

Life After the Flood – Part 3

Introduction & Review

- God's command to Noah for procreation after the flood is a new beginning for humanity (Gen. 9:1, 7; 1:28).
- God's command to Noah for dominion over animal life is also an aspect of the new beginning – based on “fear” (Gen. 9:2).
- God's provision for food after the flood includes the killing & eating of animals (Gen. 9:3-4; 1:29-30).
- God uses fear as a means of protection after the flood – fear of people in animals (Gen. 9:2) & fear of God in people (Gen. 9:5).
- All people are created in the image of God & murder of a person results in the death penalty (Gen. 9:6).

I. The Covenant (Gen. 9:8-17)

A. The Participants (Gen. 9:8-11)

God is always the source & initiator of a blessing or anything good (v. 8). A covenant is a formal agreement between two parties. This covenant was unconditional – no stated obligations from Noah & others. This covenant is made with everyone & everything on the ark that would populate the earth (v. 9-10). God promised to never destroy the earth again by a flood (v. 11).

B. The Sign (Gen. 9:12-17)

When God makes a promise, He knows that people need some form of assurance & reminder (v. 12-14). The rainbow in the heavens was to be associated with a divine promise that was initiated, sustained & will be completed (v. 15-17). It is a reminder from heaven that God is eternally alive, faithful, ruling & caring for His creation!

II. The Failure (Gen. 9:18-23)

A. A father's sin (Gen. 9:18-21)

Noah was a faithful & righteous father who raised 3 sons that God delivered thru the flood (Gen. 9:18-19). Noah was a farmer just like Adam (Gen. 2:15; 9:20). Like Adam: Noah sinned in weakness, experienced shame of nakedness & saw the effect of his sin on his sons (Gen. 3:7; 4:8; 9:21). Noah is

the first instance of drunkenness in the bible – no verbal condemnation & no more commendations in OT.

B. His sons' responses (Gen. 9:22-23)

Ham was the youngest son of Noah (v. 24). He dishonored & disrespected his father – “saw” & “told” (v. 22). After the garden, all humanity knows that nakedness needs to be covered up. He attempted to disgrace & humiliate his father in a moment of weakness – unworthy of honor (Ex. 20:5). Shem & Japheth honored & respected their father – “covered”, “turned backward”, “did not see” (v. 23). Ham responded like Satan in the garden; Shem & Japheth responded like God in covering Adam & Eve.

III. The Future (Gen. 9:24-29)

A. The curse (Gen. 9:24-25)

When Noah awakened & sobered up, he learned of Ham's sin (v. 24). Noah is still God's spokesman [grace] & is now filled with the spirit of prophecy. The descendants Ham's youngest son Canaan will be lowly & debased servants of Israel (v. 25) – Egyptians & Canaanites [10:6]. This curse is another similarity of the garden (Gen. 3:14, 17).

B. The blessing (Gen. 9:26-28)

The blessing for all humanity will come from the Lord through the descendants of Shem (v. 26) – Israel & Christ [11:10ff]. The descendants of Japheth will prosper & grow with the blessing of God in harmony with the descendants of Shem (v. 27). As in the garden, God can bring great blessing even after such awful sin – He's worthy of praise!