

New World New Rules

Genesis 9:1-7 (NKJV)

1 So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. 2 And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move on the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand. 3 Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. 4 But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. 5 Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man. 6 "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man. 7 And as for you, be fruitful and multiply; Bring forth abundantly in the earth And multiply in it."

As Noah and his family begin to adventure into this new world God pronounces a benediction on them. Noah and his family is sort of like Adam and Eve were at the creation. The world has been given a fresh start. But how will things be different?

Since as God says the problem lies with in the people and not their environment. As God said, "the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth;" so how will it be different this time.

Well God will lay down some similar laws and some new laws. These things will help but they cannot solve the problem that only a Redeemer, a Savior can solve. For that they will wait some 2,000 years.

So what is different now, since the flood that wasn't there before? What are God's commands to them?

I. Be fruitful and multiply

A. This is the same thing that God had commanded at the creation.

1. To the animal creation - Ge 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."
2. To mankind - Ge 1:28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

B. Warren Wiersbe has a couple of interesting comments on this.

1. In Scripture, children are described as a blessing, not a curse; and to have many children and grandchildren was evidence of the favor of God (Gen. 24:60; Pss. 127:3-5; 128:3-4). Bible Exposition Commentary (BE Series) - Old Testament - The Bible Exposition Commentary – Pentateuch.
2. Many people today don't seem to have that attitude toward children. Starting with the Revolutionary War, in nearly 200 years of American

history, 1,200,000 military personnel have been killed in nine major wars. *[today 2015 the stats I looked at say a little over 1.3 million]* But in one year *[1990]* in the United States, 1,600,000 babies are legally aborted. In biblical times, Jewish couples wouldn't have considered aborting a child, no matter how difficult their circumstances or meager their resources. Life was God's gift and children were a heritage from the Lord, treasures to be protected and invested for His glory. Bible Exposition Commentary (BE Series) - Old Testament - The Bible Exposition Commentary – Pentateuch. *Brackets added*

- C. I think that the problem is that life has little value any longer.
 - 1. We are going to deal with this in verse six but when life is not valued the whole of society changes.
- II. There will be a change between the animals and mankind.
 - A. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move on the earth, and on all the fish of the sea.
 - 1. God did not create a survival of the fittest type world.
 - 2. The whole of creation lived in harmony.
 - 3. Part of that changed with the fall.
 - 4. But much more changed after the flood.
 - 5. Since the animals are now for food, they are given a natural fear of man that helps them defend themselves.
 - B. They are given into your hand.
 - 1. At the creation man was to have control over the animals, to subdue them.
 - 2. But now man is given the flesh of animals to eat.
 - C. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs.
 - 1. This is not to say that before the flood that people did not eat animals for all sorts of sin was committed before the flood.
 - 2. But it is to say that if they did they did it without God's permission or blessing.
 - 3. But now God gives permission and blessing to eat meat.
 - 4. We do not know the reason. Some have suggested that it was because of the change in the climate that now they would need more protein that the meat would provide.

- III. But God does lay down some ground rules for eating meat.
- A. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.
 - B. There is one thing that we have in common with the animal creation and that is blood.
 - C. God wants the people to respect the life of the animals for they have blood even as mankind has blood.
 1. This will be clearer later.
- IV. God demands capital punishment.
- A. 5 Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man. 6 "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed;
 1. Three times in this passage it tells us that God requires the death of those who are murders.
 2. It is not God will exact this punishment Himself but that He expects mankind or the government of mankind to take care of this.
 - B. Why? For in the image of God He made man.
 1. It is not to be done in revenge, to get even.
 2. It is not done for a deterrent.
 3. It is to be done because it is an affront to God who created man in his image.
 4. "for in the image of God, &c.] This clause contains the foundation-principle for the tremendous sentence just promulgated. Man is different from the animals. God made him expressly "in His own image" (see note on 1:27). Violence done to human personality constitutes an outrage against the Divine. Man is to discern in his neighbour "the image of God," and to honour it as the symbol of Divine origin and human brotherhood. As that "image" is not physical (for God is spirit), nor moral (for man is sinful), it must denote man's higher nature, expressed by his self-consciousness, freedom of will, reason, affection," &c. Ryle, H. E. (1921). *The Book of Genesis in the Revised Version with Introduction and Notes* (p. 123). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
 5. "Capital punishment. The text quotes God as commanding capital punishment for murder. The reason given is that God made man in His own image. It is important to understand that the death sentence is neither retribution, nor simply preventative. Because we bear God's image, each

human being is irreplaceable. Every human life is so significant that no penalty less than death provides an adequate measure of its value. Only by decreeing capital punishment as a penalty for murder can society affirm the ultimate worth and value of each individual citizen.” Richards, L. O. (1991). *The Bible reader’s companion* (electronic ed., p. 30). Wheaton: Victor Books.

- C. There is a passage in Number that we need to look at.
1. Number 35:31 ‘Moreover you shall take no ransom for the life of a murderer who is guilty of death, but he shall surely be put to death. 32 ‘And you shall take no ransom for him who has fled to his city of refuge, that he may return to dwell in the land before the death of the priest. 33 ‘So you shall not pollute the land where you are; for blood defiles the land, and no atonement can be made for the land, for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it. 34 ‘Therefore do not defile the land which you inhabit, in the midst of which I dwell; for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.’”
 2. “So you shall not pollute the land where you are; for blood defiles the land, and no atonement can be made for the land.”
 3. We have become a society that is much more concerned with the murderer than for the murdered.
 4. For the judicial system that is supposed to deliver justice, it is more about finding reasons for getting a conviction thrown out than to if the person is guilty or not.
 5. And the liberals that have ruined this nation are the chief offenders.
 6. We no longer value human life for we have forsaken God and God’s word.
 7. We see man as a product of his own evolution rather than a special creation of God Who made man in His own image.
- D. This week we observed the 14th anniversary of 9/11 in which almost 3,000 people lost their lives.
1. I saw the suffering and the tears and heard the sorrow of those who read the names of the loved ones that they lost on that day.
 2. And I do not diminish the dread of that day in any way.
 3. But there are things that we conveniently forget.
 4. We forget them because we do not want to remember.
 5. But every day over 3,000 babies are aborted in this nation.
 6. 98% are for convenience and for no other reason than we do not to be

troubled with another creation of God.

7. We do not want to be bothered by another child.
 8. It just wouldn't fit into our program so we as a nation shed the blood of over 3,000 babies every day.
 9. And there is no one to read their names.
 10. There will be no bell toles for them.
 11. And at this very time our congress is trying to decide if we want to give one half of a billion dollars to the largest most profitable organization that has found a way to, as one person said, turn babies into Lambrginies.
 12. Our land is polluted with blood.
 13. And there will be no atonement for that, thus says the Lord.
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God would avenge or inflict punishment for every murder,—not directly, however, as He promised to do in the case of Cain, but indirectly by giving the command, “Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed,” and thus placing in the hand of man His own judicial power. “This was the first command,” says Luther, “having reference to the temporal sword. By these words temporal government was established, and the sword placed in its hand by God.” eil, C. F., & Delitzsch, F. (1996). *Commentary on the Old Testament* (Vol. 1, pp. 96–97). Peabody, MA: Hendrickson.

Ever since the fall man has required to be protected against himself. Prior to the Flood it does not appear that even crimes of murder and bloodshed were publicly avenged. Now, however, the previous laxness, if it was such, and not rather Divine clemency, was to cease, and an entirely new arrangement to come into operation. Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Ed.). (1909). *Genesis* (p. 142). London; New York: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

Romans 13:1-7 (NKJV) 1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. 5 Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.