

GOD'S COVENANT WITH NOAH (PART III) - THE COSMIC NATURE

Dearly brothers and sisters in the Lord,

In the last two instalment of this series, we considered the significance of God's covenant with Noah: namely, first, the church of Jesus Christ of Noah and his family were preserved and therefore were saved from the flood. Secondly, the nature of the covenant was a covenant of fellowship. Today, we consider the cosmic nature of God's Covenant with Noah.

First the significance of the Cosmic Nature of the Covenant

When Satan tempted Adam and Eve he had a larger purpose in mind than just to persuade Adam and Eve to rebel against God's commandments. Satan wanted our first parents to disobey God because he wanted this creation to be his possession over which he could rule. He was interested in robbing God of all that belonged to him. He wanted to ascend the throne of the universe and taking from the hands of the Creator this vast and beautiful creation. And in order to do that he had to gain man as his ally because man was the representative of God in the world, placed in the world as king, able to rule over the creation and to subdue it. But Satan himself was spirit and had no access to this material world and the physical creation and so he had to get man to agree to be his representative instead of God's so that he could rule through man with man as his willing slave. While Satan surely accomplished his purpose it was short-lived as God's promised Christ would crush the head of the serpent and foil his evil plots. And the next step for Satan was to see to it that Christ would never come and an attempt was made to kill him when King Herod gave a command to his soldiers to kill all Hebrew children under two years old. He failed and subsequently, he tempted Christ offering him all the kingdoms of the world, only if Christ would bow down before him.

But God revealed to Noah that Satan would never be successful. God's purpose in sending the seed of the woman would also mean that God would not allow Satan to take this creation out of God's hand. God would establish his covenant not only with Noah with his seed, but also with the whole creation. This present creation, even though under the curse now because of the fall of Adam its head, must be God's and will be God's. And while Satan now claims the present creation as his own, it is still true that the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof.

So how was the creation saved? When men fell as the head of the creation, the punishment not only fell on man but also upon the creation (Gen. 3.17, 18 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 thou shalt eat of it all the days of thy life; thorns also and thistles also shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field). And so God send the second Adam, our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the head of his people and his creation, and whose blood was shed not only for the elect but also for the whole creation.

To be continued... "This covenant was also made with all the beasts of creation"

Pastor Paul Goh