**SDG Lesson #7**

**Genesis 8 & 9**

1. What is the purpose of the first word, “but,” at the beginning of this chapter?

The word but serves as a transition from or the beginning of a contrast to the narrative that preceded it. The last chapter focused on God’s judgment. We now transition to God’s deliverance and care for His people.

2. “God remembered Noah.” Had He forgotten Noah? We know that isn’t possible, so what is meant by remembered? (Note: Read Psalm 8:4. The Hebrew word that is translated as “mindful” is the same word that is translated as “remembered” in verse 1.

Remembered means to be mindful of or actively concerned about Noah. This concern is characterized in Psalm 8:4 as caring for Noah/mankind and all that were with him.

3. “And God made a wind blow over the earth.” The Hebrew word translated as wind is “*ruakh*.” In Genesis 1:2 this same word is translated as Spirit. This is the beginning of a series of parallels between the post-flood events and those of creation. Note the parallels in the following verses:

8:5 & 1:9 – The waters are gathered into one place

8:7 & 1:20 – The birds fly above the land/sea

8:17 & 1:25 – The beasts roam the land

9:1 & 1:28a – God told them to be fruitful & multiply

9:2 & 1:28b – Man was given dominion over the animals

9:3 & 1:30 – God told man what could be taken as food

Both Parallel accounts describe a beginning. Chapter one deals with original beginning and Chapters eight and nine deal with beginning after the flood.

4. Compare 1:2 and 8:1 with Acts 2:1-4. (Remember, when we compare we look for similarities and when we contrast we look for differences.)

1:2 speaks of the Spirit. 8:1 speaks of the wind. In Acts 2:1-4 both Spirit and wind are brought together. The Holy Spirit came with power and sounded like a rushing wind.

5. Complete the following Chronology of the Flood. The first is done for you.

Genesis 7:4, 10-11— *In the 600th years of Noah in the second month of the 10th day Noah entered the ark*.

Genesis 7:11 – In the 600th year of Noah in the second month on the 17th day the flood began.

Genesis 7:12 & 17 – The flood continued for 40 days and 40 nights, then the rain stopped.

Genesis 7:12, 17 & 24; 8:1 – The waters remained covering everything for a period of 150 days. This would be 5 months of 30 days each. During this time the waters decreased.

Genesis 8:3-4 – In the 600th year of Noah in the seventh month on the ark rested on the mountains of Ararat.

Genesis 8:5 – In the 600th year of Noah, in the tenth month of the first day, the tops of mountains were visible.

Genesis 8:6 – 40 days later in the 600th year of Noah, in the eleventh month on the 10th day, Noah sent out a raven and a dove.

Genesis 8:10-11 – 7 days later, in the 600th year of Noah, in the eleventh month on the 17th day, Noah sent out a dove. It came back with an olive leaf in her beak.

Genesis 8:12 – 7 days later, in the 600th year of Noah, in the eleventh month on the 24th day, Noah sent out a dove and it did not return.

Genesis 8:13 – 7 days later, in the 601st year of Noah, in the first month on the first day, the water was dried up and Noah removed the covering of the ark.

Genesis 8:14 – In the 601st year Noah in the second month on the 27th day of the month God told Noah to leave the ark.

6. How long were Noah, his family and the animals in the ark?

They were in the ark for one year and 17 days.

7. Why didn’t Noah leave the ark on the first day of the first month of the 601st year of his life? After all, the land was dry!!! (Genesis 7:16)

Since God had closed the door, God had to open it. Noah waited for God to tell him to leave.

8. What is the first thing that Noah did upon leaving the ark? Why?

Noah built an altar and offered a burnt offering of every clean animal. This was an act of worship. Noah was acknowledging God’s supremacy, his thanks and, probably, his need for atonement.

**Word Study: Hebrew - nikhoakh** / English – Pleasing (aroma)

This Hebrew word, which is translated as pleasing, is a little more complex than a single word translation. It carries with it a sense of rest, tranquility and atonement or appeasement. In Leviticus 1:3-17, God outlined how the atoning sacrifices were to be conducted. Following each description, it is said that it would be a “pleasing aroma” to the Lord. The aroma only came when the animal had been killed, its blood drained and then placed on the altar. The aroma symbolized the completion of the sacrifice. Therefore, there was atonement or payment for sin, God the righteous Judge was appeased and there was peace, rest and tranquility between God and man. With this simple phrase Moses identities Noah’s sacrifice as an atoning sacrifice.

9. What follows Noah’s sacrifice is often called the Noahic Covenant. What promise did God make at that time? (vs. 21)

He promised that He would never again destroy the entire world because of man’s sin.

10. How did/does God describe the condition of man’s heart?

Man’s heart is filled with evil intentions from the time of our youth or birth.

11. What unique qualification does God make in regards to His promise? (vs. 22) What does this mean? (2nd Peter 3:3-10)

As long as the earth exists, God promises not to destroy all living creatures. However, the earth is not eternal and it will cease to exist when Christ returns and it is consumed in fire.

12. We often hear about the coming national calamities that are a result of global warming, deforestation, fracking, etc. Over the last three decades the scientific community has told us that the world is headed for another ice age (no fall, spring, or summer) or global warming (no fall, spring or winter). What did God promise concerning the seasons? (vs. 22)

As long as the earth exists, there will be cold and heat, summer and winter, seedtime and harvest, night and day.

13. Verse one of Chapter nine explains man’s role in the covenant and actually sets the stage for the next conflict between God and man. What did the covenant require man to do?

Man was to:

1. Be fruitful and multiply
2. Fill the earth

14. Verse two describes a major shift in the relationship between man and rest of the creation. What was this change?

After the flood, all creation would live in fear of man.

15. Verse three describes another major change that helps to explain the shift mentioned in verse two. What was this change? (See also Genesis 1:29)

Originally, God gave the plants to man as food. After the flood, God gave us the animals for food too.

16. Verse four is a short verse. However, it is one of the most important verses of the Bible. What does God reveal in verse four?

Life is in the blood.

17. To understand the importance of this verse, look up the following passages and record what we learn from them.

Romans 3:23 – All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 – The wages of sin is death.

Hebrews 9:22 – Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Hebrews 10:4 – The blood of animals cannot take away sin.

Luke 22:20 – Christ’s blood was shed to take away our sinand pay the price (death) of our sin.

Hebrews 9:11-15 – Christ’s blood is sufficient for all mankind, when His blood was shed His life ended. In doing this, those who put their faith in Him are redeemed.

**Doctrinal Study: Life is in the Blood**

This concept, first referenced in Genesis 4:10 and formally present in Genesis 9:4 is a foundation doctrine of the Christian Faith. Since life is in the blood and the wages of sin is death, blood must be shed, resulting in death, to pay the penalty of sin. Can the blood of animals do this? NO! Animals are inferior to man. Could the blood of another person do this NO! All have sinned and the death of one sinner could only be considered as the just payment for his own sin. What is needed? The blood of someone who is sinless and the blood of someone who is superior to man are needed. This is fulfilled in Christ who as true Man qualities as a sinless man and who as true God is superior to us. Is there any wonder to why there is a constant attack on the account presented in Genesis? If Satan can undermine the authority and accuracy of the first several chapters, he can then also call into question the foundational doctrine of the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

18. In the doctrinal study and the verses we looked up in the previous question, we see that blood is important. The blood of an animal is not worth as much as a human’s blood. The blood of a sinful human is not worth as much as the blood of the sinless Son of God. Verse five describes the value of one man’s blood versus that of another man. What is this relationship and how is it practiced or enforced?

The blood of one man is equal to that of another. Therefore, if one man kills another he is to be killed as payment for his sin.

19. Why is the blood of man worth more than the blood of an animal?

Man was created in the image of God and is therefore, superior to the animal kingdom.

20. With every Covenant there is always a symbol, a sort of memorial stone that was put in place to remind both parties of their responsibilities in the Covenant. What symbol reminds us of the Noahic Covenant?

The rainbow is the symbol or memorial stone of the Noahic Covenant.

21. It is interesting that the field of modern genetics believes that all humans come from a common ancestor. They refer to this common ancestor as “Eve.” If we actually trace our ancestry back, who is the most recent common ancestor according to the Bible?

All life can be traced back to Noah and his three sons.

22. How long did Noah live after the flood? What did he do during this time?

Noah lived for 350 years after the flood. He became a farmer and raised grapes.

23. Noah was described as righteous in his generation; yet, he was still a sinful human. What sin did Noah fall to? (vs. 20 & Luke 21:34; Romans 13:13; Galatians 5:21; 1st Peter 4:3; Proverbs 23:26; 1st Cor. 6:10)

Noah became drunk.

24. What was the sin of Ham? (vs. 22 & Exodus 20:12)

Ham did not honor his father; instead, he talked about Noah’s failing with his brothers.

25. How did Shem & Japheth react to their father’s sin? Why?

Japheth and Shem did what was righteous; they covered their father and did so while showing great respect for their father.

26. How did Noah react to the actions of?

Ham? He cursed the descendants of Ham beginning with his first son Canaan. They would be servants of the descendants of the other brothers.

Shem? Shem was blessed and honored as having the Lord as his God. The Canaanites would be servants of his offspring.

Japheth? Japheth was blessed and his family would grow and live in harmony with the descendants of Shem. The Canaanites would also be the servants of his offspring.