

Genesis 9 and 10

Read Genesis 9: 1-17: The flood brought a literal *sea change* to life on earth. It changed our weather, our lifespans, our atmosphere and our relationship with animals. When God makes changes, they are usually corrective. Even selective destruction is used to prolong life.

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. (John 3:17)

There are numerous examples of God stepping in to make re-sets over time. Man messes up his nest; and God makes life possible again. The forbidden fruit in Eden brought adjustments, the flood brought adjustments, the Tower of Babel brought adjustments, and the cross brought adjustments.

Mankind had become violent to the point of no return; so God erased an entire society in a flood, and put hard boundaries on murder. God had originally put Adam in charge of animals; but they had become a threat to man. God presses the point that animals will now be afraid of man. In fact, animals are now food for men. All of God's covenants towards man are to bless us, based on where we are now standing. The pre-flood world had only become about death and violence. God made a *new deal* for his people. God never changes; but society drifts all over the place. It's always downhill. God has to step in from time to time.

The Bible has four major covenants associated with adjustments to life on earth. They are Noah's Covenant, Abraham's Covenant, Moses' Covenant, and Jesus' Covenant.

Noah's Covenant is unilateral (only God is making the promises, with some demands). God promises to never flood the earth again. *There will be local floods.* The rainbow is God's promise to man to never drown the earth again. Apparently, there was no rain or rainbow before the flood. The earth was watered by springs and ground mists according to Genesis. God tells Noah and his family to spread out and multiply.

God established capital punishment here. If any animal or person kills somebody they have to be killed. From now on animals will fear man. Before the flood, dinosaurs and animals terrorized men as men became more sinful. The earth was full of violence continually right before the flood. Apparently there needed to be a change in the animal and man dynamic. God changed man's diet from strictly plants to include meat. Man is not to eat any blood with his meat.

Abraham's Covenant was also unilateral. God said that he will cause Abram to become a great nation, and many nations of believers to spring from the faith relationship that Abraham had with God. Common grace and grace by faith go

back to Abraham as well. God said that Abraham's descendants will multiply and be given the land we call Israel (and more). Abraham started the friends and family pass program.

The Mosaic Covenant is bilateral. If Israel behaves, they will be blessed by God. If they sin, they will face curses. Hard rules are needed for hard hearts. This is forced compliance to unbelievers; so that another generation can have a chance.

The Jesus' Covenant is referred to the New Covenant in Ezekiel 36. It is the fulfilment of the Mosaic Law by having faith in Christ to fulfill the requirements for us. Jesus does it all for those who trust in him. It's just not in our nature to properly love God and each other.

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (Romans 3)

God told Noah's family to produce many children and spread out around the earth. The Tower of Babel was a direct violation of Noah's Covenant to move away from each other.

The capital punishment through Noah was clarified under Moses. It involves willful intent to do harm out of malice (murder). It is not killing for national defense, police work or family protection.

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. ⁴ For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. (Romans 13)

We have essentially undone what God has told us to do. Kill any guilty murderer. Don't charge the taxpayers millions for court cases and room and board.

Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. (Ecclesiastes 8)

Read Genesis 9:18-28: All of the nations came from Noah, and his three sons. Shem's descendants became Persia (Iran), Iraq, Syria, Armenia, Israel, and the Arabs. Ham's descendants are Egypt, Libya, the extinct Canaanites, and Ethiopia. The descendants of Japheth are the Europeans, Russians, Georgians, whites/Caucasians, Greeks, Turks, Indians, and Asians.



It is amazing that this world has the same problems if there are billions of people or just a few. Noah, the pillar of faith became drunk from his wine harvest. His son Ham found him naked and passed out. Instead of covering his dad's bad decision, he exposed his father's weakness to the family and humiliated him. We are supposed to turn our back on sins and cut our brothers some slack...not bring in the spotlights. Today, we live in a culture of exposing each other. Nobody wins.

And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.” (1 Peter 4)

Accordingly, Hams descendants carried the curse of their patron's bad decision. The Canaanites were all destroyed, and Egypt has had a very hard existence. Likewise, the African tribes have lived a dog-eat-dog existence. We all are exposed to the sins of our fathers. We all have a choice to be born into God's family and get passed that fatalistic pattern of living.

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (2 Cor 5)

Read Genesis Chapter 10: 70 nations came from Noah's sons. Nimrod is a noteworthy name here associated with greatness. He was a well-known killer. He erected a number of cities that still stand to this day. Unfortunately, his lust for control led him to the Tower of Babel. The Tower of Babel represents of doing the opposite of what God has said. It is to bring attention to yourself. The Tower of Babel is said to have come around 100 years after the flood. That seems a little short, given the listed base group of nation patrons. Peleg was born 101 years after the flood. The earth was divided in his day. He died 340 years after the flood. The Tower incident could have happened anywhere from 101 years to 340 years after the flood.

Noah lived 350 years after the flood; so he must have absolutely flipped out over the Tower tragedy. Noah's dad lived at the time that Adam's son Seth lived...so there could have been a good pre-flood data transfer from the beginning. Abram was alive during part of Noah's life, and possibly during the Tower as well.