

Sermon Outline and Questions

Pastor Dave – Sun 29th Oct – 2023

Back To the Beginning

Title – A Family Divided.

Genesis 9:18-29

There is one aspect about the bible and that is – it tells it as it is.

- Last week we looked at the covenant that God made with Noah.
- Being given a sign to remember the promise that God made – The Rainbow.

A Family Divided.

Past success is no guarantee of future victory.

- This plays out for Noah in this passage.
- A man who walked with God.
- But still possessed a sinful flesh.
- This came with him as he stepped out of the ark.
- We can relate to this.

Genesis 9:18-29 Christian Standard Bible

Prophecies about Noah's Family

¹⁸ Noah's sons who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Ham was the father of Canaan. ¹⁹ These three were Noah's sons, and from them the whole earth was populated.

²⁰ Noah, as a man of the soil, began by planting^[a] a vineyard. ²¹ He drank some of the wine, became drunk, and uncovered himself inside his tent. ²² Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father naked and told his two brothers outside. ²³ Then Shem and Japheth took a cloak and placed it over both their shoulders, and walking backward, they covered their father's nakedness. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father naked.

²⁴ When Noah awoke from his drinking and learned what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵ he said:

Canaan is cursed.

He will be the lowest of slaves to his brothers.

²⁶ He also said:

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem;

Let Canaan be^[b] Shem's slave.

²⁷ Let God extend Japheth;^[c]

let Japheth dwell in the tents of Shem;

let Canaan be Shem's slave.

²⁸ Now Noah lived 350 years after the flood. ²⁹ So Noah's life lasted 950 years; then he died.

- The last details of Noah's life recorded.
- It's discouraging to see.
- Not what he hoped for.

To see this happening in Noah's family.

- Happening in our family – our church family.
- Sin creeps in – it is always there.

Point #1 – A Fathers Sin.

Genesis 9:20-21

²⁰ Noah, as a man of the soil, began by planting^[a] a vineyard. ²¹ He drank some of the wine, became drunk, and uncovered himself inside his tent.

- 3 sons – we are reminded that these 3 and their descendants populated the whole world.

There are no various races – but there are different ethnicities.

- All nations come from this family – Ref Genesis 10.

What we see in Verse 20 and 21 is a father's sin.

- He is not the only guilty party.
- A farmer – as they settle, they begin to farm.

Question – How much time has passed?

In this time span he plants a vineyard, the vines grow, he harvests the grapes and produces wine.

- Then he drinks the wine, gets drunk and uncovers himself!

What we see here is his sin.

- He is intoxicated and doesn't realise what he is doing.
- Bringing shame on himself.

Question – Did he really know what he was doing?

- He would have known about the effects of drinking too much alcohol.
- Fully aware of the dangers of drinking too much.
- But Noah wasn't on his guard.

Important Point.

Noah's sin was the sin of drunkenness, not of drinking wine.

- Setting standards in our families.
- Wine in the bible is not taught as sin.

In John Ch 2 – Jesus made, and it was the best wine.

- Served by Jesus at the last supper.
- A fermented beverage.

John 19:30 Christian Standard Bible

³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished." Then bowing his head, he gave up his spirit.

Deuteronomy 14:2 Christian Standard Bible

²⁶ You may spend the silver on anything you want: cattle, sheep, goats, wine, beer, or anything you desire. You are to feast there in the presence of the LORD your God and rejoice with your family.

Leviticus 23:13 Christian Standard Bible

¹³ Its grain offering is to be four quarts^[a] of fine flour mixed with oil as a food offering to the LORD, a pleasing aroma, and its drink offering will be one quart^[b] of wine.

Numbers 28:7 Christian Standard Bible

⁷ The drink offering is to be a quart with each lamb. Pour out the offering of beer to the LORD in the sanctuary area.

1 Timothy 5:23 Christian Standard Bible

²³ Don't continue drinking only water, but use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.

We need to keep what scripture teaches on something clear.

- Drunkenness is sin.

Ephesians 5:18 Christian Standard Bible

¹⁸ And don't get drunk with wine, which leads to reckless living, but be filled by the Spirit:

- Born out in Noah's life – reckless – No wherewithal.

It is not always shameful to be naked – as we think about sexual relations between husband and wife.

Isaiah 5:20-22 Christian Standard Bible

²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good

and good evil,

who substitute darkness for light

and light for darkness,

who substitute bitter for sweet

and sweet for bitter.

²¹ Woe to those who consider themselves wise

and judge themselves clever.^[a]

²² Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine,

who are champions at pouring beer,

- A woe to people who get drunk.

Proverbs 23:20-21 Christian Standard Bible

²⁰ Don't associate with those who drink too much wine or with those who gorge themselves on meat.

²¹ For the drunkard and the glutton will become poor, and grogginess will clothe them in rags.

- Inebriated – not thinking right – out of control.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Christian Standard Bible

⁹ Don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be deceived: No sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, or males who have sex with males,^[a] ¹⁰ no thieves, greedy people, drunkards, verbally abusive people, or swindlers will inherit God's kingdom. ¹¹ And some of you used to be like this. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

- This is what an unrighteous person's life looks like.

Paul says – "Some of you used to look like this".

¹¹ And some of you used to be like this. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

- Being drunk is not leading a righteous life.

We see these things in the qualifications of an Elder and Deacon – in 1 Timothy and Titus.

1 Timothy 3:1-3 Christian Standard Bible Qualifications for Overseers and Deacons

³ This saying is trustworthy: "If anyone aspires to be an overseer,^[a] he desires a noble work." ² An overseer, therefore, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, self-controlled, sensible, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not an excessive drinker, not a bully but gentle, not quarrelsome, not greedy.

1 Timothy 3:8 Christian Standard Bible

⁸ Deacons, likewise, should be worthy of respect, not hypocritical, not drinking a lot of wine, not greedy for money,

- Elders and Deacons should not be drunk.
- This is not representative of the life a Christian should live.

The opposite exemplified in the life of Lot and his family.

Noah engages in too much wine and sin before God.

- A man who walked before God.
- A man considered to be a preacher of righteousness.

Question – Was he relying on his past successes?

This sin of Noah does have devastating consequences on his family.

Point #2 – His Son’s Reactions.

Genesis 9:22-23 Christian Standard Bible

²² Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father naked and told his two brothers outside. ²³ Then Shem and Japheth took a cloak and placed it over both their shoulders, and walking backward, they covered their father’s nakedness. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father naked.

There is a level of respect lost when we see Christians, we know drunk.

- Maybe the sons had a loss of respect in this moment for Noah their father?

Ham had a different reaction to his two other brothers.

Verse 22-23

- Yes, Noah sinned.
- But Ham sinned against God.
- Scripture speaks possibly more severely about Ham’s sin.

Ham flippantly disregards his father’s shame – he dishonors his father.

- Scripture says that children are to honor their mother and father.
- Ham mocking his father in this moment.
- In front of his brothers.

Question – Was he thinking if my dad can do it, then I can do it?

When we sin in our family, we can get the reaction of “well you did that, so I can do it”.

- Maybe even Ham was discrediting his father’s faith.
- Dishonoring his father.

Scripture tells us these things.

Leviticus 19:3 Christian Standard Bible

³“Each of you is to respect his mother and father. You are to keep my Sabbaths; I am the LORD your God.

Exodus 20:12 Christian Standard Bible

¹²Honor your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

Deuteronomy 5:16 Christian Standard Bible

¹⁶Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and so that you may prosper in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

Exodus 21:17 Christian Standard Bible

¹⁷“Whoever curses his father or his mother must be put to death.

- God is saying – “If you dishonor your parents your life should come to an end.

Old Testament commands given to Israel helping us come to understanding the gravity of dishonoring our parents.

In the New Testament – Paul is saying – “Children honor your mother and father”.

Ephesians 6:2-3 Christian Standard Bible

²**Honor your father and mother**, which is the first commandment with a promise, ³**so that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life in the land.**^{[a][b]}

- It goes well with us when we honor our mother and father.

Colossians 3:20 Christian Standard Bible

²⁰ Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

This is part of what Ham is guilty of...

Proverbs 6:16-19 Christian Standard Bible

What the LORD Hates

¹⁶ The LORD hates six things;

in fact, seven are detestable to him:

¹⁷ arrogant eyes, a lying tongue,

hands that shed innocent blood,

¹⁸ a heart that plots wicked schemes,

feet eager to run to evil,

¹⁹ a lying witness who gives false testimony,

and one who stirs up trouble among brothers.

- Ham seeking to stir up trouble – which is detestable to God.

Ham could have and should done the following...

- Done the right thing from the beginning – love and proper conduct in the situation to his father.

1 Timothy 4:12 Christian Standard Bible

¹² Don't let anyone despise your youth, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love,^[a] in faith, and in purity.

- Ham could have set the example – son to father.

There is a big difference here in what the other 2 brothers do.

Big Difference - Shem and Japheth

Genesis 9:23 Christian Standard Bible

Prophecies about Noah's Family

²³ Then Shem and Japheth took a cloak and placed it over both their shoulders, and walking backward, they covered their father's nakedness. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father naked.

Not even wanting to disgrace their father by walking into the tent backwards and covering him.

- Showing honour.
- They didn't mock his sin.

For Ham it was an occasion to make light and mock.

The other 2 brothers do something very different.

Point # 3 – The Last Implications

Genesis 9:24-25 Christian Standard Bible

²⁴ When Noah awoke from his drinking and learned what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵ he said:

Canaan is cursed.

He will be the lowest of slaves to his brothers.

- Curse given to Hams youngest son.

This is prophetic -

- Through this curse Canaan will become the lowest of slaves.
- The Canaanites becoming slaves to the people of Israel.

A curse and a coupling of blessings.

- V25-26 give an idea of where Shem is spiritually.

Genesis 9:26-27 Christian Standard Bible

²⁶ He also said:

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem;

Let Canaan be^[b] Shem's slave.

²⁷ Let God extend Japheth;^[c]

let Japheth dwell in the tents of Shem;

let Canaan be Shem's slave.

Biblical principal here...

- He received what he sowed – “You reap what you sow”.

Commentary writer –

- Even in this curse God’s mercy was evident.
- It was only the Canaanites that became slaves to the descendants of Shem.
- The descendants of Canaan – being ungodly people.
- The sinfulness of Ham played out their lives.

Blessing on Shem – Noah blesses the other 2 brothers.

This his line – is the line Abraham and ultimately the Messiah.

- Shem a faithful man to the Lord – leading on to Abraham and to David.

We have been blessed as most of us trace our roots back to Japheth and his faithfulness and the blessing that he has received as we receive blessings.

Scripture tells us to guard our hearts with all diligence.

Sin – we are not the exception to the rule!

- Guard your heart with all diligence.

1 Corinthians 10 – making reference to – “These things happened to them as an example”.

- We sometimes think that we have it together, and that what happened to so and so won’t happen to us.

Question – What would have been different had Noah guarded his heart?

- Let us not be like Noah and let our guard down.

Proverbs 4:23 Christian Standard Bible

²³ Guard your heart above all else,^[a]

for it is the source of life.

Proverbs 4:25-27 Christian Standard Bible

²⁵ Let your eyes look forward;
fix your gaze^[a] straight ahead.

²⁶ Carefully consider the path^[b] for your feet,
and all your ways will be established.

²⁷ Don't turn to the right or to the left;
keep your feet away from evil.

Question – What would have been different had Noah of kept his feet away from evil.

- What can we learn from Noah?

Philippians 4:8-9 Christian Standard Bible

⁸ Finally^[a] brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable—if there is any moral excellence and if there is anything praiseworthy—dwell on these things. ⁹ Do what you have learned and received and heard from me, and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

- Dwell on these things.

Ephesians 5:15-18 Christian Standard Bible

Consistency in the Christian Life

¹⁵ Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk—not as unwise people but as wise— ¹⁶ making the most of the time,^[a] because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ And don't get drunk with wine, which leads to reckless living, but be filled by the Spirit:

Remembering that...

Matthew 26:41 Christian Standard Bible

⁴¹ Stay awake and pray, so that you won't enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

- We sometimes think that our flesh is strong – having it the wrong way round.
- We need to recite and meditate on these things.

Ephesians 6:10-20 Christian Standard Bible

Christian Warfare

¹⁰ Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by his vast strength. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this darkness, against evil, spiritual forces in the heavens. ¹³ For this reason take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand. ¹⁴ Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt around your waist, righteousness like armor on your chest, ¹⁵ and your feet sandaled with readiness for the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In every situation take up the shield of faith with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit—which is the word of God. ¹⁸ Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel. ²⁰ For this I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I might be bold enough to speak about it as I should.

We can sometimes look back we are going to do the things that Noah did – why do we have to look back at these guys?

- We have the potential to fall into sin like Noah and Ham.
- We need to put on the armour of God.

Maybe we have been guilty of dishonoring our parents.

- Whether they were great parents or not God's word calls us to honor and respect them.

Maybe we need to confess this or our drunkenness and be more active on being on guard.

²⁸ Now Noah lived 350 years after the flood. ²⁹ So Noah's life lasted 950 years; then he died.

- We have no more information as to how he lived.
- We do know that Noah died – an Old Testament believer who went to be with his redeemer.
- That he was a man of God – who wrestled with sin.

As Christians [Proverbs 4:23](#) tell us that we are to guard our hearts with all diligence – above all else - for it is the source of life.