

Part 3: The Covenant with Noah

The Covenant Itself

- ✦ Gen. 6:18-22
- ✦ Gen. 8:20-22
- ✦ Gen. 9:1-7
- ✦ Gen. 9:8-17

Promised blessings

- ✦ God will never again curse the ground or kill all living creatures.
- ✦ Seedtime and harvest, day and night will continue as long as the earth exists.
- ✦ Man may now eat meat.

Faithful response

- ✦ Trust and built the ark.
- ✦ Subdue and fill the earth (the creation mandate still applies; we are to work in the world instead of just waiting to escape).
- ✦ Recognize the sanctity of life.

Jesus' fulfillment

- ✦ Ephesians 5:2 — Jesus' sacrifice is the fragrant offering that turns aside God's wrath (Gen. 8:21).

- ✦ 2 Peter 3:4-13 — Jesus' second coming is delayed even after His work on the cross because of God's patience and concern for the whole world.
- ✦ Matthew 28:19 — Now that Jesus has come, the gospel can go out to every nation.

Continuing promises

- ✦ We don't have to live in terror of catastrophic changes in the natural order (2012, climate change, killer bees etc.)
- ✦ We have been graciously granted time to share the gospel; how are we using that time?

Old Testament Readings

- ✦ Terms and ideas to look for: God's rule over nature, Baal-worship, disregard for life, capital punishment, rainbow.
- ✦ Hosea 2:14-23 — God's covenant with all of creation is set as the backdrop to His patient redemption of His people.
- ✦ Psalm 19:1-6 — The orderliness of the elements bears witness to the whole world.
- ✦ Ezekiel 8:15-16 — Israel was constantly tempted to offer worship for the sake of sustaining fertility/harvest even though God had already promised that He would sustain seedtime and harvest.