

God's Message to the Remnant

Be Fruitful

Genesis 6:1, 7

Introduction

Over time God has always had a remnant of faithful people who served Him. Noah and his family were the only survivors of the wrath of God poured out on a wicked and rebellious world. Today, despite what is going on, God still has a portion of people who are true to Him.

Through Noah's story, God is speaking a word to the remnant of our generation.

Faithful people in a changing world.

The state of our world today, including the population explosion and pervasive evil, is akin to the Antediluvian world.

When the flood came upon the earth, everything changed within a short amount of time, leaving lasting marks. Likewise, we are living in a time when our lives have changed drastically.

Noah experienced change, adapted to it, but remained faithful to God through it. In like matter, our lives should be characterized by faithfulness.

God's Message to a Remnant Generation: Be Fruitful!

Genesis 9:1 reveals the word that God is speaking to the postdiluvian world of which we are apart.

- The first word that God spoke to Noah and his family was to be fruitful. Noah was responsible for rebirthing the earth. For us, being fruitful is not just about populating the world but more so propagating the Gospel to the world.
- However, the charge to be fruitful did not change for Noah even though the circumstances around him did (Genesis 1:28).

There is still a blessing over our lives to be fruitful today. Three truths about fruitfulness will guide us in being productive for the Kingdom of God.

1. FRUITFULNESS IS ESTABLISHED THROUGH INTIMACY.

- Intimacy requires awareness of the needs of others (Genesis 6:8).
- Frequently, intimacy necessitates adapting to circumstances while remaining true to who we are in Christ (1 Corinthians 9:22).
- We need ears sensitive to what God is speaking and eyes open to what is happening around us.

2. FRUITFULNESS IS CULTIVATED THROUGH COMMITMENT.

- To grow in fruitfulness, we must be committed to what God is doing in and through us.
- Developing fruitfulness takes determination. It is not an overnight event but a process that requires patience (Genesis 9:20).
- The work that God has called us to be a part of is an investment in the lives of others.

3. FRUITFULNESS IS MAINTAINED THROUGH FOCUS.

- Some of the decisions that we think are acceptable turn out to be damaging in the long run (Genesis 9:21).
- Distractions can derail us from being productive in the kingdom of God.
- It is vital for us, and the mission, to focus on Jesus and others if we desire to be fruitful (Proverbs 4:23).

Conclusion

A blessing of productivity is on our lives, so there is the expectation that we will be fruitful (John 15:5,8). However, we can only be fruitful through Jesus. Outside of Him, we can do nothing.

In the face of uncertainty, people need to know that the love of God is available to them. In the face of death, people need to know that salvation is available, and they can avoid hell.