

Genesis 9 part 2

Noah and His Vineyard. Genesis 9:18-28

For over a century Noah has focused upon the judgment of God to come- and that eventually did arrive. He has been building a boat to save himself, his family, and the animals. He had peached boldly and taken what we can be sure was great ridicule before the flood. Now there is a letdown.

He had been under pressure for years- had tremendous vindication from God himself- and now the purpose he had focused on for so long was gone. A new chapter in life and great relief- but we cannot imagine the adrenaline let-down he would have experienced! Elijah experienced a similar effect (1 Kings 19), as did John the Baptist after he was arrested (Lk. 7:19-20).

Noah has now returned to that which he is passionate about- the soil. Genesis 10:20

I read a peacefulness to this situation for Noah. It's a time of new beginnings. The effects of evil have been greatly diminished. The great event that was anticipated for so long is now over. However, sin lives on in the human heart. Even in Noah. (Romans 3:10-11; 1 Cor. 15:20-22)

Living like a pagan. Genesis 9:21

God's people are to be alert and sober. Eph. 5:18. Drunkenness and carousing are the markers of a pagan- not a Christian. 1 Thes, 5:4-8; 1 Peter 1:13, 4:7, 5:8. (For further instruction on the issue of drinking or eating- refer to Romans 14).

The object of ridicule. Genesis 9:22-23

There is much speculation as to what happened as recorded in these verses. Let us not go beyond the scripture. Though it is possible some gross sin occurred- seeing His father in such a way, then calling attention to the dishonor to his brothers was a serious breach of ethics in the ancient family structure. Ham, in the very least, mocked or made fun of God's man.

Let us add that the current climate of indecency in our culture is not acceptable to God. Media of all types have "normalized" the presentation of unclothed people before the eyes of others. God's standards have not changed.

The Cursing of Canaan. Genesis 9:24-28

Canaan was Ham's son. Why God cursed him instead of Ham is unknown. The fulfillment of the curse is seen when Israel conquered the Promised Land and the Canaanites become subservient to them. They occupied the land west of the Jordan to the Mediterranean. (roughly the area of Israel).

They were conquered or subdued by Joshua, David, and Solomon. (Shem).

They were conquered or subdued by Alexander the Great and the Romans (Japheth).

It has been recently discovered through DNA that the Lebanese people are descendants of the Canaanites, getting about 90% of their genes from them. (www.sciencemag.org)