January 21, 2024 Explore the Bible

"Protect" - Genesis 9:1-15

Ask - "What is the most amazing rainbow you've ever seen? Share your story."

Background - Noah, his family, and the animals came out of the ark after the flood subsided.

Then God spoke with him. In today's lesson, we will examine what He said.

"The Command" - Genesis 9:1-7

(v1,7) What did God do on behalf of Noah and his sons? Name some ways God has blessed you and your family. What did He command them to do?

(v2-3) Read Genesis 2:15-17. After the flood, what did God give mankind to eat in addition to fruits and vegetables? Discuss.

(v4-6) What part of the flesh (meat) did God forbid from being eaten? What does blood equate with? What would be the punishment for any animal or person who intentionally killed a human being? WIfe does God value human life so much?

NOAH AND HIS SONS WERE TOLD TO REPOPULATE THE EARTH. THE WERE ALLOWED TO EAT MEAT, BUT NOT THE BLOOD. THE BLOOD REPRESENTED LIFE AND WAS PRECIOUS IN GOD'S SIGHT.

"The Promise" - Genesis 9:8-11

(v8-9) Which people did God establish His covenant with? Was this covenant conditional or unconditional? Explain.

(v10) In addition to people, who else did God's covenant include?

(v11) What specifically was God's covenant promise to humanity and the animal kingdom?

GOD MADE A COVENANT WITH NOAH, HIS DESCENDANTS, AND THE ANIMALS TO NEVER DESTROY THE EARTH AGAIN WITH A FLOOD.

"The Sign" - Genesis 9:12-15

(v12-13) What is the sign of God's covenant with Noah and his descendants? Who are Noah's descendants?

(v14) When do we see rainbows? Why is this timing significant?

(v15) What does the sign of the rainbow actually represent? How has it been corrupted by modern society?

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GOD ESTABLISHED THE RAINBOW AS THE SIGN OF HIS COVENANT TO NEVER DESTROY THE EARTH AGAIN WITH A FLOOD.

Application - The promise that God made to Noah and his descendants (ie, all of humanity) after the flood is referred to as the Noahic Covenant. It included provisions for mankind to eat meat - excluding its blood which symbolizes life, prescribed the death penalty for those who commit murder (both man and beast), and declared God's promise to never destroy the earth with a flood again. It was/is an unconditional covenant, based solely on God's faithfulness. The sign of the Noahic Covenant is the rainbow. What are your thoughts about this covenant?