

REVIEW

Covenant Theology: the unity of the Bible; God's plan of redemption for humankind.

Gen. 1-2 : Creation, **Covenant of Works** (obey and be blessed; follow my word and live!)

Creation Ordinances: ✦ Fellowship/marriage ✦ procreation ✦ work ✦ rest

Make my glory known and therein lies your richest blessings!

Gen. 3 : The fall, **Covenant of Grace** (the Seed is promised).

Gen. 4-5 : Genealogies of Cain and Seth; spiritually of the serpent and of the woman.

Gen. 6:5 *Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

Gen. 6:6-7 God was grieved and planned to destroy man from the face of the earth.

Gen. 6:8 *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.*

Gen. 6:9 *This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.*

God's grace makes man righteous.
Verse 8 results in verse 9,
not the other way around.

God preserves the woman's lineage that will bring about the promised Seed.

Genesis 6:17 *And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die.*

Gen. 6:18 *But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons wives with you.*

Male headship
Noah's family is spared from the flood because of Noah's righteousness.

Gen. 7-8 : the flood and how the flood waters recede.
The flood is a **historical event**. Many different cultures have accounts about the great flood.



Genesis 9:1-17 God's Covenant with Noah

The **R**eestablishment of the Creation Ordinances (1-7)

The **E**stablishment of the Noahic Covenant (8-11)

The **S**ign of the Noahic Covenant (12-17)

The **T**ruerest that Noah is Pointing To

The Reestablishment of the Creation Ordinances (vv. 1-7)

Verses 1 and 7: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth."

Marriage/Fellowship
Procreation
Work & Dominion

Gen. 1:28 *Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.*

Gen. 9:2-3 *The fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast... They are given into your hand. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs.*

God gives man dominion over the earth & animals.

We tend to go off balance—**majoring in minors:**

- Advocate for animal rights vs. the unborn babies
- Love for animals/pets vs. love for our neighbors
- Attention to nature vs. attention to the word of God

<u>God's Design:</u> God Man Beast	<u>Sinful Tendency:</u> Beast Man God
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Gen. 9:4 *But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is its blood*.*

Calvin says that it is “a savage and barbarous thing to devour lives, or to swallow down living flesh. ... Yet we must remember, that this restriction was part of the old law.” (Gal. 5:1)

**Refer to the last page to see more about the significance of blood in the Bible.*

Verse 4 points to a greater reality:

Gen. 9:5 *Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning: from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man. 6 Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed. For in the image of God he made man.*

God owns lives. He assigns man to carry out justice.

Satan is in the business of sabotaging lives (physical & spiritual).

While the world is busy taking lives, God says to his people:

Gen. 9:7 *And as for you, be fruitful and multiply; Bring forth abundantly in the earth and multiply in it.*

The Establishment of the Noahic Covenant (vv. 8-11)

Verses 8 and 11: *“I establish my covenant with you.”*

The covenant with Noah is not a new covenant.

“Establish” signifies a perpetuation of an existing covenant.

The Noahic Covenant paves the way to the fulfillment of the **Covenant of Grace.**

God condescended and bound himself in an agreement with the whole creation.

Gen. 9:9-10 *And as for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you: the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you, of all that go out of the ark, every beast of the earth.*

Gen. 9:11 *Thus I establish my covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.*

Gen. 8:21-22 *ESV ... 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. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.*

Precisely **because** man is evil, God promises to sustain day and night, season and harvest until the day the **Promised Seed** crushes Satan under our feet.

Nature does not only bear witness to God's majesty and glory as the **Creator**, but also to his **forbearance and patience**, and his **faithfulness** in keeping his Word to **redeem** his people.

This is a double-edged sword, bringing condemnation to those who mocks and refuses to repent. (Psalm 19; Rom. 2:4-5).

The Sign of the Noahic Covenant (vv. 12-17)

Verses 12 and 17: "This is the sign of the covenant."

RAINBOW. Who needs the sign?? Not God, definitely!

It's given so that our eyes may see, our faith may be confirmed.

The sacraments—God's signs and seals: same purpose.

It is given to the covenant people to remind us of his promise.

A bow bespeaks terror. The rainbow signals peace/rest.
The rainbow faces upwards, not to threaten the creation.
The darker the cloud, The brighter the rainbow.

Seeing God's patience, Man will either repent and fear God or sin and mock God.
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2 Pet. 3:3-4 ... Scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."

Peter continues in vv. 5-7, saying that that they **wilfully** forget that **by the word of God** heaven and earth stand, perish by flood, preserved by the same word, reserved for fire until the day of judgment.

The True Rest that Noah is Pointing to

Three creation ordinances reinstated (vv. 1-7). Where is rest? **Noah (Noakh) means "rest."**

*Gen. 5:28-29 Lamech lived 182 years, and he had a son. And he called his name Noah, saying, "This one will **comfort us** (*yenakhamenu*) concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the Lord has cursed."*

Lamech probably thought Noah would help him in his daily labour.

But God used Noah to bring rest to his house and the earth from the evil generations.

Sin, however, is still there after the flood. Noah sinned. His son sinned. Everyone sinned.

Noah is NOT the Promised Seed that crushed the serpent's head.

God sustains day and night and season and harvest, because the Promised Seed is yet to come!

There were more covenants to come that'd make the identity of this seed unmistakably clear.

Spoiler alert: Jesus Christ is the Seed who brings the total deliverance from sin and eternal rest!

Jesus, the eternal God, came to live and die as a man in order to deliver us from sin and death!

But he rose again! He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father.

Jesus will come again to bring full redemption (body and soul) for those who believe!

Rom. 8:23-24 ESV And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. ...

Noah had **faith** in God and obeyed him. He hoped for the salvation that comes from God alone.

Noah is a **type of Christ**: ordained by God to represent Christ before his first coming.

Paul describes Adam as a type (*tupos*) of Christ (Rom. 5:14).

SUMMARY

1. **The duty of man as image bearers** is still binding: Proclaim God's glory!
2. **Judgment Day** is coming! *He is not slack concerning his promise* (2 Pet 3:8-10). Repent!
3. God's **grace restored** fallen Noah into a just, perfect man (Gen. 6:8-9). Believe!
4. **Obedience** helps us see God's work in us, to confirm us of our salvation. Obey!
5. **The sign** is given to strengthen our faith. Be baptized! Profess your faith and join the table!
6. God **preserves** his saints and will establish them, making them stand on the judgment day.

1 Peter 5:10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

God sustains each day so that you may proclaim his glory to the world that is lost.
Each day is one day closer to the coming of the Lord.

How have you been using your time?

Be sober-minded, be watchful. (1 Pet. 5:8)

Suffer well, for it is but for a while! (1 Pet. 5:9)

If you have not put your faith in Jesus Christ, you will not stand in the Day of Judgment!

God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. (1 Pet. 5:7)

Humble yourselves! Come to Jesus and find true rest in him!

The word "blood" is used 424 times in NKJV.

But our respect for blood is not based on mysticism or superstition, but simply because **blood represents the life of the being**, whether animal or human. **What blood represents:**

- Blood was the sign of mercy for Israel at the first Passover (Exo 12:13).
- Blood sealed God's covenant with Israel (Exo 24:8).
- Blood sanctified the altar (Exo 29:12).
- Blood set aside the priests (Exo 29:20).
- Jesus's blood made atonement for God's people (Exo 30:10).
- Jesus's blood sealed the new covenant (Mat 26:28).
- Jesus's blood justifies us (Rom 5:9).
- Jesus's blood brings redemption (Eph 1:7).
- Jesus's blood brings peace with God (Col 1:20).
- Jesus's blood cleanses us (Heb 9:14 and 1Jn 1:7).
- Jesus's blood gives entrance to God's holy place (Heb 10:19).
- Jesus's blood sanctifies us (Heb 13:12).
- Jesus's blood enables us to overcome Satan (Rev 12:11).