

# SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE 11.20.22

## Noah: The Final Years | Genesis 9:18-29

*from the series, Worldview Matters: Studies in Genesis 1-11*

It is helpful to see the chronology of Noah's life:

### 1. The “fruitful” years, 1-500

Noah married, obeyed the Adamic covenant to be fruitful and multiply and fathered three sons.

### 2. The “faithful” years, 501-600

Noah faithfully pursued two main objectives in his life—to build an ark and to preach.

### 3. The “flood” years, 600-601

It rained for forty days, but the waters prevailed 150 days.

### 4. The “final” years, 602-950

We see a promising beginning for Noah in the new, post-flood world. He builds an altar and pitches a tent. He is moving forward in obedience and righteousness. But. He is still a sinful human.

**MAIN IDEA: Sin survived the flood.**

### 1. Noah's sons (v. 18-19)

The world will be repopulated through Noah's three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth—all of humanity is descended from Adam through Noah. Shem and Japheth will bless their father; Ham will not, but we must remember that Ham was also a believer and his first three sons will be as well. Although Noah's three sons were raised together in the same environment, they will live different lives.

### 2. Noah's sin (v. 20-21)

We can trace a number of parallels between Adam and Noah:

#### a. Sons

Noah and Adam each had two godly sons and one ungodly son. The ungodly sons (Cain and Ham) will give rise to an ungodly line of descendants.

#### b. Soil

Noah is called “a man of the soil” and Adam was made from the dust of the ground. Both work and keep the ground.

#### c. Sin

Adam ate the fruit and realized his nakedness; Noah drank the fruit of the vine and was found naked in his tent. Drinking alcohol was not sinful—it was abuse of alcohol, drunkenness.

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### 3. Noah's shame (v. 22-23)

Ham used his father's shame as an opportunity to exploit him and drive a wedge in the family. He broke the fifth commandment, failing to honor his father. Ham's descendants, the Canaanites, will be a source of temptation to Israel much later in their history, when God has charged them with acting as his instrument of judgement, driving them out of the Promised Land.

Like Noah, our sin is exposed, and we are in need of covering. Noah's other sons covered him, but refused to look at him in his shame. Christ, who died naked for our sins, covers us with the only clothes that will fit us—the gospel. We are not only covered, but we are seen. God knows us, sees us in our vileness, and graciously provides our covering.

### 4. Noah's speech (v. 24-29)

In the aftermath of his shame, Noah pronounced blessings and curses on his sons.

- a. Ham is not cursed directly. He is a believer (or else he would not have been spared the judgement of the flood). His son, Canaan, however, is not, and it is on him that the curse falls. In the removal of the Canaanites from the Promised Land, we see the fulfillment of this curse.
- b. Shem is the ancestor of the Israelites. From his line comes Jesus Christ. Shem worshipped the Lord and honored his father.
- c. Japheth also worshipped the Lord and honored his father. His descendants were friendly with the godly line of Shem and (along with Ham's descendants) were among the nations that would be blessed by Shem's descendent.

The passage ends with the death of Noah. Just like Adam and every generation between them, Noah died. He was not the new Adam, just the next Adam. We must look forward in Biblical history for that new Adam, Jesus Christ.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **What does it mean that Noah was not the new Adam, just the next Adam? How does this question connect us back to Genesis 3:15?**
2. **How does this story of Ham and his son Canaan help us to understand later events in Israel's history?**
3. **How does the covering of Noah help us to understand the gospel?**



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