

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

MARCH 23, 2022

GENESIS 9:18-28

### INTRODUCTION:

1. As the post-flood life of Noah and his family begins, the historical account of Israel's future home begins to unfold -- the land of Canaan.
  - a) The account begins by emphasizing that "*Ham was the father of Canaan*" (Gen. 9.18,19).
  - b) The land of Canaan is the land on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea (Palestine), and was inhabited by a number of different nations. (Num. 13.27-29)
  - c) This was the land that God would give to the children of Israel. (Gen. 13.14-18; 23.19)
2. In this account, we are reminded of the immediate and long term consequences of sin.

### I. THE DRUNKENNESS OF NOAH

A. **GENESIS 9.20:** "*And Noah began to be a farmer, and he planted a vineyard.*"

1. Noah was a "*man of the soil*" [ESV] (cf. Gen. 3.23; 4.2)
2. **GENESIS 9.21:** "*He drank of the wine and became drunk.*"
  - a) How drunk was Noah? (Gen. 9.24).
  - b) Of interest, his drunkenness is not the central focus of this account.

B. What does the Bible say about alcohol?

1. Consider how alcohol is described in the Bible.
  - a) It is destructive. (Prov. 23.29,30)
  - b) It is seductive. (Prov. 23.31-34)
  - c) It is addictive. (Prov. 23.35)
2. The sin of alcohol. (1 Pet. 4.3)
3. But didn't Jesus turn water into wine? (John 2.6-10)
4. Alcohol for medicinal purposes. (1 Tim. 5.23)

### II. THE NAKEDNESS OF NOAH

A. The character of Ham.

1. **GENESIS 9.22:** "*And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father*"
  - a) Nakedness is a reference to sexual activity. (Lev. 18.6-18; Ezek. 16.8)
  - b) Nakedness is equated with shame. (Gen. 2.25; 3.8-11; Nahum 3.5; Isa 47.3)
  - c) It is a sin to look at the nakedness of another. (Hab. 2.15; 1 John 2.15,16)
2. **GENESIS 9.22:** "*and told his two brothers outside.*" Why? (v. 24; cf. 1 Cor. 13.6)
3. Contrast Ham's behavior with that of his brothers. (Gen. 9.23,24)

B. The curse of Noah.

1. **GENESIS 9.25:** "*Then he said: 'Cursed be Canaan; A servant of servants He shall be to his brethren.'*" Canaan – "to be humbled."
2. The land of Canaan became a land of perversion and idolatry which can be traced back to the behavior and perverted delight of Ham. (Lev. 18.24-28; 20.23)
3. **GENESIS 9.26,27:** "*Shem, and may Canaan be his servant. May God enlarge Japheth, And may he dwell in the tents of Shem; And may Canaan be his servant.*"

C. The continuance of shame.

1. God has repeatedly expressed His disgust of sexual immorality.
  - a) The sexual sins of the Canaanites are an "abomination," "perversion," and "iniquities" (Lev. 18.22-25)
  - b) The sexual immorality of Sodom and Gomorrah. (Gen. 18.20,25; 19.7; Jude 7)
2. In our "enlightened" society, we are encouraged to accept any kind of sexual behavior. But God still is abhorred by sexual immorality. (1 Cor. 6.9,10; Rom. 1.32)