

October 31, 2010

THE FIRST ONE-SIDED COVENANT

GENESIS 8:1 — 9:29

GENESIS 8:1- 5

- 1 “God made a wind blow over the earth”- Gen 1:2
4 “mountains of Ararat”- North of Mesopotamia, Eastern edge of modern Turkey

GENESIS 8:6-12

- 7 “sent forth a raven”- a scavenger bird, possibly looking for dead animals and people
8 “sent forth a dove”- looking for a place to land. Matt 3:13-17
10 “waited another seven days”- the time of creation, the time of getting on the ark
11 “olive leaf”- grows at lower altitudes, the land is ready to sustain life
12 “another seven days”- by now, we’ve caught the significance of this interval: Creation!

GENESIS 8:13-19

- 14 -total time = 1 year, 11 days
15-17 -God’s orders mirror the embarking
“be fruitful and multiply on the earth” = Genesis 1:22
19 “went out by families”- Let’s return to our discussion from Genesis 2 = Family.

GENESIS 8:20-22

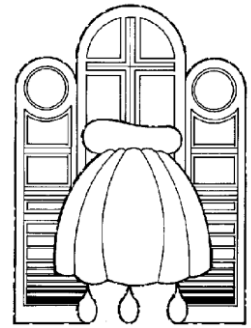
- 20 -Altar Sacrifices of animals- remember Cain and Abel!
21 “pleasing aroma”- Deeds or Faith? Eph 5:2
“I will never again curse the ground”- Gen 3:17 + The Flood
“the intention of man’s heart is evil from his youth”- The Flood punished Evil Doers (Actual Sin), but concupiscence, the natural inclination toward sin, still resides in the hearts of Noah, his wife, children, and daughters-in-law (Original Sin). These 8 saved individuals are referred to both as Righteous and having every intention of their hearts as evil = *simul Justus et peccator*
22 -the work of the earth shall continue until the Day of Judgment (2 Peter 3:7)
“shall not cease”- the verb for Sabbath!

GENESIS 9:1-7

- 1, 7 “Be fruitful and multiply”- Genesis 1:28
2 A Post-Fall way of saying “have dominion over it” (Gen 1:28)
3 “Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you”- we’re no longer Vegetarians
4 “But you shall not eat...” dietary laws are put in place that will be expanded in Lev. 11
5 “For your lifeblood”- for murder
6 God does use human courts and rulers to carry out His punishments. Rom 13:3-4
*** Once in Genesis and twice after the flood man is blessed and told “be fruitful and multiply.” Yet our society looks down on families with many children. Your thoughts: Does this blessing/command still apply today or is the earth too full? How should our view of family be shaped by what we’ve seen in early Genesis?

GENESIS 9:8-17

- 9 “I establish my covenant”- What is a covenant? Intro to Covenant Theology
“with you and your offspring after you”- God’s promises are multi-generational, even *foreseeing* future recipients of the promise.



- 11 "cut off"- this is the word for making a covenant- "to cut a covenant"
 12 -God attaches His promise to a visible sign; Gen 3:15, 4:15, here, and more to come!
 "for all future generations"- the promise/sign transcends time and culture, it is objective!
 13 "I have set my bow in the cloud"- it may not have existed yet or it may have
 15-17 -Vicar's quotation conundrum!
 17 "everlasting covenant"- but this world will not last forever, the sign speaks of God's
 eternal mercy and protection of His People- Rev. 4:3; 10:1

GENESIS 9:18-29

- 19 "from these the people of the whole earth were dispersed"- setting up Ch 10 "The Table
 of Nations"
 20-21 The Downfall of the Righteous Man- grows wine and gets drunk
 22 "the father of Canaan"- Gen 10:6, given Hebrew narrative style, Canaan and his brothers
 are likely already born
 "saw the nakedness of his father"- shameful yet even more shameful was telling his
 brothers. May mean even more took place – Lev. 18 (especially 3, 6-7, 24-25)
 24 "knew what his youngest son had done to him" how did he know? What was done?
 Makes more sense given Lev. 18
 25-27 "cursed IS Canaan"- Gen 3:17; 4:11 God curses. Here it is Noah cursing Ham's son, not
 Ham. "Canaan" comes from the Hebrew for stooping/ submitting. WHY?

PSALM 50

M: ¹The Mighty One, God YHWH,
 W: speaks and summons the earth
 M: from the rising of the sun to its setting.
 W: ²Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
 M: God shines forth.
 W: ³Our God comes; he does not keep silence;
 M: before him is a devouring fire,
 W: around him a mighty tempest.
 M: ⁴He calls to the heavens above
 W: and to the earth, that he may judge his people:
**ALL: ⁵"Gather to me my faithful ones,
 who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"**
 M: ⁶The heavens declare his righteousness,
 W: for God himself is judge!
 M: ⁷"Hear, O my people, and I will speak;
 W: O Israel, I will testify against you.
 M: I am God, your God.
 W: ⁸Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;
 M: your burnt offerings are continually before me.
 W: ⁹I will not accept a bull from your house
 M: or goats from your folds.
 W: ¹⁰For every beast of the forest is mine,
 M: the cattle on a thousand hills.
 W: ¹¹I know all the birds of the hills,
 M: and all that moves in the field is mine.
 W: ¹²If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
 M: for the world and its fullness are mine.
 W: ¹³Do I eat the flesh of bulls
 M: or drink the blood of goats?

W: ¹⁴Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
 M: and perform your vows to the Most High,
 W: ¹⁵and call upon me in the day of trouble;
 M: I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."
 W: ¹⁶But to the wicked God says:
 M: "What right have you to recite my statutes
 W: or take my covenant on your lips?
 M: ¹⁷For you hate discipline,
 W: and you cast my words behind you.
 M: ¹⁸If you see a thief, you are pleased with him,
 W: and you keep company with adulterers.
 M: ¹⁹You give your mouth free rein for evil,
 W: and your tongue frames deceit.
 M: ²⁰You sit and speak against your brother;
 W: you slander your own mother's son.
 M: ²¹These things you have done, and I have been silent;
 W: you thought that I was one like yourself.
 M: But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you.
 W: ²²Mark this, then, you who forget God,
 M: lest I tear you apart, and there be none to deliver!
 W: ²³The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice
 glorifies me;
 M: to one who orders his way rightly
 W: I will show the salvation of God!"
**ALL: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the
 Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will
 be forever, amen.**