
SG020106

The Whole Counsel of God - Genesis 8-9

(Got questions? Email Pastor Jason at jasonduff7@gmail.com)

Introduction & Overview of the Section

Introduction

Tonight we continue our look at Noah, a man who trusted God with an incredible task to build an ark and save life on planet earth. We have been working our way through the following outline.

Genesis 6-9

#1 – Noah’s World – Genesis 6:1-7

#2 – Noah’s Way – Genesis 6:8-10,22

#3 – Noah’s Watercraft – Genesis 6:11-7:9

#4 – Noah’s Worldwide Flood – Genesis 7:10-9:29

In tonight’s study we will examine the details of the flood account and the aftermath of what happened once Noah and his family got off the boat.

Genesis 7:10-9:29

The Account of the Flood – Genesis 7:10-8:19

The Aftermath of the Flood – Genesis 8:20-9:29

Key Issues or Words

“God remembered” (8:1) – literally means “to pay attention “ or “to fulfill a promise”. It does not in anyway mean that God forgot Noah and then said “oh yeah that guy on the ark!” God was keeping His promise to Noah as He always does.

“rainbow” (9:13) – literally means “my rainbow”. I love that picture, God says the rainbow is my symbol. I know the enemy takes that which is the Lord’s and makes it something it is not, but God says, that rainbow is my symbol, my reminder to mankind that I will keep my promise to them, both for blessing and for judgment.

By the way...

Genesis 8:4 – “The ark rested on the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month...” – The detail of the flood account is amazing, but why all the exact numbers? Well this one here is interesting to me because of some event in human history that would happen later on the same day. In Exodus chapter 12 God changes the seventh month on the Jewish calendar (Nisan) into the first month. It was because of Passover.

Passover was celebrated on the 14th of Nisan, which is now the first month in the Jewish calendar year. Jesus ate His final Passover on the 14th of Nisan (the Jewish first month), was crucified, and then 3 days later rose from the grave, making the date Jesus rose from the grave the 17th of Nisan (the Jewish first month). Put all this together and what you come to realize is the Ark came to rest on the Mountains of Ararat and man was given a new start on the pre-anniversary of Jesus coming out of the grave, giving man a real hope and a real new start.

Additional Notes

(unless you want to stay 'til 10, we won't get to this)

Genesis 8:15 - "How long was Noah on the Ark" –Some think that Noah was on the ark for 40 days and 40 nights, but a clear look at the text helps us understand it was much longer than that. First of all Noah got on the ark 7 days before it started raining. That would have been a test of faith wouldn't it? Can you image the conversations between him and his family during that week? Then the Word tells us that the flood began in the 600th year of Noah's life, on the 17th day of the 2nd month (7:11-13). Then it gives a lot of days, but which ones overlap, we can not know for sure, however the word says Noah left the ark on the 27th day of the 2nd month of the following year (8:14-15). Therefore, assuming a lunar calendar of 360 days, which the Bible uses for almost all accounting, Noah was on the ark for 377 days. That was a long time living in a zoo. No wonder Noah praised God when he stepped off that boat!

Genesis 8:9 – "So Noah put out his hand and took her (the dove) and drew her into the Ark to himself." – The dove, (though of course this was a real dove in a real event in history), represents the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures. There are many reasons for this, but the Spirit manifests Himself in the New Testament as a dove. (Matt 3:16) The Ark is a great picture of salvation, as it is God who shuts and opens the door, but He gave Noah a window to let in fresh air and light. From this window Noah sends out the dove, and upon the dove's return, Noah puts out his hand, and draws the dove to himself in the ark. It may be a little bit of a stretch but what the Lord has been putting on my heart over the last week is the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives is not something we just sit back and wait for God to do. It is not just that we say, "God I am willing to be filled with Your Spirit, if you want to do it." No, the Scriptures tell us to "seek, to ask, to knock" (Luke 11:9), to wait upon the baptism of the Spirit as the disciples waited in Jerusalem 10 days. Our salvation is secure in Him, but I believe it is up to you to open the window and let a freshness and light into your Christian life, not by being passive, but by actively receiving the Spirit of God in your life, by deciding to draw, to invite Him to fully have you!

Going Deeper

(think it over yourself or discuss with the family)

Questions to ask the younger kids....

God promises to never flood the entire world again. Talk with your child about that promise. Do they understand what God meant? (i.e. why are there still local floods) God has kept His promise, so what does that teach us about God's word?

Questions for the rest of us...

Problems arose in Noah's family because Noah became drunk. What problems have you seen alcohol cause around you? What can we learn? Consider Prov. 20:1, 31:4, 1 Cor. 6:12. Compare 1 Tim. 1:7 and Titus 2:3. List some Scriptures to back up your opinion.

Further study...

Get a copy of Dr. Henry Morris book "The Genesis Flood" – it is an excellent addition to any Bible student's library.

Homework 4 Next Week – Genesis 10-11

Read Genesis 10-11 – Think through why God gives genealogies in the Scripture and why the story in Genesis chapter 11 is included. What does it teach us about ourselves?

Genesis 8-9

“The World Wide Flood and its aftermath”

Introduction

- Tonight we are going to continue our study in the foundational book of the Old Testament and really all of the Bible
 - Remember the content is not hard to remember, because the title says it all

The word Genesis means “beginnings”

- And truly so many things in Scripture have their beginning in the book of Genesis
 - The universe
 - Life in general
 - Man, marriage
 - Sin and evil
 - Language, government, nations
 - Specifically we will see the nation of Israel
- In fact understanding that this book means and is about beginnings really is a good way to divide up our look at this book as you can see in your book intro sheet

Outline for the Book of Genesis

Chapters 1-11 – The Beginning of all nations

- Chapters 1-2 – The Creation
- Chapter 3 - 5 – The Fall
- Chapter 6-9 – The Flood
- Chapters 10-11 – The Tables of Nations

Chapters 12-50 – The Beginning of the Jewish nation

- Chapters 12-23 – Abraham
- Chapters 24-27 – Isaac
- Chapters 28-36 – Jacob
- Chapters 37-50 – Joseph

Now we have been working our way through an outline of chapters 6-9 that we began last week

Genesis Chapters 6-9

#1 – Noah’s Word – Genesis 6:1-7

#2 – Noah’s Way – Genesis 6:8-10,22

#3 – Noah’s Water Craft – Genesis 6:11-7:9

#4 – Noah’s World Wide Flood – Genesis 7:10-9:29

And the way I want to deal with this final section on the flood tonight is to break it into two parts, again for you note takers...

Genesis 7:10-9:29

The Account of the flood – Genesis 7:10-8:19

The Aftermath of the flood – Genesis 8:20-9:29

- Let’s look at these one at a time this evening

- First by reading the account of the flood and then we will unpack it together
- A few things I want to draw your attention to

#1 – The detail of the account

- Listen, I know because I have been in the classes – you get some city college prof and he tells you the flood story is an allegory of rebirth and renewal and every culture has a story, so you can't trust any account, it's all made up just to teach you a lesson
 - And I know how convincing the city college prof can be, I mean he has an impressive goatee because no one told him it's the new mullet, he looks French and will tell you – “Noah's flood is a myth” (with French accent), he looks and talks that way even though he is from Chula Vista.
- I know a French guy with the goatee from Chula Vista is impressive but notice the detail in the text – does it sound like an allegory – on this specific day, on this specific month, the flood came down and it lasted exactly this many days

Listen, I have told you, as part of my seminary class right now I am being forced to read the other flood accounts and they are not specific, they don't have this detail, because they are made up stories

- God's Word speaks with accuracy
 - And I will go on further than that – Jesus believed Noah was a real guy and the flood really happened.

“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.” – Matthew 24:37-39

- Jesus says in the “days of Noah” – not in the allegorical story of Noah
 - And Jesus says a flood took them all away
 - Jesus believed Noah was real
 - Jesus believed the world wide flood was real
- So here is the deal class - if you have to pick between City college prof with a French accent and a goatee from Chula Vista and Jesus, go with Jesus boys and girls – that one is easy – go with Jesus, go with Jesus

The detail in this account is amazing to me and in the study guide we detailed exactly how long they would have been on the Ark, it was a lot longer than 40 days

- and we also in the study made some other interesting observations that I will leave you to read on your own
 - but the next thing I want you to notice is this was a world wide destructive event
- which again City Prof would say, there is no way, or “there is no way” (French accent) – because even if it rained for 40 days it would not cover the earth

But what we learn from the account is the flood didn't just come from rain - The Bible gives three descriptions of where the water came from

- I mean it did rain, we see that in verse 4 of chapter seven and many other places – one of the sources was rain water, but it went far beyond that

Secondly we learn from verse 11, the fountains of the deep were broken up

- We have talked before about the world before the flood would have been a different place, they apparently had seas and lakes but the source was not rain, it was these underground water storages
 - we don't have time to go into it, but for you in-depth students as your homework I would recommend a book called "The Genesis flood" by Dr Henry Morris which goes into great detail on how this system of underground water sources is seen and how it would have heated the earth and created along with the water canopy just amazing conditions for health and growth in the pre-flood world
- So these underground storages broke forth – some believe what we see today as fault lines were once where these fountains opened up
 - but these underwater storages broke forth and produced a huge amount of water, that is also how the water keeps rising after it stops raining as we saw in the text

So water came from rain, it came from the fountains of the deep and finally we are told again in verse 11 that the windows of heaven were opened

- Now this includes the rain, but remember it was not just normal weather cycles
 - Many Christian scholars believe there was a water canopy around the earth – Gen 1:6-7

This water canopy along with the vast underground water storages would have made it possible for the long life of people mentioned in Genesis chapter 5

- And the opening up the canopy and having it come to earth from above would also help explain how the world could be filled with water in 40 days

These three sources work together to create a world wide flood

- The flood is described as deep, even 22 and half feet over the tops of the mountain in chapter 7 verse 20
 - Now this should answer the debate of whether or not this was a local or worldwide flood
- How did the water get 22 and half feet above the mountains and not flood the world
 - Of course another question is if it was just a local flood why didn't God just tell Noah to move???
 - Hey, head up north, it's going to get deep around here – moving seems easier than building a boat and storing 50,000 animals
 - As I have said before

Both Jesus (Matthew 24:37-39) and Peter (2 Peter 3:3-7) indicate this was a world wide flood

- So again you have a choice, City College prof with the goatee or Jesus, City College prof or Peter
 - And if you don't trust the word of Jesus and Peter, you have much bigger problems than whether or not the flood was world wide anyway

The flood was deep, and it was long - Noah is on this boat for a long time, much more than forty days – again we outline that in the study guide, and then we are told

- But then as it says in chapter 8 verse one, "God remembered Noah

Now when it says God remembered Noah it does not mean God forgot

- We forget – I remember with our amazing friend Tami first came out to visit us in Texas– she called to remind me over and over, but I forgot, when she called I was two hours away – look at her, she is still bitter – what a loser I am – we forget, for God the word here means something much different

The word “remember” in Genesis 8:1 means “to pay attention to, or to fulfill promise to”

- Like when God says – He Remembers your sins no more
 - That doesn’t mean, Doesn’t mean they are lost in His brain, like someday He will have total recall and blast you
 - It means He doesn’t act on them and treat you accordingly

God remembered and started to take the water from the earth

- Now where did the waters go?
 - the wind helped them to evaporate, from that time on you had the clouds and water cycle that we are familiar with on earth
- But really what the word says is the valley went down and the mountain came up
 - The world’s topography was changed
 - The grand canyon – was it formed over millions of years by the Colorado or a short period of time with a lot of water rushing to a now lower area like the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific
- You see, I believe the water from the flood is now in the oceans – consider psalm 104:6

You covered it with the deep as with a garment; The waters stood above the mountains. At Your rebuke they fled; At the voice of Your thunder they hastened away. They went up over the mountains; They went down into the valleys, To the place which You founded for them. You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, That they may not return to cover the earth.” – Psalm 104:6-9

- I believe they are still there, in the form of Oceans as a reminder to us, of not just a beautiful scenery, but the judgment that sin brings on all of us
- The world’s topography was changed

So that is the account of the flood

- a very detailed and scientifically plausible account of God’s destruction of original creation, now we move on the aftermath of the flood

Genesis 7:10-9:29

The Account of the flood – Genesis 7:10-8:19

The Aftermath of the flood – Genesis 8:20-9:29

- And I want to break this section up into 3 parts for us to consider

The Aftermath of the flood

#1 - A Covenant – Genesis 8:20- 9:19

#2 - A Tragedy - Genesis 9:20-23

#3 - A Family Prophecy – Genesis 9:24-29

- So let’s start looking at verse 20 of chapter 8

The Aftermath of the flood

#1 - A Covenant – Genesis 8:20- 9:19

- So let’s start looking at verse 20 of chapter 8

The first thing Noah does when he gets off the ark, the water craft, is very significant

- I mean once you have been stuck on boat for over a year, it seems like a zoo, he and his wife hadn't really had a bath for over a year
 - What would you do when you stepped off the ark in those first few minutes
 - Noah built an altar and began to worship

Again – I can't say enough of the importance of that

- I mean Noah knew he was a sinner too, we have talked about this before, so part of the sacrifice was just to say, Lord, I and my family deserved to die too, but thank You for Your grace
 - But the other part of building an altar is knowing and showing his family what was important to him

You see, what you would have done in the first moments after the ark says a lot about who you are

- and Noah was basically saying what Joshua would later put into words

“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” - Joshua 24:15

- in that way – Noah was a patriarch
 - all of his relatives were so wicked the Bible says of them their thoughts were only evil continually
 - And Noah could have easily continued down that stream – but Noah decided – Nope, I will and my kids will be different
 - Noah is a patriarch
- And I bring this up – especially to you Dads in the room right now because you and I have decision to make too
 - I don't know too many people that come from healthy, godly families anymore – there are some
 - It seems the Salvato household growing up was pretty stable – I know there was sin, because you got skin, but Tony you don't seem to be a closet drug addict, Sandy you seem to still love Tony, those two things right there are pretty rare today

I didn't grow up with that – my father as far as I know is still a drug addict. His father was an abusive alcoholic before him and his father's father was the same way

- I come from a long line of drug addicts, adulterers, and abusive men
 - But something happened in my life when I was 12 – Jesus grabbed a hold of my heart
 - I remember when He said – I know you don't really have a dad – but I am the Father to the fatherless and your family history stops and changes with you!
- And I was determined to be different than my father and his father before him
 - I don't want my kids to grow wondering where their dad is
 - I don't want my girls to have to find affection from boys because they didn't get it from Dad
 - I don't want my son to say, I don't know what a man looks like

And my prayer is you Dad, you young men who are yet to be Dad but statics say will one day

- that you determine, no matter what example you had, whether good or bad, to be like Noah, to be a patriarch
 - that if you had a good example as a Dad, you would determine to continue in that example

- And if your example was lacking – that you determine, that will not be me
- My kids will not learn from Hollywood what a man is supposed to be, they will see it lived out in front of them every single day
 - We are not perfect, that's okay – our kids need to learn how to repent too, because they are sinners just like you

But I hope men, they know how to pray, because they see and hear you pray

- I hope they have a love for the Word, because you have a love for the Word
 - I hope they see the body of Christ as something we have the privilege of being a part of because that is how you speak of it in your home
- And again, I don't want to come across as condemning, just brotherly conviction if you need it, but if those things are happening
 - If you don't pray, if you don't love God's Word and you are always downing churches and the people in the church
 - Then don't wonder why you kids don't pray, why they don't love the Word and why they leave the church the first chance they get
- We need patriarchs

Noah – worshipped the Lord and God made a covenant with Him

- Now a covenant in the Bible, from God to man is very important because it outlines what God is doing with His creation, how He expects them to respond to Him
 - And the reality is the great covenants in the Bible mark turning points in the story

We have already seen 2 covenants God made with man

#1 - The Edenic covenant

- where God puts Adam and Eve into the garden and says, "I have given you all this to enjoy"
 - Their job – Be fruitful, multiply, and don't eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
 - As you know, man did not keep his side of the deal and so next you have the..

#2 - Adamic covenant

- as a result of Adam's sin God makes a declaration to Adam
 - Declarations of what the sin would produce – enmity between the serpent and the woman, a desire in woman for her husband, a need in man to work – and of course death
 - The Adamic covenant established the world with sin in the picture and also produced the first promise of what would free man from his sin - The first promise of the Messiah
 - Tonight we get to the third covenant God makes with man

#3 – Noahic Covenant

- **This covenant really deals with three areas**
 - **Diet – Genesis 9:1-4**
 - **Discipline – Genesis 9:5-7**
 - **Declaration – verse 8-19**

Diet – Genesis 9:1-4

- God does something different here where now the fear of Man would be upon every animal

- And there is much evidence to suggest God did that for our protection – animals are more numerous, multiply faster – and as we see on occasion when an animal loses that fear of man, it can be a horrible thing
- So God puts the fear of man in animal and (praise the Lord) adds them to our diet
- Up until this time people were vegetarians, but at this time God added meat to the menu
 - And there is much speculation of why – some of it crazy, some of it stating the need of different vitamins in meat that were now necessary in this different world without the protection of the water canopy – I don't know, I just praise!

Which just brings me to this point though – if you or friends of yours want to be vegetarians (which I think if you study the greek that word really means “Bad hunter) – but that aside, just kidding

- I love vegetarians, I love you even more when we are at a BBQ because then I get your portion – nothing wrong, just don't think it is ultra spiritual because God adds meat to the diet
 - if you want to be a vegetarian, for health reasons, personal reasons, that is fine

But occasionally I hear the idea that it is for spiritual reasons, that somehow that is the way God wanted it until sin entered the world

- And the false teaching goes around the church from time to time that somehow vegetarians are more spiritual
 - Now if you want to eat plants only – for health reason, for personal reasons, - no problem
 - But just don't blame it on God
 - God tells Noah, “I have given it to you for food” – glory hallelujah!

Now with this new introduction of food there were also some rules that needed to be followed

- In verse 4 we are told they were not to eat the blood that was in the meat
 - Meat – good for food, but you need to take the blood out first
- Now again why did God do this – we are not exactly sure
 - But as with all of God's laws you can easily see the common sense health wisdom of God's eating laws

When we do get to Leviticus and God begins to reveal even more dietary laws, you see the wisdom

- as they were to make offerings to the Lord, many of the offerings you could take the meat after it was cooked and have it as a meal for your family, or for the priests
 - But the blood was to be poured on the altar
 - And the fatty lobes were to be left for the Lord– my favorite verse, “**all the fat is the Lord's**” – **Leviticus 3:16**, some of you like John 3:16, I like Leviticus 3:16
- But as much as I would like it, to me eating fat is great – it really I think was the opposite – you leave that stuff for me – you just eat the meat – wisdom would say every cardiologist on the planet

- Noah – you can have meat, but don't eat the blood – amen – thank you Jesus

Discipline – Genesis 9:5-7

- Not only did God's Covenant involve diet, but it also involved discipline
 - With the verses we just read God establishes human government and the responsibility it has to act in the place of God, to remove the life of a man or animal that has taken the life of another human being

Obviously this is hugely controversial subject in our nation and in our world today – and certainly there are cases where man is unjust in his handing out of capital punishment

- but make no mistake, it is not controversial to God
 - His Word has declared the importance of capital punishment in society
- You see, the problem with man is he is evil inside
 - I know that is not what you are told in Oprah and doctor Phil, but that is the truth

They will say, “Sin is just a result of your upbringing and your environment”

- Really – how about Adam and Eve who lived in Paradise, had no dysfunctional parents, yet still choose to disobey the Lord
 - No – sin is a result of the government suppressing the good nature of human spirit – if we could just let our heart be our guide – everything would be great
- Really???? – we have 2,000 years of recorded history up to this point, with no government, no established laws
 - And what happened – man got to a point where every thought was only evil continually

It is not about parents, upbringing or government oppression

- It is about the heart of man which the Bible says is **‘deceitfully wicked above all things’ – Jeremiah 17:9**
 - And God is not fooled on this subject

Life, human life is valuable to God

- If an animal takes the life a human, then that animal's life needs to be taken
 - You know I just say this because we have gone crazy in our world today
 - Some groups out there make it sound like if I am driving down the street and a child comes from one side and a squirrel comes from the other, and I have to choose – some in our world today say, it doesn't matter, they are both equal
- Friends – hear God – choose the squirrel – the squirrel gets the Michelin maned – the kids gets spared – every time

That doesn't mean I don't love squirrels – I love, a few time a year, getting in the middle of nowhere and seeing God's creation – not a squirrel

- but squirrels were not made in the image of God
 - you and I were
 - And if an animal kills a human, that animal must die
- And likewise if another human kills a human, that human must die

God knows man is evil and needs some encouragement, he knows man's heart needs a deterrent to the evil it could do

- Thus He institutes this law, “if you take a man's life, your life is required”

- And you know what – amazing – studies prove God to be correct – radical stuff
- Studies show that countries and states that have the death penalty have a far less per capita murder rate than states and countries that don't
- And it is not just murder rates, it is all major crime, because one effects the other
- If the punishment for murder is reduced to around 15 years (average today), then the sentence for rape goes down from 15 years to 2 or 3 (maybe) and those who are bank robbers get 6 months instead of 2-3 years
 - God knows what He is doing, He knows the heart of man

Well, our City Prof with the Goatee would say, “Isn't that murder t00 – No - God institutes government to do these things – Governments have the right and the commission from God to deal with evil – it is different than vigilantly justice – taking life as member of the military, as a police officer and as a court system is ordained by God – they are God- given instruments for discipline

Declaration – verse 8-19

- God declares to Noah and to all of his descendants that He will never again destroy the world with a flood
 - and by the way this is another reason I don't believe this idea of local flood – because if all that happened was the general region of the world was flooded, then God didn't really keep His promise
 - We have local floods all the time that bring great devastation and death
- God says “I will not destroy the world again, and here is the sign of that covenant – a rainbow
 - That beautiful array of colors that you see in the sky after a storm is not just a phenomenon of nature
 - It is a promise from the Lord – a sign to you and me

And as a church family I encourage you to realize this

- realize this for your kids
 - Kids naturally are filled with questions – Aleah constantly asks “why, why, why???” – don't be frustrated by their questions, see them as an opportunity to lead them to Jesus
- “What's that Mom, Dad' – that is a rainbow, the rainbow is given to us by God – and it is an opportunity to share with them about how sin has consequences, and how God has grace and promises to not destroy the world with water again

We need to realize this for our kids, we need to realize this for ourselves

- I find it ironic that rainbows appear in storms, the very thing that brought the destruction brings the promise

When God made this declaration to Noah, He never promised that there would be no more storms

- Of course there would be storms – storms are a reality of life
 - God never promised no storms, He promised not to destroy mankind as a whole with them
 - And that brings me great comfort when I see rainbows in the sky

Often times you and I go through trials, trying times in our lives and everything seems to be crashing in around us

- but then I remember what the Lord has promised me, is very similar to what He promised Noah. He didn't promise no storms, He promised he would not be destroyed

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you. For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior;” – Isaiah 43:2

- God doesn't promise you and me, no storms, He promises to be with us in them
 - And I am reminded of that as I see the sign of Noah's covenant, the rainbow
 - We need to remind our kids
 - We need to remind ourselves

The Aftermath of the flood

#1 - A Covenant – Genesis 8:20- 9:19

#2 - A Tragedy - Genesis 9:20-23

#3 - A Family Prophecy – Genesis 9:24-29

Oh I wish the story ended with verse 19 – but unfortunately Noah is not just the Father of you and me, the Wrestle mania fans had to come from some where in there too

But in all seriousness, the Bible is honest about its heroes – that is one of the reasons, I believe in divine inspiration

- if man had made this stuff up – wouldn't the heroes always end well
 - well Noah, who lived hundreds of years in obedience to God, slips toward the end
- And that is a great lesson for all of us in the second half of life
 - We think the battle is only for the young men, the young women, but the reality as I have said before, most men that fell in the Scriptures, fell in the second half of their lives
 - They start to think – I got this, I don't need to press in like I used to, I don't need the discipline I once had
 - Oh precious ones – yes you do!

Noah sins – and some commentators try to bail Noah out, he didn't know that grapes would ferment, he didn't know what would happen

- he thought he was having some Welch's, ends up passing out drunk
 - I don't think we can give Noah a pass
 - To think the world before the flood, where every thought was only evil continually had not discovered alcohol in almost 2,000 years of human history is so naïve
- Noah knew what he was doing, and he was determined
 - I mean if you want to get drunk and you have to start from nothing, you can't hit up 7-11 – you have to till the ground, grow the grape vines, wait for them to mature, ferment the wine – you are talking about a process of years – this was premeditated sin by Noah

No we know that the Scripture does not condemn drinking, just being drunk

- but I know for me personally – I don't want to be anywhere near the edge
 - I know my heritage is one of alcoholism
 - I know people God wants me to reach struggle with alcoholism

- For me, I don't want any part of social drinking
- Again, if you have talked it over with God and He says to you – yes – social drinking is exactly what I want for you and for your kids someday – then by all means
 - And I know I will get an email of being a legalist

“All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.” – I Corinthians 6:12

- I don't want anything to control me other than the Spirit of God, I just don't
 - I don't want to be on the edge, - I don't want to be on the cliff – I don't trust me, have you seen how much ice tea I can consume – I would be drunk as a skunk in no time
- And here is the deal, when that happens, the alcohol makes a fool of you
 - You feel great – I'm told
 - You feel no inhibitions
 - You think you are being witty – but listen, I spent the first 18 years of my life being around people that were drunk on a regular basis – you are not being witty, you are not being cool, you are acting the fool
- Why – drunkenness exposes you just like it did Noah
 - We see what it does to Noah

For me, who is a pretty sarcastic guy, I just love the plain humor of this story

- Noah gets drunk, decides to get naked in his tent and passes out
 - Why – again because that part of him that wanted to watch Wrestle Mania didn't have anything to do, so this was the next best option

But not only do we see the fall of Noah, but his son Ham's sin is revealed as well

- He looks upon his father's nakedness
 - Now this just shows the depravity of Ham's heart
 - I mean who wants to do this – who wants to see their Dad without any clothes on – like I say, there is a lot of sin I understand, because I see the evil tendencies on longing in my own heart, and then there I just don't understand – and this would be on of those
- But not only does Ham look upon his dad, get some kind of thrill of seeing the old man that way, then, he goes out and tells his brothers what he saw
 - He is bragging about his Dad's fall from grace

Why is it so bad? - It reveals a heart

- That doesn't respect his father and the wording is he is delighting over discovering sin
 - And you can't be more unlike God than those two things
 - Disrespect for Father and pleased by sin is as opposite as you can get from Jesus
- And I just encourage you – look in your own heart
 - Is there a total disregard for the authority God puts in your life
 - Is there a giddiness about sin?
 - Then there needs to be a heart check because you are not acting like Jesus

Now in contrast with that was Ham's brothers

- They go in and cover their father

- They walk in backwards, so they will not disrespect their father and they hold a blanket between them, so no one else can see it either
- what a picture of the Biblical truth, “love covers a multitude of sins”
 - what the heart of God I believe this is

You think about what God does for our sin – we somehow think He can’t wait to judge us, but the reality in the Scripture is

- He covers our sin
 - He separates them as far as the East is from the West - He puts them in the bag and tosses them in the deepest part of the sea
 - And the preacher says – He then posts a no fishing sign
- It is actually greater than that – in the New heaven and the New Earth described in the book of Revelation – there is no sea! – Amazing!

No again – in the way I deal with others’ sin –am I more like Jesus or Ham?

- do I delight in talking to others about sin
 - do I vail in prayer requests – Oh let me share with you so you can pray
 - oh church – can we be a church that refuses to hear gossip – that see one another as Jesus does, our sin separated from us
- do we deal with others sin like Jesus or like Ham

What type of people are we

- like Ham – delighting in others’ sin
 - or like Shem and Japheth– Galatians 6:1-2 – “those of you who are spiritual...
- in those moments we are lot like God who not only covered Adam and Eve’s sin but all of our sin

The Aftermath of the flood

#1 - A Covenant – Genesis 8:20- 9:19

#2 - A Tragedy - Genesis 9:20-23

#3 - A Family Prophecy – Genesis 9:24-29

- now these verses at first glance seem a little strange, it was Ham who walked into his Dad’s tent and gazed upon his nakedness and went out and told everybody what Noah had done
 - it was Ham
 - But Noah says, “Cursed be Canaan”
- That doesn’t make sense – God is a God who doesn’t punish the children for the parents – why would God do this
 - Oh listen precious church – this is not so much a declaration of punishment as it is a prophecy of the future

Canaan is cursed because His dad is an idiot

- Noah comes out, finds out what Ham did and then sees Canaan – just laughing, ah grandpa – what a wrestling mania fan you are
 - Hah, hah

And Noah thinks in his mind – Ham you are such a problem and I look at your son and I see – the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree

- I mean how dumb can you be Ham – you are mocking your Dad, you are exposing the sin of your Father
 - What do you think that kid of yours is going to do to you?
 - He has become just like you

**You see here is the deal men and women – we think when we are tempted in sin, well even if I have to bear the consequences, I have broad shoulders, I can deal with what comes my way
That would be foolish enough if that were true, that only you had to bear the brunt of sin and its consequences**

- but its not true
 - Sin will transfer – your kids are at stake
 - They will be like you

You see as we talked about before, being a patriarch is not just about changing the abuses in the past, it is setting a new standard for the future

- a man of God is not just thinking, I want to be different than my parents who didn't know God, a man of God, a patriarch is thinking about the next generation, what can I do to help my kids and my children's children walk with God
 - what can I do to leave a legacy

You see sometimes we get discouraged because we think we are not accomplishing all that God has for our family

- but to use a sports illustration – where did you start
 - you decided the abuse and alcoholism and molestation all stops with me and my wife, we will serve the Lord
 - but where were you born? – some of you at the one, you were backed up in your own endzone
- And you by the grace of God you have brought that ball out to 40 yard line – and you think I didn't score
 - Well give the ball to your son, to your daughter and watch them take it down to the 15 and then your grandson or granddaughter takes it in
 - Because you have set a legacy of Godliness

One of the best things I ever heard Joey Buran say, he would speak at my camps when I was the High School Pastor and he would say – you know I can't stand those billboards as you are coming down 215, advertising all the disgusting stuff, I am praying that will come down and I will not fail, because I am teaching my son to pray against those billboards, so even when I am dead and buried another Buran will be battling for the Kingdom of God

There is someone who is leaving a legacy of godliness

- Ham was not and we see it bear out in his son Canaan
 - He becomes the Father of the Canaanite people who were doing all types of horrible things to their kids and each other
 - It's like all of Ham's perversity was multiplied in his descendents
- Because we are all leaving a legacy
 - Which will it be for you – One of Godliness
 - Or will it be a legacy of sin and shame
 - Its not just about you – wise is the man, wise is the women who truly sees that.
- Let's pray