

Beginnings: Study and Discussion Questions
Lesson Nine: The Beginning of Life Under Covenants – Genesis 9:1-17

Read Genesis 9:1-7.

- 1) In these verses, we learn that following the Flood, God decreed law and order for mankind. Whether or not these represent actual changes to the antediluvian (pre-flood) order, summarize the major principles of order given for the new world.

- 2)
 - a) Which command in Genesis 9:1-7 was also given in Genesis 1?
 - b) How does Genesis 9:19 speak of its fulfillment?
 - c) Why do you think this command was God's will for His people? Consider both practical and spiritual reasons.

- 3) This section is introduced by the words, "Then God blessed Noah and his sons..." (verse 1). How do God's commands and established order bless believers in general and also, you specifically?

From Genesis 9:1-7:

- 4) State the command given to Noah and his sons in Genesis 9:4?
- 5) In what specific ways is blood vital to life?
- 6) How is blood significant in the following passages?
 - a) Genesis 3:21 (implied)
 - b) Leviticus 17:10-11, 14
 - c) Exodus 12:3-7, 23
 - d) Luke 22:20 with John 6:54 and 1 John 1:7

7) What are some practical ways in which you express your respect for the sanctity of life?

From Genesis 9:1-7:

- 8) Based on Genesis 9:1-7 and your recollection of the condition of humanity prior to the Flood (Genesis 4:23-24; 6:5), give reasons why God mandated capital punishment in Genesis 9:5, 6.
- 9) List all the radical adjustments Noah and his family would have had to make in rebuilding their lives after the Flood. Assume Genesis 9:2-6 represents changes in the order of life following the Flood. You may also include any ideas based on previous lessons in Genesis.
- 10) 2 Corinthians 5:17 tells us that anyone who is in Christ is a new creation: “The old has gone, the new has come.” What adjustments are you *currently* making to leave the “old” behind and live in the new, Christ-like manner?

Read Genesis 9:8-17.

- 11) Recall (or look up) and record your definition of “covenant” from Lesson 7.
- 12) Can you think of any reason why God chose to communicate His decision to never flood the earth again to Noah and his family? Consider: Is God obligated to communicate His decisions to mankind? If not, why would He have on this occasion? Would this knowledge benefit Noah in some way?
- 13) How does God communicate with people today? See Psalm 19:1, John 16:13, Ephesians 4:29, and Hebrews 1:1-2, 4:12. What can you do to ensure that you hear His voice? See Psalm 46:10a, John 10:2-4, Ephesians 4:30, and 1 John 1:9.

In consideration of Genesis 9:8-17:

14) Look up and read about the following Biblical covenants. Answer the four questions about each.

- a)** Noahic Covenant: Genesis 6:18, 9:8-17
 - i.** Which words or phrases summarize God’s promise(s)? Include verse numbers.
 - ii.** Who was the covenant with?
 - iii.** What restrictions, conditions or limitations did the covenant have?
 - iv.** What “sign” was associated with the covenant?
- b)** Patriarchal (Abrahamic) Covenant: Genesis 12:2-3, 15:2-5, 15:18, 17:1-19
 - i.** Which words or phrases summarize God’s promise(s)? Include verse numbers.
 - ii.** Who was the covenant with?
 - iii.** What restrictions, conditions or limitations did the covenant have?
 - iv.** What “sign” was associated with the covenant?
- c)** Mosaic (Sinaitic) Covenant: Exodus 24:1-8, 31:13; Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 5 (skim)
 - i.** Which words or phrases summarize God’s promise(s)? Include verse numbers.
 - ii.** Who was the covenant with?
 - iii.** What restrictions, conditions or limitations did the covenant have?
 - iv.** What “sign” was associated with the covenant?
- d)** Davidic Covenant: 2 Samuel 7 (especially verses 7-16)
 - i.** Which words or phrases summarize God’s promise(s)? Include verse numbers.
 - ii.** Who was the covenant with?
 - iii.** What restrictions, conditions or limitations did the covenant have?
 - iv.** What “sign” was associated with the covenant?
- e)** New Covenant: Jeremiah 31:31-34, Matthew 26:28, Luke 22:20, Galatians 3:29, and Hebrews 9:15
 - i.** Which words or phrases summarize God’s promise(s)? Include verse numbers.
 - ii.** Who was the covenant with?
 - iii.** What restrictions, conditions or limitations did the covenant have?
 - iv.** What “sign” was associated with the covenant?

15) If you have entered a relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ, you have entered into the New Covenant with God. The New Testament is filled with promises for those in this covenant relationship. What difference can it make in your life today that the God of all creation has committed Himself into a permanent covenant relationship with you? Try to think of something specific to the events or circumstances of your life this very day.