonde haired and blue eyed—many of them are from India and Iran (Persians) and they're the descendants of Japheth. Iran literally translates to “land of the Aryans.” The association which white skinned, blond, blue didn't come until late 19th/early 20th century and culminated with the rise of Nazism.

JESSE OWENS. God displayed the deception of Eugenics and the Nazi's by granting African-American Jesse Owens victory, blowing away the all the competition in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, Germany! Hitler himself had a front row seat and had to watch!

The Eugenics movement feeds off of and capitalizes on Noah's Curse—embraces it. It goes hand in hand with Darwinism/Evolution which came out of the gate with bold statements like “survival of the fittest” and the concepts that the weak are meant to be weeded out so that the strong will prosper.

ABORTION. The Eugenics movement—also called bioethics—didn't create abortion, but it marketed and amplified it into what it is today. Margaret Sanger, the founder of Planned Parenthood, was an avid Eugenics/Bioethicist and she purposefully started her abortion clinics in poor neighborhoods with the goal of paring down the weak in society, specifically the descendants of Canaan & Cush.

The idea of a master race being superior to and ruling over other races come directly from Satan.

He attempts to sow division and hatred among humanity, causing us to separate over skin color.

ELITES. The elites of the world—the 1% of the 1%--absolutely feel this way. They see themselves as superior and their goal is to depopulate the world to a few hundred million, then rule over them.

What's the answer to racism, whether personal or systematic?

The answer is that Jesus broke Noah's curse at the Cross and at His Resurrection!

The curse was lifted when He ascended to heaven, entered into God's presence, and plead our case to His Father God.

What case did He plead? To forgive us our sins, and allow us all to be adopted into God's family:

[Rom 8:14-17 ESV] 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

When we got Saved, our old self died. Suppose that Ancestry.com could bring any one of us all the way back to Shem, Ham, or Japheth. So what? All that was CRUCIFIED and DIED when we denied ourselves, picked up our crosses, and followed the Lord Jesus up Calvary Hill. Denying oneself doesn't mean to quit drinking booze and eating too many cookies. **Denying ourselves means our OLD self.**

PHYSICAL ANCESTRY DIED. Maybe you were a descendent of Japheth and your ancestors persecuted others. Perhaps you came from Ham and your ancestors were the persecuted. All that died with your old self. It was crucified and buried WITH Christ.

You have been born-again! Just as Jesus was resurrected into a new body, so have we. In last week's sermon we read the scriptures about our resurrection bodies that are made from the stuff of Heaven. We contrasted that to this one made of dust.

NEW DAD. You are born-again and have been given a new name and more importantly a new Dad—He is God our Father.

YOU ARE NO LONGER A DESCENDENT OF SHEM, HAM, OR JAPHETH—YOU COME FROM FATHER GOD!

There are no separate races in the Church. There is no slave or free. There are only God's children:

[Gal 3:26-28 ESV] 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.