

"Promises to Noah"

Genesis 9:1-7

Introduction: Today we shall continue our study in the first 11 chapters of the book of Genesis. The last time we were in the book of Genesis we looked at Noah's sacrifice when he stepped from the ark in Genesis 8:20. That offering by Noah was pleasing to God and it led to 4 blessings which we find in the first 7 verses of Genesis 9. Now as we look at these blessings we need to understand they are for us as well as for Noah and his family.

Today I want to look closely at these promises and as we do we will see that Satan is trying his best to steal these blessing away. In our world today we can see attacks on each of these blessings. As we move closer and closer to the end of the Age of Grace let us not forget that the next Age to come is the Great Tribulation which is a 7 year period and that will be the kingdom of the anti-christ.

Therefore, that kingdom will be anti-God. So as we press closer to the end of this Age of Grace and closer to the kingdom of the anti-christ we will see things begin to shift toward a satanic rule. That means there will be attacks on the blessing which God has given to man and Satan will do all he can to steal away the blessing of God.

The sad thing is that people will be deceived into going right along with the plan of Satan and people will think it is a good idea to give up the blessings. As a matter of fact Satan will convince people that God's blessings are actually a threat to the earth or life on the earth. I will show you exactly what I am talking about as we go through these wonderful promises today.

I. Family

Notice Genesis 9:1

This statement can be quickly skipped over if we are not careful and we can miss the importance of the blessing here.

God knew that for man to reproduce there would be more sinners born into this world. He also knew that for every sinner born would increase the suffering of His Son on the cross.

But God would still permit man to enjoy the blessings of the family. Let me give to you the reasons why family is valued so highly by God.

- 1. The family is an earthly picture of the relationship church with Jesus Christ.**

Genesis 2:21-24

²¹ And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

²² And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

²³ And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

²⁴ Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

In order to God to make a bride for Adam He put Adam into a deep sleep. He then opened his side, took a piece of flesh and from that God made the woman. He then presented her to Adam and the two became one.

This entire passage is a picture of the cross. The deep sleep is a picture of the darkness of death which Jesus experienced on the cross. The blood that was shed to make Eve is a picture of the blood that Jesus shed on the cross so that there could be a bride for Him and the bride is the church. The presentation of the Eve to Adam was a picture of the day that is yet future when the church will be presented to Jesus Christ. The "one flesh" is a picture of how we become the body of Christ when we are saved.

That is a quick look but we can see the spiritual picture within the earthly family.

2. It is in the family that some of the greatest joy is experienced by mankind.

Not only is family an earthly picture of our spiritual relationship with the Lord but is also a place of great joy in our lives. Now, I know that there are troubles within families and I will get to that in a moment but there are few experiences to compare with the joy of mom holding her baby for the first time. There are few things which can compare to a dad watching his son make the winning shot at a basketball game or hit a home run to win the game. There is great joy to be found within the bounds of the family.

3. It is within the family that the greatest pain is felt by mankind.

Not only is there joy within the family but there is also felt within the family the greatest pain and this is a blessing. Now some would disagree with that statement but we have already looked at this in our Genesis study.

Genesis 3:16-17

¹⁶ *Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.*

¹⁷ *And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;*

In the curse God said the woman would feel the greatest pain of all within the family. The man would struggle because the woman would desire to rule over him. There would be clashes and pain with the family but it was all for man's sake.

The pain of the curse felt within the family was all designed to drive man to God.

Let's get back to the thought: the family is a great blessing given by God. It is an earthly picture of a spiritual relationship, within the family there is found great joy, and within the family there is the felt the greatest pain ever felt by man. But that pain has driven many men and women on their knees and caused them to turn to God.

For these reasons Satan has launched his attack upon the family today.

II. Resources

Notice Genesis 9:2a

This is a very interesting statement in the beginning of this verse. When Noah stepped from the ark God placed a fear in the animals which was not there before. This is a good thing when we consider some wild animals. But really it can be seen in all animals. Now the fear in the wild animals is much greater than it is in domestic animals but it is in all animals. It is seen in the fact that animals see man as a dominant being. That is something that has been placed there by God.

Notice Genesis 9:2b

Every animal has been delivered into our hands. That means that animals are here to be used for our benefit. But that does not mean we are to be cruel to animals.

Proverbs 12:10

¹⁰ *A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.*

Animals are not to be abused but God has given them to us to be used in ways which benefit us.

Now there are many people today who desire to see animals treated better than they desire to see people treated. Let me give you some examples.

The people of Peta don't want us to drink milk. They say that to place a cow on a dairy farm places the animal under too much stress. Therefore, they call on their supporters to boycott milk.

Notice Peta's statement from their website:

*"Animals are **not** ours to eat, wear, experiment on, use for entertainment, or abuse in any other way."*

I want you to understand something which many are confused about:

It is ok to wear leather shoes. It is ok to carry a leather purse. It is ok to ride in a horse drawn carriage. It is ok to wear a fur coat. These are reasons why God has given the animals into our hands.

But many today are doing their best to take away this blessing. They desire to give animals the very same rights as we have. Animals are often treated better than many people. I can show you that it is ok to use animals for our benefit.

Genesis 3:21

²¹ *Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.*

God made the first clothing from skins.

Luke 19:35

³⁵ *And they brought him to Jesus: and they cast their garments upon the colt, and they set Jesus thereon.*

Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a young donkey.

III. Food

Notice Genesis 9:3

Here is permission which did not exist before this and that was permission to eat meat. I believe the people before the flood did consume meat but God had never given permission until this verse.

If we notice the verses really close we see there were no restrictions on what could be eaten as far as animals go.

This permission was later reinforced in the New Testament.

Acts 10:10-15

¹⁰ And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

¹¹ And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending upon him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

¹² Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

¹³ And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.

¹⁴ But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

¹⁵ And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

The point is that we are given all meat from God as a blessing. Some people think it is best to live on a Levitical diet found in the Old Testament. That would put us under the Law!

It is ok to eat steak, roast, chicken, pork, and anything else you desire to eat. There are no restrictions placed upon us today.

But Satan has risen up people to attempt to take away the blessing of God. Paul even warned this would happen.

1 Timothy 4:1-3

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

² Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

³ Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

But there is one restriction.

Notice Genesis 9:4

We are not to eat flesh with blood in it. This simply means that the meat is to be cooked. This is for our benefit because disease is carried by the blood.

So we can go home today and eat the roast for dinner or a steak. We can wear our fur coat and leather shoes. You can sit on your leather seats and carry your leather pocket book. That is enjoying the blessings of God.

IV. Protection

Notice Genesis 9:5-6

Here is where God established capital punishment and it was designed to protect human life because we are created in the image of God.

There are a few thoughts I want you to see here:

- 1. Capital punishment is to be carried out by man.**

Notice Genesis 9:6

When someone commits murder their life is to be taken by man.

This is not personal vengeance however. It is civil justice.

Now there are many who protest against capital punishment and they quote 6th Commandment.

Exodus 20:13

Thou shalt not kill.

The word "kill" means "murder". This has nothing to do with capital punishment.

Romans 13:1-4

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

² *Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.*

³ *For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:*

⁴ *For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; **for he beareth not the sword in vain**: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.*

The sword was for the purpose of capital punishment.

Capital punishment was designed to protect the human race because we are created in the image of God. Capital punishment was designed to be a deterrent and it does work for it eliminates repeat offenders.

Conclusion:

I want to close by helping you to see how close we are coming to the kingdom of the anti-christ.

Today in our world people are paid to end the life of a baby. An abortion can cost from \$350.00 up to \$2,000.00.

But listen to what happens if you harm an eagle.

The 1972 amendments increased civil penalties for violating provisions of the Act to a maximum fine of \$5,000 or one year imprisonment with \$10,000 or not more than two years in prison for a second conviction. Felony convictions carry a maximum fine of \$250,000 or two years of imprisonment.

He closer we get to the kingdom of the anti-christ the more we will see the blessings of God attacked. Let me encourage you to draw closer to the Lord. The spiritual blessings cannot be taken away from us.