

Noah Thanks God

Genesis 8:20-9:17

Lesson Objective: Thankfulness: We should be thankful to God for all He does for us because He keeps His promises.

Introduction:

- A. Noah and the family finally make it out of the ark and Noah offers a freewill burnt offering. (8:20)
 - 1. Over a year in the ark, life has ended for everything outside the ark, Noah was thankful to start a new life.
 - 2. His expression of thanksgiving is impressive. Did Noah intend to live a dedicated life to God from that moment? (6:8-9; 7:1) Remember that Noah was still a man living in a cursed world and part of 8:21.
 - B. When we came to Christ, broken, tempest tossed, humbled and ground to dust, the Lord took us and saved us. Our thanksgiving heart burst in praises and our intentions were to remain faithful in everything forever. But... Thanks be to God for His enduring grace and love.
 - C. In this narrative of 8:20-9:17 Noah has a lot to be thankful for, from surviving on the ark, to the salvation of his family, from having a fresh start, to becoming the "second Adam," from expanding his menu to seeing God's invisible words of grace visible in the form of a rainbow.
- I. Thanksgiving altar (8:20)
 - A. "Count your blessings, name them one by one."
 - 1. We teach our children to be thankful for everything, big and small. (Illustration: Five finger prayers)
 - 2. Romans 1:21ff; Gentiles knew about God, understood that every good thing came from Him, but refused to acknowledge Him, refused to thank Him, the end result...
 - 3. 1 Thessalonians 5:18; Colossians 2:6-7
 - B. Noah exited the ark and immediately built an ark, took clean animals and, by example taught his boys and daughters-in-laws how to honor God in thanksgiving. (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)
 - C. God accepted the thanksgiving offering and declared He would never again destroy the world with a world-wide flood. (See lesson 3 outline).
 - II. Covenant with the new world (9:1-17)
 - A. Provisions for the new world (1-7)
 - 1. 9:1-God blessed Noah and his family
 - a. Man is again given the task of having dominion over the earth.
 - b. Man is to have children.
 - 1. Children are universal evidence of God's creation blessing.

2. They are not to be abused, abandoned, aborted, but celebrated and protected.
 - c. Dominion over earth involves accountability and stewardship of the good earth.
 1. The second beginning will ultimately bring about the offspring of Abraham and eventually Christ (Romans 8:19-22; Hebrews 2:8-9).
 - d. "God blessed." How comforting! Those are more than simple words and good wishes. These are promises from God, from a God who cannot lie.
 - e. The blessings are for both Noah and his sons, "Be fruitful and multiply."
- B. 9:2-3 New relationship with animal kingdom
1. The sin burdened world now had different rules-animals will fear humans.
 2. The sin burdened world now will allow and see the death and shedding of animal blood for food:
 - a. To ensure that animals would not become extinct, animals would fear man.
 - b. God bridles man's violence!
 - c. No longer would man enjoy the Garden of Eden human-animal relationship.
 3. "Fear and terror", "Fear and dread" of you and the animal. That's the new order of the day in the new world.
 4. This was not a license for human savagery, it was for human survival.
- C. 9:4 Dietary law
1. Do not eat animal while it is still alive.
 - a. Why would God need to say this?
 - b. The road to human degeneracy gets worse and worse (Micah 2:1, Sodom and Gomorrah, Romans 1-2); cf., Modern day perverseness.
 2. Do not eat blood (Dt. 12:24; Acts 15:29)
 3. (Responsible animal killing) The privilege of killing animals for food assumed the responsibility of caring for animal life as it was first formulated in Eden.
- D. 9:5-6 Capital punishment
1. Every human life is accounted for
 2. Even when animal kills a human it should be put to death.
- E. 9-7 Be fruitful and multiply
1. Why the prohibition of 4-6, and now the command to be fruitful and multiply?
 2. So society and world could flourish and thrive.
 3. If sin is bridled, the world and life can thrive.
- F. 9:8-17 Covenant and sign
1. 8-11 Covenant is for everyone, the entire earth, not just Noah.
 - a. Before the covenant was with just Noah (6:18), now the covenant was even with the animals.

- b. This tie the promise is that God will never again destroy the earth with a flood.
 2. 9:12-17 There's a rainbow in the sky!
 - a. Eternal covenant of the rainbow
 1. Visible token of God's invisible grace.
 2. Stretched between heaven and earth is the bow of God's divine mercy!

Conclusion:

- A. When we trust in God He indeed provides everything we need.
 1. Noah trusted in God, walked with Him and loved Him and as a result God provided Noah with a warning that would save him and his family (Hebrews 11:7)
 2. Trusting in God, God provided Noah with everything he needed to survive on the ark and start a new life after leaving it.
- B. Those who trust in God will receive rewards and blessings from Him. We could make a list of all the wonderful things God provides for us: life, sustenance, comfort, wisdom, avenue of prayer, the church, etc., But the greatest gift that God has provided for all mankind is the gift that has been spoken about since Genesis through Revelation. The Scarlet thread. All the books point to the center of the Bible, to the cross. The greatest gift God provides for all of us is His Son (John 3:16; 2 Cor. 5:18-21; Rom. 5:10; Obedience: John 14:15; 14:21; 15:10; Gospel: Acts 2:38)