

God's Covenant with Noah (After the flood)

Hebrews 9:11-17

Psalm 89:1-11

Genesis 8:20-9:17



24 July 2022

Pressing forward toward our goals

- Are we growing in our relationship with God? James 4:8; Matthew 7:21-23; Colossians 1:9-10.
- What are we doing to grow in our knowledge of God? Daniel 11:32; Jeremiah 4:22; Hosea 4:6; Psalm 1:1-3.

What we learnt last week

- Noah's ark is a picture of Christ - Christ, like the Ark, was God's only safety from God's judgment.
- Grace, faith and works always go together (Ephesians 2:8-10; James 2:14-26; Philippians 2:12-13).
- The long-suffering of God came to an end when God destroyed the entire earth with a flood, saving only Noah, his family and some selected animals.

The Unfolding of God's Everlasting Covenant

1. The Adamic - Genesis 2:16-17
 2. The Noahic - Genesis 9:1-17
 3. The Abrahamic - Genesis 15:18
 4. The Mosaic - Exodus 24:7,8; Exodus 34:27
 5. The Levitic - Numbers 25:10-13; Malachi 2:4-5
 6. The Davidic - 2 Samuel 23:5; 2 Chronicles 13:5
 7. The New Covenant/Messianic - Isaiah 42:6; Jeremiah 31:31-34.
- ★ When we make time to study and understand these covenants, our understanding of God's everlasting covenant will be deepened and the Gospel will be more glorious to us.

God initiates a covenant with Noah and every living creature-

Genesis 9:1-17

- The covenants are all from God, nothing from man. Nothing outside God made Him come up with this covenant. (Remember God's seven 'I Wills' in Jeremiah 31:31-40; Jeremiah 32:36-41; Genesis 9:8-11; Genesis 6:18)
- This covenant is a covenant of grace based upon shed blood (Genesis 8:20-21).

Elements of the Covenant:

- The occasion - It was as it were the beginning of a new world. There was to be a fresh start after the flood. This is the first time that we read of God blessing anything since He had blessed unfallen man in Eden (Genesis 1:28).
- The source - God (Genesis 9:11,12,13,15).
- The basis - based on blood sacrifice (Genesis 8:20). It is made by God with Noah not Noah with God, hence it is unconditional.
- The contents -While the earth remains the seasons will continue and it will not be destroyed by a flood (Genesis 8:22; Genesis 9:11).
- The design - It was a merciful act of God to set the minds of Noah and all living creatures at rest and assure them that He would no longer destroy the earth with a flood. It was also an affirmation of God as Creator, for He controls the times and seasons (Genesis 8:21; Genesis 1:1).
- The requirements - God commands against the eating of blood and God proclaims capital punishment for murder (Genesis 9:4-6).
- The token - God's bow in the cloud (Genesis 9:12-16).
- ✓ God's eternal purpose unfolds even after the flood - man must still be fruitful and replenish the earth (Genesis 9:1).
- ✓ God's eternal purpose is to make a people for Himself; therefore, humans must still inhabit the earth, even after the flood. Over and over again man fails to believe and obey God, but He comes with a new covenant on each occasion. This demonstrates the faithfulness of God and the faithlessness of man (2 Timothy 2:13; Isaiah 43:25).

Noah: A Picture of Jesus (the man)

- When Noah was born his father (Lamech) prophesied that: 'this one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands' (Genesis 5:28-29). This prophecy foreshadows the prophecy of the angel concerning Jesus: "He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:20-21; Matthew 11:28).

- Noah found grace in the eyes of God (Genesis 6:8). Similarly, Jesus is God's beloved Son in whom God is well pleased (Matthew 3:17).
- Noah was a just man in his generation but he had no inherent righteousness but it was imputed to him by God (Genesis 6:9). Noah foreshadowed Jesus, who was the only inherently and intrinsically righteous person to ever walk on earth (2 Corinthians 5:21; Luke 23:47; Luke 23:13-14).
- Noah was perfect in his generation (remember Noah's evil generation- Gen. 6:1-7). Likewise, Jesus was uncontaminated by the sins of the world, He is the only perfect One (Hebrews 7:26).
- Noah walked with God as Jesus walked with God throughout His ministry on earth (Genesis 6:9; 5:24; Luke 4:3-4; Luke 2:52; John 4:34).
- Noah obeyed God completely in his commission to build the ark for the saving of his family (Genesis 6:22; Genesis 7:5). Likewise, Jesus obeyed God completely in order that His family (His Bride; His Church) might escape the judgment of God (John 15:10; Philippians 2:8; John 17:4).
- Noah laid aside his reputation as Christ laid aside His (Philippians 2:5-8).

Noah's Offering: A picture of Christ's Atonement - Genesis 8:20-22

- Noah built an altar as Jesus Christ is our Altar (Hebrews 13:10-12; Exodus 20:22-26; Isaiah 53:1-3).
- Noah offered clean animals and a clean bird as an offering to God (even before the law, God taught him how to approach Him. Consider Abel's offering) - Jesus was without spot or blemish, He was the purest and cleanest sacrifice (1 Peter 1:18-19; 2 Corinthians 5:20-21).
- Noah offered a burnt offering to God - Jesus offered Himself wholly to God as an atonement for the sins of His people (Leviticus 1:1-3; John 10:17-18).
- Noah's offering was a soothing aroma to God as Christ's offering was a sweet-smelling aroma to God (Ephesians 5:2).
- As a result of Noah's offering God made a promise not to destroy the entire earth with a flood and to sustain the seasons, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth (Genesis 8:21-22). God has been faithful to His covenant for over 4,000 years (Meditate on this!). We see God's sovereign grace over sinful man.

- NB: This is a promise not to destroy the earth with water/flood but this present world will be destroyed by fire in the day of judgment (2 Peter 3:5-7).
- As a result of Christ's offering the wrath of God is satisfied and the elect are fully justified in the courtroom of God, in spite of their sins. Here we see the display of God's sovereign grace over the sins of the elect because of the obedience and death of Christ.

In response to God's Faithfulness in spite of our continuous sins we are to:

- Repent of our unbelief and disobedience (Acts 17:30-31; Acts 20:21; Luke 13:1-5; Luke 24:47; Mark 9:24; Hebrews 3:12-13).
- Believe God (if we believe God, we will obey His commandments) - Genesis 15:6; Acts 8:37; John 3:18, 36; Hebrews 3:18-19.
- Offer ourselves (body, soul and spirit) as living sacrifices unto God as Noah offered a burnt offering to God and as Christ offered Himself wholly to God (Romans 12:1-2).
- Love God with all our heart, with all our strength and with all our mind. We love God by keeping His commandments (Matthew 22:37; Deuteronomy 6:5; John 14:15; John 14:21; John 15:10).
- Be imitators of God and walk in love (love for God and love for one another) as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us (Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 John 4:7-8; John 15:12-14).
- Glorify and praise God for His faithfulness (1 Peter 2:9-10; Ephesians 1:5-6,12; Psalm 115:1-3; Revelations 4:9-11).