

The Noahic Covenant

Genesis 9:1-17

What is the Noahic Covenant?

Covenant of Preservation

The Noahic Covenant is a promise that God made to all mankind as well as to all the creatures that he would not destroy the world until his work of saving a people was accomplished.

When was the Noahic Covenant established?

- The first mention of the Noahic Covenant is in *Genesis 6:18*. God introduces the Noahic Covenant before the flood but then explains it fully after the flood. *Genesis 6:17-22*
- In order for God's plan of salvation to be accomplished Noah and his family had to be preserved through the flood.
- It does seem that the Noahic Covenant was established right after Noah came off the ark. As soon as he sacrifice to the Lord God spoke to him and gave him the promise of the Noahic Covenant. *Genesis 8:20-22*
- The Noahic Covenant is in full force until the 2nd Coming. *2 Peter 3:7*

What is NEW about the post-flood era?

Be Fruitfull and Mulitply?

- This commandment is a repeat of what was said to Adam and Eve on the 6th day of creation following the creation of man. *Genesis 1:28*
- The historical context of both commands seems to have been tied to the fact that the earth needed to be populated.

The Relationship between Man and animal

- After the flood the relationship between men and animals changes. Now our God has put a fear and dread of man on all the animals.
- This does not mean that animals cannot be tamed. What it does mean is that animals are not naturally inclined to be attracted to men.

Meat is PUT on the Menu

- When man was created green plants were given to mankind to eat. *Genesis 1:30*
- After the flood meat of animals is given to mankind to eat.
- Sin coming into the world at the Fall has nothing to do with the change in God's menu for the diet of mankind.

Eating of Blood is Forbidden

- We cannot be sure that this command was a part of the Noahic Covenant. The Noahic Covenant seems to be tied to preserving the earth.
- Blood is a symbol of the life of the individual and therefore it cannot be eaten.
- This command does not seem to be tied to a specific era or covenant. Therefore it applies to the end of the age.

Capitol Punishment

- We are not to take someone else's life because man is made in the image of God and therefore life is very valuable to God.
- Deterrence is not mentioned as a reason for having capitol punishment.
- The lawful taking of life is not under discussion here but murder. There are commands in the Old Covenant era to kill others. *1 Samuel 15:1-11*
- In the New Covenant era the government has the authority to kill. *Romans 13:1-7*

Sign of the Covenant

- The rainbow was the designated sign by God that the Noahic Covenant is still in effect.

- We as believers have no fear that the earth will be prematurely destroyed.