

Deane Parish Church w/b 20th November 2016
Genesis 8:20-9:17

Read Genesis 8:20-9:17

(for an overview of the passage, listen to my 9am sermon which will be on deanechurch.org from midday Monday 21st)

Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord

(Gen 6:8)

Noah did everything just as God commanded him

(Gen 6:22)

Then the Lord shut him in

(Gen 7:16)

1. What might these verses tell us about:

(i) Noah's salvation? (ii) Our salvation?

When we get to this week's passage, God has brought the ark and its occupants safely through the flood.

Abel (Gen 4:4) brought the best of his livestock as an offering to God and his offering found favour with God.

2. What does Noah's first act upon leaving the ark tell us about Noah?

3. How does this challenge us in *our* response to God's grace, in bringing Christians through the flood (judgement) to salvation?

In this passage we see that people are allowed to eat meat (9:3) but are not allowed to shed human blood (9:5). And God establishes a covenant (9:9) with Noah and his descendants.

4. With this covenant: (i) What was God's commitment? (ii) What part did humans have to play? (iii) What was the sign of the covenant?

5. Can you think of any other covenants between God and people? For each: (i) What was God's commitment? (ii) What part did humans have to play? (iii) What was the sign of the covenant?

The Old Testament prophet Jeremiah foretelling the last and greatest covenant says (Jeremiah 31:31-34):

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbour and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

6. How do we get to enjoy the most blessing from this last and greatest covenant?