

**October 18, 2020**

**Genesis 8:15 – 11:9**

## **Covenant, Corruption, & Confusion**

Jerry signed the papers for the mortgage on his new home, agreeing to make a certain payment every month for a specified number of years. Later he quit making the payments, defaulted on his loan, and lost his house. Susan and Tom stood at a wedding altar, promising to remain together “for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health.” A few years later Tom found someone he thought was more exciting and captivating so he left Susan. Lindsay’s boss promised her a big raise if she won a certain contract for the company. She worked hard, put in extra hours, and got the contract. Unfortunately, her boss told her the company couldn’t afford to give her the promised raise.

What do all those stories have in common? Broken promises. This lesson includes an important covenant – a promise made by God to mankind. Fortunately, God doesn’t break His promises.

**Gen. 8:15-17**      What did God tell Noah to do?

**Gen. 8:18-19**      Did Noah obey God?

**Gen. 8:20**          What did Noah do next?

One reason God told Noah to bring seven pairs of clean animals (Gen. 7:2-3) was so he would have the animals necessary to make such offerings.

**Gen. 8:21**          God was pleased with Noah’s offering. What promises did He make?

Notice that God made these promises in spite of the fact that “*the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth.*”

**Gen. 8:22**          God promised the earth would remain.

**Gen. 9:1**            What did God do and say next?

**Gen. 9:2**            What did He say about the animals?

**Gen. 9:3**            What were humans allowed to eat?

Prior to the Flood people ate only plants but afterward God told them they could eat meat. Another reason they brought seven pairs of the clean animals was so they could begin eating meat after they left the ark. They were not to consume the blood.

**Gen. 9:5**            What did God require of any beast or man who killed a human?

**Gen. 9:6**            “Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by \_\_\_\_\_ shall his blood be \_\_\_\_\_.” Why did God command this?

God instituted capital punishment because man is made in God's image. Those who commit murder disrespect God, so executing the murderer declares the value of human life.

**Gen. 9:9-11** What did God establish with Noah and his seed?

What did God promise?

**Gen. 9:12-13** What is the token (sign) of that covenant?

**Gen. 9:15-16** What does the rainbow cause God to do?

What is His promise?

**Gen. 9:20-21** Noah planted a vineyard, made wine, and got drunk. What did his drunkenness cause him to do?

Ham looked upon his father's nakedness with some sinful motive.

**Gen. 9:23** What did Shem and Japheth do?

Noah pronounced a curse upon Ham's son Canaan. His descendants were the Canaanites, who settled in the Promised Land. Chapter 10 tells where all of Noah's descendants settled.

**Gen. 11:1** How many languages were there on earth?

**Gen. 11:2** The people settled in the plain of **Shinar**, the fertile area between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

**Gen. 11:4** What did they plan to build?

Why did they want to do this?

God told mankind to scatter and fill the earth, but these people wanted to stay together and make themselves famous.

**Gen. 11:7** What did God do to their language?

**Gen. 11:8** What else did He do?

**Gen. 11:9** What was the place called?

**Concluding Thoughts:** God made a covenant with Noah and all mankind. He promised never again to destroy the earth with a flood, and He graciously gave the token of the rainbow as a reminder of that covenant. God made a promise and He has kept that promise.

Soon after leaving the safety of the ark Noah and his son revealed their corrupt human nature. Noah got drunk and did something he wouldn't have done in a sober state (that's the way alcohol

always affects people). Ham gleefully looked on his father's nakedness and told his brothers, hoping they would join in, too.

Proud humans decided to build a city and a high tower for their own fame and glory. They wanted to remain together in one place, disobeying God's command to fill the earth. In response to their pride God caused them to speak many different languages and scattered them all over the earth. This is why there are different languages and races, and why people live all over the planet.

This lesson reminds us that God will keep His promises, man is proud and sinful by nature, and the will of God will be done in spite of our disobedience. We should cling to the promises of God, reject and resist our sinful desires, and do what God says. Why don't you pray right now? Thank God for His promises, confess your sin, and commit to obeying His commands.

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**Project:** Memorize **Genesis 9:16**. Read the Bible every day, following the **Daily Bible Reading Guide**.