



9.9.24

THE DESTRUCTION OF
MAN: "THE FLOOD"

Genesis 6-10

STUDY OUTLINE

Part 5

Passage: Genesis 9: 18-29

Author: Moses.

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[review]

Introduction and Theme: After chapter 3, Satan isn't mentioned by name in Genesis, but he and his demonic hosts are at work doing their utmost to keep the promised Redeemer from being born. This was Satan's purpose throughout all of the Old Testament. After all, he did not want his head crushed by the Savior (Gen. 3:15). God had declared war on Satan and the deceiver intended to fight back.

Major Point: Satan will stop at nothing to disrupt God's plan and win the Angelic Conflict. Do you know yourself, your God, and your enemy? Are you walking with God? Psalm 139.

[end of review]

Words to Define: (see [PREVIEW WORKSHEET](#) here)

VI. A Family Tragedy. Genesis 9:18-23.

A. The sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth; and Ham was the father of Canaan. From these the whole earth was populated (vs. 18-19).

B. Noah began farming, planted a vineyard, became drunk (vs. 20-21a).

1. Noah followed the vocation of his father Lamech (5:28-29).

2. The Bible condemns drunkenness (Prov.20:1; 23:19-21, 29-35; Isa. 5:11; Hab. 2:15; Rom. 13:13; 1 Cori. 6:10; Eph. 5:18).

3. The Bible does not condemn the growing or eating of grapes or drinking of wine (Ps. 104:14-15; Deut. 14:26). It was even used with the sacrifices (Lev. 23:13; Num. 28:7).

C. Noah uncovered himself inside his tent (21b).

1. Drunkenness and nakedness are disgraceful and the two often go together (Gen. 19:30-38; Hab. 2:15-16; Lam. 4:21). Alcohol is not a stimulant, it's a narcotic and when the person is affected by alcohol, the person loses self-control.

D. Disrespect. Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside (v. 22). Moses uses "the nakedness of his father" to refer to a person's mother (Lev.18:6-9). The two became one (Gen.2:24).

Principle: How we respond to the sin and embarrassment of others is an indication of our character.

E. Respect. But Shem and Japheth covered the nakedness of their father(v.23).

1. He who covers a transgression seeks love (Prov.17:9). A prudent man covers shame (Prov. 12:16). Love doesn't cleanse sin, for only the blood of Christ can do that (1 John 1:7); nor does love condone sin. But love does not go around exposing sin and encouraging others to spread the bad news.

2. When people sin and we know about it, our task should be to restore (Gal. 6:1-2).

VII. A Family Prophecy. Genesis 9:24-29.

A. When Noah awoke from his wine, he knew what his youngest son had done to him (v.24). What Noah said; prophecy or curse?

1. Concerning Ham and his son Canaan: a servant of servants he shall be to his brothers (v.25).

1a. The curse on Canaan. Looking down the centuries, Noah predicted three times that the descendants of Canaan would become the lowest of servants. The Canaanites are listed in Gen. 10:15-19 and are the very nations the Israelites conquered and whose land they inhabited (Gen. 15:18-21; Ex.3:8, 17; Num. 13:29; Josh. 3:10; 1Kings 9:20). It's difficult to describe the moral decay of the Canaanite society, especially their religious practices; but the laws given in Leviticus 18 gives us some idea of how they lived. God warned the Jews not to compromise with the Canaanite way of life and to destroy everything that would tempt them in that direction (Ex. 34:10-17; **Deut. 7**).

2. Concerning Shem: Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem; and let Canaan be his servant (v.26). Noah blessed the LORD, not Shem. **How can we bless God?**

Shem is the Ancestor of Abraham (Gen.11:10-32) who is the founder of the Hebrew nation; so Noah was talking about the Jewish people. That the Lord would enrich the Jewish people spiritually was promised to Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3) and later explained by Paul (Rom. 3:1-4; 9:1-13).

It's through Israel that we have the knowledge of the true God, the written Word of God, and the Savior, Jesus Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, the tribe of Judah.

In Hebrew, "Shem" means "name", and it's the people of Israel who have preserved the name of the Lord. Shem was Noah's second born son (Gen. 9:24; 10:21), but wherever the three sons are listed, Shem's name is first (Gen. 5:32; 6:10; 9:18; 10:1; 1Chron. 1:4). It's another instance in Genesis of the grace of God elevating the second born to the place of first born. God chose Abel instead of Cain (Gen. 4:4-5), Isaac instead of Ishmael (Gen. 17:15-22), and Jacob instead of Esau (Gen. 25:19-23). Paul discusses this profound theological truth in Romans 9.

3. Concerning Japheth: May God enlarge Japheth, and let him dwell in the tents of Shem; and let Canaan be his servant (v.27). Japheth is very close to the Hebrew word that means "to enlarge."

The Hamites built large civilizations in the east, and the Semites settled in the land of Canaan and surrounding territory, but the descendants of Japheth spread out much farther than their relatives and even reached what we know as Asia Minor and Europe.

They were a people who would multiply and move into new territory. They were successful in their conquests but when it came to spiritual things they would have to depend on Shem.

God is the God of Shem and the descendants of Japheth would find God "in the tents of Shem." Israel was chosen by God to be a "light to the Gentiles" (Isa.42:6; 49:6), for "salvation is of the Jews" (John 4:22). Sad to say, the nation of Israel failed to witness to the

Gentiles that they might believe in the true and living God (Isa. 52:5; Rom. 2:24).

B. Noah lived three hundred and fifty years after the flood. So all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years, and he died (vs. 28-29).

Conclusion:

The descendants of Noah's three sons were represented in the early church: the Ethiopian treasurer, a descendant of Ham (Acts 8:26), Paul, a descendant of Shem (Acts 9), and Cornelius and his family, who were descendants of Japheth (Acts 10).



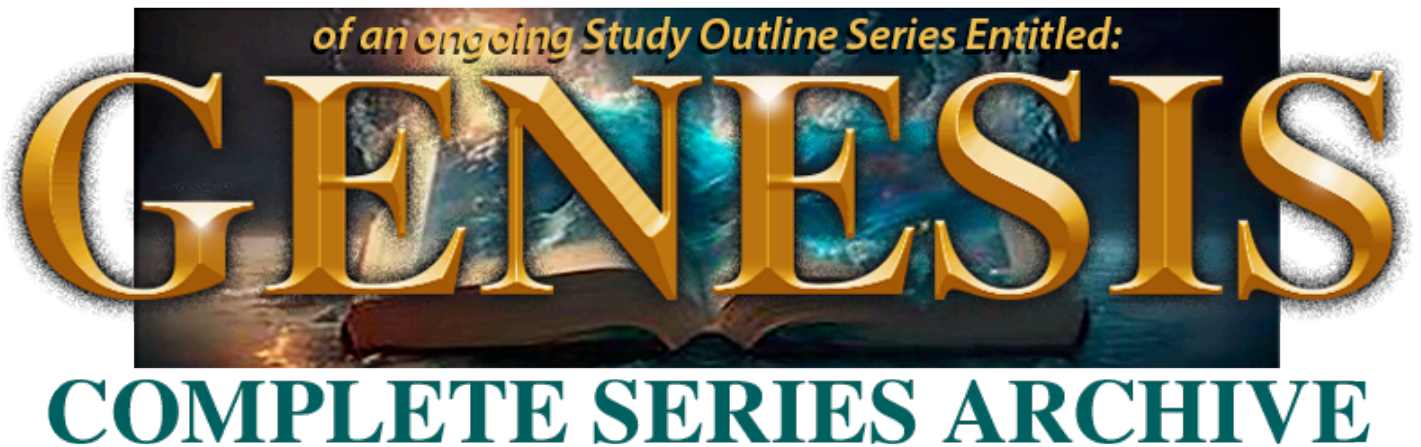
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