

Homework for Discussion September 12 and 13:

1. Read Genesis 6.8-9.16.

Re-read our definition for Grace:

Grace can be seen as God's movement towards the sinner-saint; action that manifests as unmerited kindness towards the sinner-saint.

(*Remember* Kindness plays out more specifically than favor; kindness is specific blessings pertaining to the individual and the specific season they're in.)

Keeping this definition in mind, are you seeing any instances of Grace that you hadn't seen before?

2. Write Hebrews 11.7 here:

Re-read our definition for Faith:

Trust and dependency on Another; without any reliance on self or human efforts or works.

(*Remember* Faith is the sinner's response; the sinner comes in filthy rags, empty-handed knowing they have nothing they can give to God.)

Keeping this definition in mind, are you seeing any instances of Faith in Genesis 6.8-9.16 that you hadn't seen before?

3. Write Exodus 33.19 here:

How did Noah earn God's Grace (favor)?

4. Read Genesis 6.5-7.

On a scale of 1-10, how wicked do you think it was at this time?

Were any of these people too wicked for God's Grace?

Do you think Noah fit-in with the culture at this time?

What do you think helped Noah live for God in the midst of such an evil culture?

5. Write Genesis 6.13 here:

What is God doing in this verse?

Read Genesis 18.17 and Amos 3.7. Did God have to share His plans with Noah? Why do you think God shared with Noah His plans to bring an end to all flesh (that had the breath of life)?

6. Read Ezekiel 18.32 and 33.11 and 2 Peter 3.9.
What did the Lord want for all of those affected by the Flood?

Do you think Noah tried to convince them to turn from their wicked ways? How?

What do you think the Wicked were thinking as he took all those years to build the Ark?

7. Write Genesis 8.21 here:

Has the sin condition of Man improved after the Flood?

8. Write Genesis 1.28 here:

Write Genesis 9.1 here:

Write Genesis 9.7 here:

What do these verses have in common?

9. Incorporate Psalm 119.132 into your prayer time this week:

Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your way with those who love your name.

September 12 and 13, 2023: God's Grace to Noah, 6.8-9.16

I. Events from Genesis thus far:

A. Adam and Eve have disobeyed, but God has a solution, and He Graciously allows them to participate in that Solution.

B. Adam and Eve's sin is not controlled nor contained; within one generation-we see robust and all-consuming sins like spiritual pride, anger, jealousy, and murder.

C. Adam and Eve conceive and have a son, Cain. Eve thinks she has given birth to the Messiah, instead she has given birth to a murderer.

Genesis 4.25-26:

25 *And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him."* **26** *To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the Lord.*

II. The Time of Noah:

Genesis 6.1-4:

1 *When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, **2** the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. **3** Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years." **4** The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.*

Genesis 3.6:

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

- i. Exploding population (6.1) brought about by sexual perversion at the hands of demonic activity (6.2).

- ii. The Lord is grieved that He made mankind because wickedness is rampant and the intention of man's heart was only evil all the time. Because of this, God decrees that He will send a Flood in 120 years that will blot out man and animals.

Genesis 6.8:

But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

- i. He didn't earn Grace, the Lord gave Noah Grace.
- ii. Grace-Grace can be seen as God's movement towards the sinner-saint*; action that manifests as unmerited kindness towards the sinner-saint.
*That movement can be when the Lord moves towards the sinner-saint to accomplish His will or His pleasure in their life.

6.9 *These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.*

- i. Noah's fam will be preserved as the sole human remnant so that the Messiah will still proceed from Adam and Eve's lineage. God is moving towards Noah to accomplish His will in Noah's life.
- ii. Noah was who the Grace of God made him. What result has God's Grace had in your life?

6.11 *Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.*

- i. Since The Fall every living thing faces a death sentence and the Lord's sovereignty gives Him the right to execute that as He wills.

6.13 *And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. 15 This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits, its breadth 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits. 16 Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and set the door of the ark in its side. Make it with lower, second, and third*

decks. **17** For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. **18** But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. **19** And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female. **20** Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground, according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you to keep them alive. **21** Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up. It shall serve as food for you and for them.” **22** Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

i. God condescends Himself to share His mind with Noah.

Genesis 18.7:

Then the Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?”

The sovereign Judge of the entire universe shared His mind with Noah. God divulges the fate of the entire world to Noah...along with why. Though Noah deserved no special favor, the Lord moved towards him and showed him this kindness.

ii. Noah has been given this heaven-high calling to build an ark. God’s Grace had to be strengthening him during this time, blessing Noah with an unexplained sense of gentility, peace and comfort; even giving him moments of relief, sweetness, or maybe even joy.

You and I will never be called to build an ark, but we have some heaven-high callings of our own: “*fear not*”...“*do not be anxious*”...“*love your enemy*.”

If your flesh works to meet this heaven-high callings there are only 3 outcomes:

- You won’t have Eternal results (results that impact your Eternal relationship with Jesus)
- You won’t have lasting results (there might change for a season but it won’t last)
- You won’t have any results at all (resulting in despair)

7.1 *Then the Lord said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. 2 Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, 3 and seven pairs of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth. 4 For in seven days I will*

send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.” 5 And Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him.

i. Genesis 6.3:

3 Then the Lord said, “My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years.”

ii. God’s attributes are not separate or dispensed apart from one another, they all flow into one another.

God is holy, righteous, and just and His patience for the wickedness and evil of the time has come to an end; this was demonstrated by Him decreeing a world-wide death sentence by Flood. But He simultaneously dispensed abounding Grace to Noah.

7.6 *Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth. 7 And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood. 8 Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, 9 two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. 10 And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth. 11 In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. 12 And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. 13 On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, 14 they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. 15 They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. 16 And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the Lord shut him in. 17 The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. 18 The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. 19 And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. 20 The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. 21 And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. 22 Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. 23 He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man*

and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. **24** And the waters prevailed on the earth 150 days.

i. The Flood is Graciously gradual:

10 And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened

17 The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth.

18 The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters.

19 And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered.

20 The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep.

21 And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind.

22 Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died.

23 He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark.

ii. God shut the door; Noah didn't have to and Noah couldn't open it. That is exceedingly kind.

8.1 *But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided. 2 The fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, 3 and the waters receded from the earth continually. At the end of 150 days the waters had abated, 4 and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. 5 And the waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen.*

i. When we see God remembering in Scripture, what we're seeing is God actively turning His pointed attention towards a matter.

ii. "God made a wind blow over the earth." This wind is going to do several things:

- Blow away rain clouds
- Help waters recede
- Help the ground dry out
- Guide the Ark to the mountains of Ararat

8.6 *At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made 7 and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. 8 Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground. 9 But the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. 10 He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. 11 And the dove came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. 12 Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore.*

- i. Noah sends out a series of birds to evaluate the condition of the earth. At last, a dove returns with an olive leaf, revealing that there is earth with trees flourishing with leaves.

8.13 *In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. 14 In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. 15 Then God said to Noah, 16 “Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. 17 Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” 18 So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him. 19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out by families from the ark.*

- i. The ground was dry in the first month and Noah had already used the birds to test the conditions of the earth, but Noah was waiting for God to tell him to get off the Ark. He was not getting off that Ark until God told him to.

8.20 *Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. 21 And when the Lord smelled the pleasing aroma, the Lord said in his heart, “I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither*

will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done. 22 While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”

- i. Noah builds an altar and offers a sacrifice. He beheld the Lord’s Grace in his life and he responded.

9.1 *And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. 2 The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. 3 Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. 4 But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. 5 And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man. 6 “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image. 7 And you, be fruitful and multiply, increase greatly on the earth and multiply in it.”*

- i. Noah and his fam are essentially starting over so the Lord gives them the blessing “Be fruitful and multiply.”

9.8 *Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 9 “Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, 10 and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. 11 I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” 12 And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: 13 I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. 14 When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, 15 I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” 17 God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”*

- i. Noahic Covenant: The Lord promises that He will never again flood the world and He condescends Himself to seal the covenant with a rainbow.

