

January 5th – What the Rainbow Really Means

“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: I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.’”

(Gen. 9:12-13)

The rainbow is quite prominent in our present culture, but the meaning has changed drastically in the last few decades. The rainbow flag was popularized as a symbol of the gay community by San Francisco artist Gilbert Baker in 1978. Since the 1990s, its symbolism has been transferred to represent the extended "LGBT" (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) community. Baker's original rainbow contained 8 colors, but the LGBT community has used only 6 colors since 1979.

What is the true meaning of the rainbow? God created Adam and Eve placed them in the beautiful Garden of Eden. Sadly, they chose to sin and in doing so they affected the whole of creation and passed a sin nature along to the rest of us. Several generations later, the world had become so wicked during Noah's day that God decided to cleanse the Earth of sin. Noah built an Ark, his family of 8 entered, God shut the door, and for 40 days and nights it rained.

After the flood waters subsided, God commanded Noah and his sons to be fruitful and multiply (Gen. 9:1). God also gave them a promise – “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” (Gen. 9:11). So then, the rainbow is not a symbol of homosexual pride, though the Devil has certainly hijacked it for that purpose. The rainbow is an everlasting reminder that we have a merciful God who keeps His Word.