

Genesis 9: God's Covenant

Forestgate Presbyterian Church ~ January 29, 2012

What is the covenant that God establishes? Who are the parties to the covenant? What is each party required to do in order to keep the covenant? What is the sign of the covenant? (refer to whiteboard)

After the Flood, there is a dramatic change in the relationship of mankind to **animals**. (Gen 9:2-3)

There is never a qualification attached to God's command to **be fruitful**. (Gen 1:28; 9:2; 9:7; 35:11)

How is God *uniquely* involved in the conception of *every* human being?

What are the reasons people have for not having children today? Which reasons are valid?

How does society invariably react when a couple "chooses" to have more than a few children?

Satan, on the other hand, does everything he can to hinder **population growth**. He does this by **lies** and by **violence**.

Killing unborn children is another outworking of the **utilitarian ethic**. The imagined future "good" is used to justify the real and present evil action.

How are we to understand the expression "shedding blood"? (Gen 9:6) Would this make Abraham a murderer if he had slain Isaac? How is manslaughter different from murder?

Why is it inconsistent for the Roman church to oppose birth control *and* the death penalty?

How is the eugenics movement grounded in evolutionary philosophy?

What is the significance of the threefold repetition "I will require" in verse 5?

Even Christians are inclined to forget that God primarily uses **families** to build His church. This is one of the over-arching themes of Genesis.

The scripture says that the three sons of Noah repopulated the earth after the Flood. (Gen 9:19) There is no indication that Noah had any other children after the Flood.

What was Ham's sin? Why was Canaan cursed?

Noah as a type of Christ:

- *prophet*—received the word of God; foretold the Flood; foretold the future of Canaan as subordinate to the promised line of Shem
- *priest*—worships and intercedes with burnt offerings
- *king*—ruler over his family
- righteous, blameless, obedient
- saved "his people"
- made offerings that pleased God
- but—showed by his drinking binge that he was *not* the promised Seed—his shame had to be covered with a garment (parallels to Adam)

Genesis 9 begins immediately after the Flood and covers a period of 350 years.