

GOD'S COVENANT WITH NOAH (PART II) – ITS SIGNIFICANCE

Dearly beloved,

In the 1st installment of God's Covenant With Noah, we said that the first significance of God's covenant with Noah was that the church at that time was preserved and therefore saved from the destruction of the world. And that church consists of eight souls. Eight – but that was the church, small, the remnant, and a hut in the garden of cucumbers.

Today, we want to look at the second significance of God's Covenant with Noah, and that is the nature of the Covenant of Grace that is revealed in Genesis 9.9 to 17. The first thing we note is that it is a covenant of fellowship. In contrast to the wickedness of this world, Noah found grace in the sight of God. This means that God showed favour to Noah and this includes his family. And as a result, we read that in the next verse that God walked with Noah (Genesis 6.9).

The second thing we notice is that it is a covenant that God alone established with Noah. Already before the flood, God has established a covenant with Noah (Gen. 6.18, But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee). Noah, his wife and his sons and their wives will come into the ark. After the flood, God confirmed this same covenant with Noah by speaking of it in greater detail. In Genesis 9.1, God blessed Noah and his sons and said unto them, "be fruitful and replenish the earth". Noah will rule the creation including every beast of the field, the fowl of the air and all the fishes of the sea. And in verse 9, God establishes his covenant with Noah, his seed after him and every living creature, fowl, cattle, and every beast that was saved in the ark. The Covenant was not an agreement between God and Noah. Instead, you find that God sovereignty establishes his covenant with Noah. Noah did not accept or reject it. God was active while Noah was passive in the whole process.

... the next instalment - the cosmic nature of the Covenant

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