

THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS

"God commanded [Noah]...to make an ark, in which he [and others] might be rescued from the destruction of the flood: this is certainly a figure of the city of God sojourning in this world; that is, the church, which is rescued by the wood on which hung the Mediator of God and men, the man Jesus Christ."

—Augustine of Hippo, *The City of God*

"God and Noah"

Lamech's Hope: Genesis 5:29

"Out of the ground that the Lord has cursed, this one shall bring us relief from our work and from the painful toil of our hands."

⇒ There was in seed form an understanding that humanity needed to be _____ and that creation needed to be _____.

The Depravity of Mankind & the Judgment of God: Genesis 6:5-7

"...every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

- The Total Depravity of Mankind

Facets: (1)

(2)

"The depravity of man must always be measured against the holiness of God." —Charles Ryrie

"...I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land..."

- The Anger and Wrath of God

⇒ This is an aspect of God's relational nature

"[God's] anger is the calm, deliberate, and proportionate way in which eternal and underlying holiness responds to sin." —Donald Macleod

- The Special Judgment of God: The Flood

Point of Emphasis: God us under no obligation to _____ the sin of mankind.

The Grace and Favor of God: Genesis 5:8-14a, 18

"But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord."

⇒ God's salvation and deliverance is always accompanied by a _____.

"Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch."

⇒ The Mediator's _____ is used by God to accomplish His plans and purposes.

Heb. 11:7—By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

"But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you."

⇒ The Mediator's role is frequently associated with a _____ that God enters into with man.

"When God enters into a covenantal relationship with men, he sovereignly institutes a life-and-death bond. A covenant is a bond in blood, or a bond of life and death, sovereignly administered." –O. Palmer Robertson

Point of Emphasis: God provides all of the _____ of salvation for His people and assures that it is accomplished! (7:16)

God's Deliverance & Re-Creation: Genesis 8:1-5, 20-22

"But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided."

- Notice that Noah's response to the salvation and deliverance that God provided was worship.

The Re-Commissioning of Humanity: Genesis 9:1-7

"And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.'"

⇒ These verses recall God's original commission of mankind (1:28-30) with some changes that recognize the reality of human sin.

The Noahic Covenant: Genesis 9:8-17

"Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth.'"

⇒ The re-creation demonstrated here shows that God is concerned with all of creation, not simply mankind.

⇒ The key promise of the covenant is that life will _____ on the earth until the plans and purposes of God are accomplished.

Point of Emphasis: Though God has always been in relationship with humanity, He will now at certain times willingly _____ Himself to mankind in the form of specific promises.

A Key Observation: *While Noah was a deliverer, he was not The Deliverer promised in Gen. 3:15.*

- **Noah was a righteous man, but his righteousness was limited.**
Ezek. 14:13-14—"Son of man, when a land sins against me by acting faithlessly, and I stretch out my hand against it and break its supply of bread and send famine upon it, and cut off from it man and beast, 14 even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver but their own lives by their righteousness, declares the Lord God.
- **Noah's work as a mediator was significant, but exceedingly limited in its scope.**
1 Pet. 3:20—"because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

IN CONTRAST

- **The righteousness of Jesus is unlimited and freely gifted to others!**
2 Cor. 5:21—"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
- **The work of Christ was vast in its scope, reaching to all people!**
Rev. 7:9-10—"After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'"