

GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Chapter 7, 8 & 9 Study Guide

April 18, 2004

GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Genesis 7

I. BACKGROUND, CULTURE & EXEGESIS

The flood of Noah wiped out all of animal kind (save the 2 unclean and 7 clean on the Ark) and all of mankind except for the eight humans on board. Imagine only eight saved; this number has become the number symbolizing new beginnings.

You know there is the universal argument that there are many paths to God, I believe that argument may have been discussed during Noah's day but the argument ended when the rain began to fall. There was only one means of getting saved – get in the boat!

Although the Bible speaks highly of Noah -

¹⁴Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness," says the Lord GOD.

²⁰even though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness."

Ezek 14:14, 20

I find it interesting that as far as his preaching career he didn't have much success he "preached" for 120 years (see 2 Peter 2:5) and - how many converts? – how many came forward? ... raised their hands? Always remember God does not call us to be successful, He calls us to be faithful and that Noah was!

The concept of baptism can also be seen in Noah's story; in it we can see new birth and divine protection. At first the door was opened to all, but when God closed the door those inside had perfect security against judgment – similar to being in Christ!

Finally, some interesting things that came about after the flood.

- Thermal blanket was gone
- No more universal climate: snow, winds, ice etc.
- More oceans, less land

To conclude this remember the words of Jesus – "Come unto to me all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you Noah!" (remember Noah in the Hebrew means Rest)!

2. THEME & AUTHORSHIP



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Themes

A couple predominate themes are found in Genesis. First is fact that this is a Book of Beginnings, the great introduction to the drama of redemption.

Second, we see God preparing a people – here we have God choosing and then testing. Whether it is Abraham, Isaac, Jacob or Noah for that matter God chooses and then begins to winnow and purge. Remember the goal is to create a people who would fulfill Genesis 3:15. It will be here that the initial step will be taken for man’s redemption by a divine covenant made with a chosen race whose early history is here portrayed.

Author – Moses / **Date** - 1450 – 1410 BC

3. Theology

People often speculate as to why God chose to unleash the waters in a deluge that would cover the whole earth, even the highest mountains by more than 20 feet (v. 20). People have said that God wasn’t satisfied with his creation and wanted to start over, that he was unhappy with man, save one, and wanted to try again. Or that God simply had a better way to do it and wanted to put that plan into action. To some extent we will never know why God chose to send the flood at this time and not at other, very wicked, times in history. We can look at the state of the earth today and wonder if we are not far away from another judgment of the LORD. One thing that is interesting in this chapter, though, is that in spite of the fact that God is wiping out most of his creation, he decides to save at least two of everything he made. Now why would he do this? Why couldn’t he just “re-create” them once the flood was over? He certainly had the power to do this, why waste so much time and energy putting Noah and his family through a 40 day boat trip with at least two of every kind of animal on the planet? Because of Genesis Chapter one, verse 31, “And God saw everything that he had made and it was very good.”

God already had the blueprint in place and it was a “very good” blueprint. If he had wiped it out completely he would, in effect, be saying that it was faulty, or corrupted. But it was not, it was good, God’s creation, his grand work was created perfectly by his hands. This is not to say that we and all the creation was good, but the blueprint, the outline by which God created us was. Again we see that God’s goodness is never failing, and that any evil we see in the world follows from that fateful day in the garden when Adam and Eve were deceived. Even today we can look around at the things he has created, in spite of our sin, He has made us good.

Soul Winner, So What

Genesis 1 says that what God made was very good, so we should live in such a way as to prove him right.



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Small Group Question

Why do you think God sent the flood at this time and not others?

4. ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

- **God invites** us to salvation. He invited Noah to go to the ark. V.1
- **God is the savior.** God shut Noah in the ark. Noah didn't save himself.
- **God uses 40** as a time of testing and purification, especially before coming into something new and significant, as in Moses' time on Mount Sinai (Exodus 24:18 ,Deuteronomy 9:25) the spies' trip to Canaan (Numbers 13:25)Israel's time in the wilderness (Numbers 14:33,32:13), Elijah's miraculous journey to Sinai (1 Kings 19:8), and Jesus' temptation in the wilderness (Mark 1:13)
- **God will test our faith.** V10-12 Noah waited 7 days in the ark. Noah had never seen rain

5. WORD STUDIES

Word Search: Clean: tahowr (taw-hore) adj

From 02891

Usage: Pure, clean (ceremonially, physically)

Easton' Dictionary

Clean: The various forms of uncleanness according to the Mosaic law are enumerated in Lev. 11-15; Num. 19. The division of animals into clean and unclean was probably founded on the practice of sacrifice. It existed before the Flood ([Gen 7:2](#)). The regulations regarding such animals are recorded in Lev. 11 and [Deu 14:1-21](#).

The Hebrews were prohibited from using as food certain animal substances, such as (1) blood; (2) the fat covering the intestines, termed the caul; (3) the fat on the intestines, called the mesentery; (4) the fat of the kidneys; and (5) the fat tail of certain sheep ([Exd 29:13,22](#); [Lev 3:4-9](#); [9:19](#); [17:10](#); [19:26](#)).

The chief design of these regulations seems to have been to establish a system of regimen which would distinguish the Jews from all other nations. Regarding the design and the abolition of these regulations the reader will find all the details in [Lev 20:24-26](#); [Act 10:9-16](#); [11:1-10](#); [Hbr 9:9-14](#).

Noah was a man full of Faith and perfect in his generation Gen 6:9. We see this in his actions through his obedience to God's detailed instructions. He acted on faith not his senses. He acted in obedience. His faithful obedience



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

kept hi as well as his entire family alive. What a blessing to benefit from the obedience of a faithful father or household leader.

7:1 “Righteous” speaking of Noah

In the Old Testament, both the noun (*tsadaq*) and the verb (*tsedeq*), carry with them connotation of being ‘just’ before God. The basic meaning of the word has legal roots that involve the process of justice itself. Hence, someone like Noah is found to be just or righteous before God. The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia notes that “righteous and righteousness,” have always contained both a permanent and a changing element. The permanent aspect being that of the will to do right; the changing factor is the conception of what may be right different times and under different circumstances. In light of the time that Noah lived (before the Mosaic Law), this little insight may be helpful for our understanding.

6. PROPHECIES OF CHRIST – GOSPEL COMPONENT

God Shuts the door

Genesis 7:16 is a powerful verse: *“So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.”*

Noah was told to build a boat, to preach righteousness (2 Peter 2:5), he was not instructed to close the door. He was asked to be faithful, preach, and to believe. But after he finished the boat, the time came for God to *shut the door*. That was the end of the time of salvation.

God’s judgment falls against sin, because God is holy and we live in a world of moral absolutes. If God does not hate and judge sin, then he is not a holy God. The Bible is full of this echoing truth: God hates sin and He will judge sin. There comes a day when God closes the door.

In chapter 6 we saw the parallel between the judgment that God brought in the time of Noah and that of which will come at the second coming of Christ. Genesis 6:5 and Matthew 24: 37-38 are very similar passages. Both times are times when man stands in opposition to God, full of wickedness and totally unaware of the eminent wrath of God.

“For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.” (*Matt 24:38-43*).



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Incase we miss the point; Jesus goes on to repeat it. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. The day and hour we do not know.

When the door of judgment is closed, it will not only be the openly unrighteous pagans that will be left out. The parable of the *Tares among Wheat* in Matthew 13 indicates that even some within the Church are really not God's people. Jesus concludes, "*Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming*" (Matt 25:13). A time of judgment does arrive. See "Soul Winner..." to conclude.

7. BIBLE DIFFICULTIES / PROBLEM PASSAGES

1. How did Noah know what animals were clean and unclean? (7:2)

We don't know for sure. Specific laws regarding what was clean and what wasn't were not given until many years later. (Lev. 5:2 says Or if a person touches any unclean thing, whether it is the carcass of unclean beast, or the carcass of the unclean creeping things, and he is unaware of it, he also shall be unclean and guilty). Some suggest that when God gave the law, he may have symbolized religious concepts by using cultural taboos already in existence. If so Noah could have understood clean and unclean in cultural terms. Or perhaps God revealed which animals were clean and unclean , but we hear only the summarized version of what God said to Noah.

2. Why take more clean than unclean animals? (7:3)

So Noah and his family could offer sacrifices to God after the flood (8:20 says Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offering on it). In addition, only clean animals would be used for food. The practice of using clean rather than unclean animals, for both food and ritual purposes was used observed long before Mosaic restrictions (Lev 11-15).

3. Did God cause the animals to come to Noah? (7:9)

We can't know for sure, some think Noah went on safaris to gather the animals during the years the ark was under construction. Others believe the animals responded to some instinctive sense telling them that disaster was



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

imminent. Still others speculate that a glacial movement of some kind caused a mass migration of the animals.

4. Where did the water come from?

The problem isn't that there isn't enough water on the earth today; it is that because of the topography of the earth, it is all collected into oceans. If the earth were a perfect sphere, the ocean would cover the land to a depth of two and a half to three miles. Before the cataclysmic flood, the earth may have been much nearer to being a perfect sphere

8. SOUL WINNERS SO WHAT

1. Faith without works dead.
2. Your faithful obedience often is a blessing to more than just yourself. In Noah's case, his entire family was chosen to be kept from the danger even though one of his sons turned out to be a bad apple (Ham), but through Shem came the promise of the messiah. It is good to live in the house of a godly man.
3. Believers may go through trying times they should rest in faithful confidence that God will keep them and be with them.

How widespread was the flood?

The case is strong that this flood covered the whole world : (1) It destroyed all life under the heavens (6:17). (2) The waters rose at least 20 feet above all the high mountains (7:19-20). (3) The flood lasted 371 days, indicating more than just local flooding. (4) The final fiery judgment of the whole earth is compared to Noah's flood (2 Peter 3:3-7).

Is today a day that you expect the eminent return of Jesus Christ? If not, remember, it will be at an hour you do not expect. Are you prayerful as to those in your life who aren't saved? Are you living as a light in a dark world? Are you yourself in and of the faith?

In verse 5, we see that "Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him." This underlying theme of obedience becomes the central characteristic that unites all of the major people that God uses throughout the OT (and obviously into the NT and present times).



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Genesis 8

II. BACKGROUND, CULTURE & EXEGESIS

The opening verse says it all ... “then God remembered Noah”, aren’t you glad that God isn’t forgetful?

Moses makes it clear as to the date that the ark rested on Ararat – it was the seventeenth day of the seventh month. The casual reader would go on but the diligent student of the Word may want to dig in here. What’s to discover? What if I told you that the very day the ark rested on Ararat is the same day thousands of years later that a stone was rolled away from a tomb and our risen Lord came forth! That’s right the ark rested on what was to be Easter! Do you see the symbolism here ... both of these events represent new beginnings.

You should know that although the ark rested after 150 days Noah and the gang didn’t make it out until day 371. They left when God spoke to Noah (see verse 15), it obviously took some time for the waters to recede and the earth to dry out.

Now for the answer to the trivia question Why 2 unclean and 7 clean? Upon departing from the ark Noah makes a sacrifice of one of every of the clean animals to God and the result was a pleasing aroma to God. Now that would three pairs of clean animals for mating purposes.

Remember that the world was TOTALLY different when Noah and his family exited the ark. It truly was a new world with a new ecology and environment. One of the reasons for the rainbow may have been simply to ease the fears of what had just taken place ... can you imagine the first time it sprinkled? I’m sure Shem, Ham and Japeth headed for shelter!

2. THEME & AUTHORSHIP

Themes

A couple predominate themes are found in Genesis. First is fact that this is a Book of Beginnings, the great introduction to the drama of redemption.

Second, we see God preparing a people – here we have God choosing and then testing. Whether it is Abraham, Isaac, Jacob or Noah for that matter God chooses and then begins to winnow and purge. Remember the goal is to create a people who would fulfill Genesis 3:15. It will be here that the initial step will be taken for man’s redemption by a divine covenant made with a chosen race whose early history is here portrayed.



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Author – Moses / Date - 1450 – 1410 BC

3. Theology

Genesis 8:21b “Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood.”

Have you ever watched young kids play together in a sandbox? For several minutes or even hours they can get along famously, but unavoidably someone doesn't get their way and a fight breaks out. You have to wonder how these young, mostly untainted, kids can constantly find things to fight about, until you come upon this verse in Genesis 8. You can look at a verse like this in two different ways, one is that you can focus on the depravity of all mankind. You look around at our world and things begin to make sense. We see the violence, lawlessness, and sexual sin that pervades our culture and a verse like this begins to make some sense of it all. We really shouldn't be surprised by the things that make the news, we should expect it, and expect it to get worse.

The other way you can look at this is, if our world is so jacked, that every inclination of mankind is evil even from childhood, how does it stay together at all? Why don't we have complete anarchy all the time? If we are all born selfish and self serving, then why don't we see people fighting and killing each other at ten times the rate at which we see it now? What holds people back? What controls society to make it a somewhat coherent, functioning entity? There must be something that holds us back, that makes even the most evil of people have some self control. There is, its God. John Wesley called it “Prevenient Grace”, John Calvin called it “Common Grace”, and it's the glue that holds the world together. We should be able to look at our world, knowing in the back of our heads how wicked all men truly are, and thank God that he holds it together by his grace.

Soul Winner, So What

God's grace holds our world together and in fact holds your life together, how are you responding to that Grace?

4. ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

- **Genesis 8:1** - God had mercy on Noah, and remembered him.
- **Genesis 8:11** - God's word is living and active - The olive leaf in the doves mouth is a symbol of peace and restoration.
- **Genesis 8:21** - God had grace on mankind with his promise to never again curse the ground for mans sake.
- **Genesis 8:15** - God speaks to Man - he spoke with Noah.



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

- God has the ability to save us (**whole chapter**)
- **God evaluates us** -(v.21) ²¹And 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.
- God uses symbolism-
 - 40- rains came for 40 days & subsided for 40 days
 - Dove (v.12)- Noah sent out a dove
 - Olive leaf (v.11)- is a sign of peace
 - Smooth aroma (v21)- sign that God accepted our sacrifice
- **God speaks directly to us**- (v.15) "Then God spoke to Noah, saying,"
- **God is filled with grace**- (v.21) he gives humanity a second chance "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." Even though man is evil, God won't repeat overwhelming judgment till the final judgment.

5. WORD STUDIES

Verse 8:1 Then God remembered Noah and every living thing, and all the animals that were with him in the ark..."

Word Search: "remembered" Hebrew: "zakar" (zaw-kar')
Strong's # 02142

זָכַר

Few things we should consider reading this verse that God remembered Noah:

1. This is an "anthropomorphism" (associating human characteristics to God). It's not that God ever forgot about Noah, it's that God has again pointed his attention on Noah.
2. This is an act of God's grace that he has returned to mankind. He has remembered mercy in wrath. He has remembered the promise of a messiah.

6. PROPHECIES OF CHRIST – GOSPEL COMPONENT

Gen 8:20-21

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. 21And 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.



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

God accepted Noah's sacrifice. The soothing aroma that God received was that which was birthed in the heart of Noah from God Himself by divine grace. It was a sacrifice of praise, a sacrifice for the remission of sin. There was no forgiving power in the sacrifice itself, but only that which the sacrifice was a picture of—the finished work of the One in whom would be the fulfillment of the promise—Jesus Christ, the eternal *soothing aroma*.

It was by faith that Noah *“became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith”*

(Hebrews 11:7).

Throughout the Bible we see time and time again, God showing His love and patience towards mankind in order to save them. Every time man either sins or walks away from God and His divine grace; we deserve His ultimate wrath. Although God knows the heart of every man and the evil within, he continues His attempt to reach the heart of man through that which he has revealed through creation, let alone the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Although man has revealed the evil in his heart throughout history, God promised not to destroy the earth again by way of a worldwide flood. Although we will never again see a flood, which will destroy the earth, we are however promised that *“...the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men”* (2 Peter 3:7).

Because of the once and for all *soothing aroma* of the Lord, we (as believers) will not be partakers in that catastrophe because of *“Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come”* (1 Thess. 1:10), *“For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us...”* (1 Thess. 5:9). See **Soul Winner So What** for application...

7. BIBLE DIFFICULTIES / PROBLEM PASSAGES

1. Why did Noah release a raven?

To discover if land had reappeared .If it did not return, Noah might assume, since ravens feed on carrion that it had been able to locate corpses that had washed ashore. It did not prove to be reliable indicator, however since it was able to fly around waiting for the land to reappear.

2. What's special about an olive leaf?

These leaves were taken from trees on the lower plains that were sprouting leaves again. The olive branch has become a symbol for peace, perhaps because it signaled the end of God's judgment.



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

3. Why did God promise not to repeat such judgment?

It seems likely that his decision was more than just a response to the prayer and sacrifice of Noah. Perhaps God had all of human history in view and wanted to ensure that the normal cycles and processes of nature would continue unabated for as long as the earth would last. People can count on summer and winter, day and night, seedtime and harvest, these will never again cease as long as the earth endures.

9. SOUL WINNERS SO WHAT

“Never forget in the dark what God has shown you in the light.” Noah, like many men of faith, may determine too soon that God has forgotten them especially when their ordeal seems more gruesome than expected. God however, remembers those who remember Him and His promises. Men can rest assured in God’s covenants. In this case He has left us with a sign of his covenant the “Rainbow” (Gen 9:13). When you see one, remember God’s covenant of his mercy and grace upon your life.

As believers, all of God’s holy, righteous anger and wrath was poured out upon His Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Because we know of the wrath to come upon those who do not believe, let us remember from where we have come...*“And you he made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins...among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lust of the flesh...and by nature children of wrath, just as the others”* (Ephesians 2:1,3)...and may we be quick to live and share His gospel truth in love.

God remembered Noah and allowed him and his family to repopulate the earth. He presented God with an offering that was pleasing and accepted. Then God made a huge promise, He would not destroy the living again, until the day of judgement, even though man is evil! Why? Because of the Obedience and righteous of 1 man. 2 words that are far more than just adjectives. To those who profess Christianity (Lil Christ's) they are the foundation of our faith. JESUS himself said, (**Not all people who sound religious are really godly. they may refer to me as Lord, but they won't enter the Kingdom of Heaven, the decisive issue is whether they OBEY, my FATHER in HEAVEN**). You don't have to know the whole Bible, or all the History,(but make sure you learn along the way) What matters



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

most is the action not just talking about it but actually living a righteous life and obeying the word of GOD. Noah is one of the greatest examples we have and we witnessed his obedience not because of scripture he quoted but because to God's word he followed, don't miss your blessing!

GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Genesis 9

III. BACKGROUND, CULTURE & EXEGESIS

Wow – we got a lot going on in this chapter – remember “Where’s Waldo”? See if you can find all of these references of the following in Genesis 9.

1. Noah is given dominion of the earth and animals
2. The first Big Mac? Man is no longer a vegetarian
3. God begins to teach about the importance of blood (first of seven references)
4. Capital punishment is ordained
5. Human government is authorized
6. Then there’s the whole Rainbow thing
Here we learn that the Flood was worldwide – otherwise the promise was not kept (read the fine print)
7. Flood wiped out sinful man; but not sin!
Man is subject to an inherited genetic defect
8. Shem – the line that Abraham descended (10:21-32 / 11:10-26)
9. There is the weird issue with Ham (the father of Canaan)
What actually took place here? Was it sexual in nature, castration or simply a matter of Ham not honoring his father?
10. Wine is invented!
Cheers the heart
Alleviates pain
Intoxication – sexual looseness
11. Ham’s sons – Canaanites known for their sexual exploits
12. The Japhites became masters of the world – from that day to this no Semitic or Hamitic race has succeeded in breaking the world supremacy of the Japhetic peoples

Finally – check out the parallels between:

Adam and Noah

- 1:12 Adam followed after the earth emerged from the waters
- 1:28 Adam appointed the Lord of creation
Adam told to be fruitful, multiply, replenish
Adam in the garden – Noah in a vineyard (sin exposes their nakedness)
Adam & Noah – 3 sons

2. THEME & AUTHORSHIP

Themes

A couple predominate themes are found in Genesis. First is fact that this is a Book of Beginnings, the great introduction to the drama of redemption.

Second, we see God preparing a people – here we have God choosing and then testing. Whether it is Abraham, Isaac, Jacob or Noah for that matter God chooses and then begins to



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

winnow and purge. Remember the goal is to create a people who would fulfill Genesis 3:15. It will be here that the initial step will be taken for man's redemption by a divine covenant made with a chosen race whose early history is here portrayed.

Author – Moses / **Date** - 1450 – 1410 BC

3. Theology

Something that was ingrained into me by my parents from a very young age was don't make a promise that you can't keep. They told me it was better to not say anything than to promise to do something I couldn't fulfill. Through the years I have broken my fair share of promises and had many promises made to me and broken. God makes promises to us as well. All throughout scripture he promises us things, for instance he tells us in the Gospels that he won't leave us or forsake us. But God has special promises that he makes, and those he calls covenants. We see in Chapter 9 the first such covenant, the Noahic covenant, in verses 16 and 17. God promises that he will never send another flood to wipe out the entire earth. Later on in Genesis we will see God make a covenant with Abraham that his descendants will be blessed and be a blessing to the world. God's covenants are promises that we can truly hold onto and trust, because he can never break his promises.

Soul Winner, So What

God's promises are unwavering, you can do nothing to fall out of favor with the Lord because you did nothing to gain it.

Small Group Question

What promises of God can we hold onto everyday to remind us of his presence?

4. ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

Tommy Moseley

(Genesis 9:1) - God blessed Noah and his family - The blessing of God on the family of Noah provides a new beginning for humankind

(Genesis 3:2) - God gave the command to be fruitful and multiply. This is a blessing because that was the original command given in Genesis 1:28. (1 Peter 3:21)

(Genesis 9:2-7) God has dominion over the animals, even to the point of causing them to fear man.

(Genesis 9:4-7) Even in the midst of apparent freedom, God has rules

(Genesis 9:8-17) God establishes covenants, and his covenant will be eternal.

(Genesis 9:12) God can give a sign of his covenants, things to remind us of his grace and mercy, as well as his promises.

Soul Winner, So What -



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

This chapter has a lot to do with the covenant that God made with Noah. The thing to realize is that this was the covenant that was also made with Adam and Eve. Through sin, they were not able to experience the fullness of the blessing of walking in the covenant. What covenants has God made with you, is you sin keeping you from experiencing all that it can be?

Small Group Question:

Define the word covenant. Why did God choose to re-establish his relationship with Noah and his family through a covenant (**Genesis 9:8-17**)? What is the difference between this covenant with Noah and the original relationship with Adam and Eve (**Genesis 2**)? How has sin affected both the Adam and Eve covenant, as well as the Noah covenant?

5. WORD STUDIES

Word Search/ Bible difficulty **Gen 9:6**

“Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed.” NKJV

“And murder is forbidden. Animals that kill people must die, and any person who murders must be killed.” NLT

Word: Shed, Kill, Murder

The real question here refers to God ordaining capital punishment for murder. How can God ordain someone to be killed when Exodus 20:13 states clearly that “You shall not murder”?

Two different Hebrew words help understand this Bible difficulty. “*Harag*” is the usual word for the violent killing of people by others. It is used for a range of unjustified killings as in the case of Cain and Able (Gen. 4:25). This word uses “killing” as an event without moral distinctions. Another Hebrew word “*Rasah*” is used to describe a personal killing, accidental or premeditated. This word is never used to describe judicial executions ordered by legal authority, or killing in war. “*Rasah*”, used in Ex. 20:13 is not a blanket condemnation for all killings. Gen 9:6 holds the community responsible to kill the person who murders another.

Note to that the O.T. law carefully distinguishes between intentional and accidental killings. Num. 35 describes the institution of “Cities of refuge” that someone who accidentally killed another could go to for safety. But there is no such grace for a murderer. Num 35:31 “Do not accept a ransom for the life of a murderer, who deserves to die. He must surely be put to death.”

Other crimes worthy of capital punishment include: Cursing a parent, Striking a parent and kidnapping. (Exodus 21:15-17; Deut. 27:16)



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

This law was founded on the principal that God made humans in His likeness and there is no compensation great enough to balance the scale when a murder has been committed.

Soul Winner, So What

Know that you have been made in His image. Your life is not your own so you can't do with it as you please, nor can you do with someone else as you please. Life belongs to God. If you love God you should see your life as a living sacrifice and live to please him and respect all of humanity. Learn that Capitol punishment was not set up to prevent murderer but to show society the sanctity of Human life.

Small Group Question

Is your life a living sacrifice for God? How do you abuse God's sanctity for your life or others? How does this affect your opinion and stance on capitol Punishment or abortion?

6. PROPHECIES OF CHRIST – GOSPEL COMPONENT

Genesis 9:12-17

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...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."

The rainbow is a symbolic reminder that God will never again destroy the earth by way of a worldwide flood. The covenant made with Noah is one in which is an everlasting covenant. The word "everlasting can refer to either "the end of time" or "through eternity future." The other "everlasting covenants" described in scripture are: **The Abrahamic covenant:** *And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.*" (Gen. 17:7-8), in which was a covenant relationship between God and Israel; the "sign" of which was _____?

The Priestly covenant: *Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: "Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned back My wrath from the children of Israel...Therefore say, 'Behold, I give to him My covenant of peace; 13and it shall be to him and his descendants after him a covenant of an everlasting priesthood, because he was zealous for his God, and made atonement for the children of Israel.' " Num. 25:10-12). From this family line would come all future Priests. What does Psalm 106:30-31 describe for us as to this promise? According to Ezekiel 40:46; 44:10,15; 48:11 How far does this promise extend?*



GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

The Davidic covenant: *"Although my house is not so with God, Yet He has made with me an everlasting covenant, Ordered in all things and secure. For this is all my salvation and all my desire Will He not make it increase? Although David's house had failed, he truly believed that the Lord would not fail, and would fulfill the promise of hope known as "the seed of David." What does doe's Romans 1:3 tell us about Jesus? Jesus was not only the "offspring of David," but according to Rev. 5:5; 22:16 is also the _____ of David.*

The New covenant: *"Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah... No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." (Jer. 31:31,34). Here we see that God promised a New Covenant that would be of a spiritual significance in bringing people to a personal salvation. Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. (Matthew 26:27-28). The blood of a sacrifice is always that which certified covenants. Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, is the only one in whose blood has the ability to cleanse. Just as "the life is in the blood" so also, eternal life comes only by faith in the One who shed His sinless blood. In turn, all O.T. blood sacrifice was only a picture of that which was to come through Christ.*

Soul Winner, So What?

Having the knowledge of God's everlasting covenants, how ought a member of that covenantal relationship be living his life?

Small Groups Question

In all of the covenants listed above, what sign of blood was there in each?

7. SOUL WINNERS SO WHAT

As a result of obedience, Noah and his sons were blessed with the command to be fruitful and multiply. God also made it clear man was to have power over all animals, and reminded everyone that man was made in Gods image, human life was to be respected above all else. If one murders they are to be taken out (Old Law). He promised never to send a flood again, as a reminder, He gave us the rainbow. So the next time you see a rainbow, know that it has absolutely nothing to do with homosexuality, but everything to do with God and his eternal covenant between man and God. The word then reminds us just in case we ever think we are holier than thou, no one is immune to sin. No matter how Godly a person is. Whoever would have thought faithful Noah, the word clearly states, "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of GOD" (Romans 3:23).

