

The Corruption of Man, the Flood & God's only WAY of salvation

- A. God was sorry He had made man and through the flood, He baptized everything into destruction.
 1. Every intent of man's heart was evil continually. Contrast this with what God intended for man in the garden.
 2. The flood reveals God's frustration and grief which displayed His personal connection with humankind. His sovereignty operates in the deepest connection with our existence.
 3. The Scripture reveals a God who is not transcendently emotionless but rather infinitely compassionate and empathetic with our infirmities. What kind of God is this?
 4. 7:21, 22 God denied Himself in destroying everything with the breath of the spirit of life. He would ultimately even destroy His own Son for the cleansing of the world!!!
 5. DISCUSSION: How many of us have felt in the midst of despair, like tossing in the towel? How does it make you feel to know that God is so connected that He grieved over decisions and the results of decisions gone awry. He knows each hair on our heads. He knows our struggles intimately beyond our comprehension. He goes to extreme lengths to connect with us; this is supremely demonstrated and proved in Jesus Christ.
- B. However, God identified one particular generation that would be saved. Noah alone found favor in the eyes of the Lord.
 1. In a world where we may not think we have anything to offer, how do we stand in the eyes of the Lord?
 2. What do the eyes of the Lord find when He examines our lives? Does the **name of the Lord** (His identity) mark our lives? Are we a part of the generation of Jesus Christ (the true ark) which is saved?
 3. Note that in this unit on man's downfall and sinful condition (chs.3-11), only ONE WAY of salvation is revealed – the ARK. The ark was a prototype of the true ark – JESUS CHRIST, the ONE WAY is be saved from the human problem identified and described in these chapters.
 4. DISCUSSION: Consider Noah's identity. What was he known for? What are we known for? What do we want known about us?
 5. Ultimate consideration: What SINGULAR, unique identity does God accept as righteous?
- C. **The Covenant that pleased God** (8:20 – 9:6)
 1. clean animal and bird offered as a burnt offering (**CHRIST**)
 2. BECAUSE of this **OFFERING**, God would never again destroy by a flood of water and while the earthed remains, the physical creation would continue and not cease.

3. (9:1-6) Fear of man and forbidden eating of blood – the preciousness of blood / life! How much should we care for the blood / life of our fellow man!
 - The health and vitality of our minds, hearts, and souls depend on how we see the life of our fellow man.
 4. The positive commandment – “...be fruitful and multiply;”
 5. Continual confirmation of the covenant – the Bow of God, the Rainbow.
 - **Rainbow** = Mercy of God
 - **Rainbow** = Faithfulness of God
 - **Rainbow** = Light of God broken into its various components for us to see and understand the many facets of His love; how much do we need to analyze and seek to understand His love.
- D. Noah’s family is clearly identified as the repopulators of the earth.
1. Ham saw his dad and did not cover his shame.
 2. As a result, Ham’s son, Canaan, was cursed. The responsibility to not expose one’s father’s shame is critically significant.
 3. DISCUSSION: How might we expose our father’s shame? What is the right thing to do (looking at Shem and Japheth)?

One People and One Language Became Many People with Many Languages

Ch.10 The Descendants of Noah

Discussion: From the chapter’s contents, what can we gather and conclude about Noah’s descendants who repopulated the earth?

Ch.11 The Tower of Babel: Universal language...leads to Confusion

This chapter appears to be a recap of chapter 10 which explains how the nations’ languages arose. It is just like Genesis 1 and 2. The chapter which follows gets our attention onto what God wants us to see and understand (that which is significant) about the previous chapter.

Discussion: How does this give us an introductory context for the entrance of God’s redemption plan beginning with Abram in the next chapter?

P.S. Genesis 12 to Revelation 22 is the unfolding of God’s Master Plan, our next unit of study.