

Remembering

God Remembers His Promises

Foundation

Bible passage: Genesis 9.8-18

Genesis 6-8 describes the judgment of God on the sin of mankind during the days of Noah. After the flood God made a covenant with Noah which therefore included a special promise. Covenant is an important word in the Bible used over 300 times from Genesis to Revelation and of course by Jesus at the Last Supper. It normally means an agreement between two people or groups with conditions and promises.

Only eight people survived the flood in the days of Noah and God told them to do the same thing that He had said to Adam and Eve at the beginning “be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth (Gen 1.28, 9.1 & 9.7). But what would happen if people started to turn away from God again? Would He destroy them so that it all had to start over again?

The covenant God made with Noah is described in Genesis 9.8-18. Like some other



“I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant...”

covenants it was accompanied with a sign - the rainbow. This promise was to all the descendants of Noah, which includes everyone in the world today, together with all the animals of the land and air. God promised that He would never again destroy the world through a flood.

God says that the rainbow is to remind Him of the promise He made:

“I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.”

It might seem a bit odd that God needs to be reminded like this, but it is a great encouragement to us to know that God remembers His promises. Therefore, when we see the rainbow we can also remember the promise God made to us that day.

Rainbows

A rainbow is caused when light from the sun is passes through water droplets in the atmosphere. This usually occurs after rain, and a person always sees an arch as if they were in line with the centre. In the main rainbow, light is bent through the water droplets so that we see the whole spectrum with red at the top and violet at the bottom. The colours are reversed in an outer arch.

It may be that rainbows did not happen before the flood (some suggest the atmospheric conditions were different) or that God gave a special meaning to something that already happened.



We can trust all God's promises because he remembers them, and rainbows remind us of this.