

December 3, 2023 – Sermon Notes

## “The Reminder God Remembers” Genesis 9:8-17

### Prel Rmks

LOGW ~ today: the covenant God made after the flood ... ~ Title

**(8)** Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying:

**(9)** "And as for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you, **(10)** and with every living creature that *is* with you: the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you, of all that go out of the ark, every beast of the earth. **(11)** Thus I establish My covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

**(12)** And God said: "This *is* the sign of the covenant which I make between Me and you, and every living creature that *is* with you, for perpetual generations: **(13)** I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. **(14)** It shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow shall be seen in the cloud;

**(15)** and I will remember My covenant which *is* between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

**(16)** The rainbow shall be in the cloud, and I will look on it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that *is* on the earth."

**(17)** And God said to Noah, "This *is* the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that *is* on the earth."

## INTRO

“Covenant” = 7 times – “Noahic Covenant”

**Genesis 6:17-18** And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which *is* the breath of life; everything that *is* on the earth shall die. **(18)** But I will establish My **covenant** with you; and you shall go into the ark ...

**Genesis 8:21** And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart *is* evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.

In our text today, God expresses this covenant – makes known the intentions of His heart to Noah and Noah’s sons in v. 8:

**(8)**

Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying:

Noahic Covenant

Covenant =

a solemn promise or pledge

agreement between parties (membership covenant)

solemnized or signified – by some action or ceremony or something outward and physical {marriage} {signing of a treaty}

“cutting a covenant” – involved the sacrificing of an animal – chapter 15

Covenants are very important in the Bible – OT & NT = covenant

**Exodus 24:7-8** Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient." **(8)** And Moses took the blood, sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you according to all these words." **Hebrews 9:18-23**

**Matthew 26:27-28** Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, "**Drink from it, all of you. (28) For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.**"

## 6 Major Covenants

Progressive in nature

Increasing information and more and more knowledge revealed about God's plan for man's salvation.

**Adamic Covenant** Genesis 2:15-17 & Genesis 3:15

**Noahic Covenant** Genesis 9:11

**Abrahamic Covenant** Genesis 12:1-3

**Mosaic Covenant** Exodus 19-24

**Davidic Covenant** 2 Samuel 7:8-16

**New Covenant** Jeremiah 31:31-34 & Ezekiel 36:24-28

## The Noahic Covenant –

### I. The Subjects of the Covenant 9-10

#### (9) Unilateral Covenant made by God

"And as for Me, behold, I **establish confirm, affirm = speak** My **covenant** vv. 11, 12, 13, 15, 17

Look at who God makes the covenant with:

- with you **Noah and his sons**
- and with your descendants after you, **us!**

#### (10)

- and with every living creature that is with you: (v. 12, 15, 16, 17)
  - the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you,
  - of all that go out of the ark, every beast of the earth.
- Summary in v. 13: “between Me and the earth”

### II. The Statement of the Covenant 11

#### (11)

Thus I establish My covenant with **you**:

Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood;

never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

#### 2 Peter 3:3-13

**Dr. David Skinner (Former Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tennessee).**

“The world, with its geographical and geological evidences of The Flood, stands as a mute reminder that sin, having been punished in the past, will be punished in the future. At the same time, it stands to give firm evidence that God will keep those in covenant relationship with Him safe from judgment.”

**The Subjects of the Covenant**

**The Statement of the Covenant**

### III. The Sign of the Covenant 12-17

vv. 12, 13, 17

Covenants often had signs:

Abrahamic Covenant = circumcision

Mosaic Covenant = the Sabbath

Here = the rainbow

**(12)**

And God said: "This is the sign of the covenant which I make between Me and you, and every living creature that is with you, for **perpetual generations without end until the very end, every remaining generation:**

**(13)**

I set **My rainbow** in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.

**(14)**

It shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the **rainbow** shall be seen in the cloud;

**(15)** and **I will remember** My covenant which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

**(16)** The **rainbow** shall be in the cloud, and **I will look on it to remember** the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth."

**(17)** And God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth."

When we see a rainbow ... it is a reminder to us that God remembers His covenant ...

## Conclusion / Application

### For Believers

1. **God has a plan for this earth.**
  - The earth in its current state and form will not last forever.
  - There will be a new heaven and a new earth.
2. **God has a plan for each of us.**
  - He has not dealt with us according to our sin!
  - He has dealt with us in mercy and grace.
  - He is able to do that because of His New Covenant with us which is sealed by the blood of His very own Son, the LJC.
3. **What are the signs of this New Covenant of grace and mercy?**
  - 1) The Lord's Supper
  - 2) Baptism

These ordinances cause us to look to Jesus, and His cross, and His resurrection, as the outward signs of the inward reality in our lives – that we are relying on the promise of God to cleanse us and forgive by the work of His Son on the cross.

#### God remembers! ...

**2 Peter 1:4** [there has] been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

**Hebrews 12:2** [we are to live] looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

### For Unbelievers

1. When we look to Jesus we are reminded that God remembers the work of His Son on our behalf:
  - For the forgiveness of sins
  - For righteousness
  - For salvation – eternal life
2. Questions: Are you looking to Jesus? ... Are you taking God at His Word?