Blood of Your Lives

Genesis 9:1 - 29

~ I trust that all of you dear readers are still with me after more than a full year on the ark with Noah - and that none of you even got wet in the flood. Of course, we are past that now; and we exited the ark with Noah and his family in our previous report to make sacrifices to God as He had instructed Noah to do. The remainder of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God will be done in seasons, times and harvests; but we won't be focusing on those things. We have collected the seeds for some lovely spiritual truths so far in Genesis — but we won't be planting them just yet — because a spiritual winter is upon us now. You might want to "bundle up," friends, spiritually speaking, because it's going to get very, very cold in this so-called safari.

The very first thing Noah did when he removed the covering of the ark to dry land was to build an altar and make a sacrifice to God. It was a burnt offering; and the burnt offering speaks of the Person of Jesus Christ. It was offered on the basis of recognition, praise and acceptance of our Holy God. This is THE one thing that caused God to be pleased with Noah at this particular time, because Noah did those things in faith. Noah also learned the "R"s of truth while in the ark. First was REBELLION of God REALIZED — that is, Noah saw when sin came right out in the open in the world. Then, there was the REVELATION Noah received from God, which was summarily REJECTED by the world. Noah's witnessing did not reach them at all — not a single person. Next, their REPENTANCE was completely REPUDIATED. There was no RETURN to God whatsoever. They also REFUSED the REFUGE that God had provided; and, again, for those one hundred twenty years of his very hard work for the Lord, Noah made precisely zero converts!

So, Noah emerges from the ark now as the sole patriarch of the human race. He is now in the same unique position that Adam was in so long ago.

A lot of people say we are all related in Adam, which is true - but, well, we are a lot closer kin than that; because all of us are related in Noah and, more specifically, in Noah's three sons, Ham, Shem and Japheth. It's difficult to understand what a revolutionary new beginning this is. The dispensation of human conscience is now complete. God is now going to give *government* to man; and man will be made to govern himself. That is the covenant that God made with Noah – and you and me, too – and with all mankind that is in the world today as I type this report and as you read it. Every member of the human race has a stake in this covenant....

1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

~ Naturally, "replenish" indicates that a civilization existed before the flood. Adam had also been told to replenish the earth. So, evidently, prior to Adam there were other creatures, at least. I don't know what to call them except living creatures on this earth – God's creations – because we aren't told what Adam was to replenish; and anything that is said beyond that descriptor wanders off down the speculation trail, to be sure – a trail that we do not go down in our safari. Replenishing the earth is the very first thing God told Noah to do after the flood. There are times that God does NOT tell us to replenish the earth, though, such as today, when we face an overpopulation catastrophe that is very dangerous to this planet. Well, Noah and his small family are the only ones around here in chapter nine of Genesis. I can only imagine it like this crude analogy: one day in Florida a hurricane approaches. You prepare and hunker down as the storm begins to blow and the rain begins to fall sideways. Then, the earth seems like it is just going to break apart; it feels like life itself is going to be blown right out of you. The roof of the house blows off, severe water damage ensues, everything is destroyed beyond repair - but you and your family make it through alive. So, eventually, you venture outside when it all clams down; but everyone else is dead except you and those that were with you in your house. Well, you wouldn't have to worry about the traffic lights being out! You wouldn't have to worry about stealing whatever goods you wanted to start over with. That would be quite an unusual experience – and it would be exactly the same experience that Noah had....

2 And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.

~ While Noah is still trying to comprehend the gravity of his situation, God lays on him the proper stewardship of animals. When God starts talking, we had really better start taking notes, friends; because He always tells us a lot of things very quickly - and usually while we are recovering from some type of shock. God just goes right on with Noah to the government of man and eating meat. Remember, Noah was a vegetarian up until this point. Man is responsible to God for the animal world; and man's treatment of the animal world is, well, a reprehensible, brutal story today. The way man will exterminate without regard, for instance, the whale out around the Hawaiian Islands; they had to put a stop to it before they slaughtered the last one – and all for money, of course. The way man treats animals today is, actually, quite frightening; frightening because man will also do this to his fellow man if given half a chance. History has taught us that lesson of truth more than adequately. The buffalo used to go forth in great herds. We have wildlife refuges all over the place today - and man also does fairly well to protect animals – I'll give him that; but man is born a cold-blooded killer, my friends - naturally....

3 Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things.

~ Verse three is where man is now granted permission from God to eat meat; he is now a vegetarian no more! Frankly, I could make the argument that eating meat is a commandment from God – but I'm not going there. This modern-day vegetarian business is something that I was trying to skirt altogether, quite frankly; but we will have to consider it now in pursuit of a proper, correct and complete Bible study – and in order to pass on from here in our Spiritual Safari. Of course, there are many people that are faddist about diets. These people usually make diet their religion in some way, by the way. They get so excited hearing that the antediluvians were all vegetarians that they make that their religious philosophy; never really understanding that a diet mandate is the hallmark of a cult. Further, the

REAL problem is that it was a bunch of strict vegetarians that were destroyed in the flood! If diet had had anything to do with it, then certainly they would not have been destroyed. Today, man is permitted to eat meat, potatoes, other vegetables, herbs - and whatever else he can get his hands on. God has given man no dietary restrictions for this day whatsoever. Well, except for one....

4 But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

~ This should be utterly self-explanatory, but we have some very primitive practices out here in the jungle, too. I have seen tribal barbarians do some CRAZY things, my beloved. I am not going to go into detail, but I don't think we ought to eat freshly killed, uncooked monkey brains, for example. It says we are not to eat live flesh, either; remember, we are not the ravens – and the dove didn't eat that stuff. As far as meat is concerned, my personal estimation is that it should be cooked; but apparently not all people feel that way. Naturally, sushi is one of the world's favorite meals. Imported from Japan, eating uncooked seafood and other raw meat is a delicacy, of course; but the best tasting sushi only tastes good because of all the spice stuff that masks the taste of raw fish. I know many will disagree with this so, save your attempts to persuade the non-persuadable me. I thank God that He gave us fire – and cooking is one of the primary purposes for fire. No raw shrimp tastes better than a cooked shrimp; and ditto all meat – but, either way, something even more important is indicated here: that the animal should be killed in a merciful way. Man will be held fully and wholly responsible for animal cruelty. I think we need to write that down....

5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man.

~ That statement is intensely interesting and peculiar; at least, it is to me. The style of writing seems to change for a moment here. I am not saying this was added inappropriately or that someone helped Moses write all of this, but other writings were obviously available and human speech is certainly influenced by what we read and hear elsewhere. So, if Moses was

reading the papers at the local university, perhaps he was influenced? To me, it seems as though this was the first legal opinion, if you will; unmistakably written with the legislative and contractual style of legal authoring and, if that is true, then we could call this the first legislation. That, by de facto, means that the first law of the land invoked man AND animals. If we treat them humanely and respectfully, we can eat them with a clear and good conscience. If we treat them savagely and ruthlessly by killing them mercilessly, then we can expect to answer to God as to why we would act so abjectly disdainfully. There is simply no reason to be cruel to an animal; and those who are or do those things are simply a simpleminded, sadistic and repulsive person....

6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

~ Verse six lays out the *principal* of government and protection for man. This is where God Himself ordained capital punishment, friends; long before the Mosaic Law was given. I know this gets real sticky right here so let's review some things. First, we had the propagation of the race – mankind. Then, we had given to us the proper protection and the correct way to dominate the animal kingdom. Next, we were given provisions for our food. Fourth, we had a prohibition of blood as the only exception to the dietary rule. Now God must give man the principal of government in the form of a law - and the right for said governments to enforce those laws. Don't blame me – I had nothing to do with it. I might have done some things differently – but - I doubt it because I agree with everything God says. I don't always like what He says, in fact, sometimes I strongly dislike what God says, too – just like everyone else does - but I believe God – and I believe the Bible is the Word of God. I also believe that the principal for government is what we are seeing right here – in the Word of God - and – I also believe it's just TOO BAD if we don't like it.

It is perfectly absurd that this current generation wants to get rid of capital punishment. As society gets further and further away from the Bible, this is a typical course. Now, let's face it, we don't have a Bible oriented population today. We have many that say they are Christians, but they are totally and *completely* ignorant of the Word of God. I know they think they

know what it says, and many have memorized multiple verses and facts, but they don't know how and don't really want to apply it to their lives - so it is perfectly meaningless. It is typically self-professing religious people who want to get rid of capital punishment in the name of God; but also judges, lawyers and other liberals that tap into the religious-based protest as it suits them or their immediate cause. Simultaneously, we have the most unspeakable, unthinkable crimes being perpetuated at an alarmingly increasing rate today. Then, these liberals look at each other and scratch their heads wondering where everything went so horribly wrong in the world. It's no great mystery, friends.

Well, to be fair, sometimes the overall number of crimes reduces annually, if we can trust the reports, but the point is that the TYPES of crimes are becoming ever more heinous and frightening. Personally, I never would have thought of flying a plane into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon as a means to declare war. No, the masterminds are STILL mastering their evil murders; they haven't even perfected it yet. Even our top officials have stopped denying the fact that we are *not* safe on our own streets. Most local sheriffs will tell you that THEIR streets are safe, but the fact is, you are not safe today. I don't want to confuse local and national issues; so, on a local basis, murderers don't fear capital punishment - and that gives them every reason to kill whoever they want to kill for whatever reason they want to kill them for. That renders a society "wide open" to murder. You can police it all day long – won't change a thing. The only reason we are not truly safe today is because of the attitude towards the Word of God concerning capital punishment. If one knows a murder conviction will result in their execution, they are likely to think thrice. Nationally, as for terrorism, if we permit this problem to persist, then we will ultimately have a terrorist on every street corner. Don't worry about Muslims – worry about the blonde hair, blue-eyed boy next store that has every incentive to rob your house and kill you if you get in the way – or worse – perhaps blow up a Federal Building on a weekday morning? The choice is ours, friends.

One perfect example of liberal apologetics is gun control. At the risk of approaching cliché, I happen to know that the problem is not the gun – but that the problem is in the heart of the man with a gun in his hand. Example

through control is the only plausible answer. Otherwise, the policeman is just about as bad as the nicest person on death row is; and I know we have a façade of capital punishment on the books - but we all know it is too randomly imposed to have any real deterring effect. If you want to be safe in the community we had better get rid of this sob sister stuff really quickly. That is what the Word of God teaches, my beloved; irrespective of whether you believe it, understand it, accept it, agree with it, like it – or not! This tenet of truth has applied to all nations since there were nations. Nothing has changed because the principle of government is one that God Himself gave us – and it just happens to work....

7 And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

8 And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying,

9 And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you;

10 And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth.

11 And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

~ Isaiah made an interesting statement about the lion and the lamb and how they will lie down together someday without the lion eating the lamb. Apparently, the lion will be reverting to vegetarianism IN THAT DAY. Paul also said, "....the whole creation is groaning and travailing in pain." This covenant in verse eleven was made for the protection of every one of Gods creatures until THAT DAY arrives. God made a promise here - and the purpose of that promise is that God will not destroy the earth again with water; but the earth will be judged again – and that judgment will be by FIRE – second Peter chapter three....

12 And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations:

13 I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:

15 And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.

16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.

17 And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

~ The rainbow is a spiritual promise that we can physically see. It is a sacrament -- or a token - of this covenant; by which we can comprehend God's promises, and by which we can know that God is in Heaven. Technically, a sacrament is a visible sign from God to which are annexed certain promises; but, interestingly, notice that God says HE will look upon it – not man – God says He will see the bow and will remember His promises. That is so important to understand correctly, friends. Other sacraments are the Lord's Supper; Gideon's fleece, Passover, the meal at the Passover; the Brazen Serpent that was put up, and we have baptism today – as well as marriage. All of those are sacraments. If you see a rainbow and remember God's promises then, quite frankly, you would be wise to pray to Him that He will, once again, remember His promises to His people. If you do that – He will!

God's eye of grace and our eye of faith meet in the sacraments, according to Dr Lang. That is what happens when man looks at the rainbow - or

participates in any of the other sacraments. Faith lays hold of the promise attached to the sign. The merit is in that which the sign speaks of. There's no faith in a promise and there's no assurance in a sign. The word and the sign must go together in order to function completely. God makes a promise and attaches a sign to it in those examples of sacraments. The rainbow was God's answer to Noah's first altar. God said He would remember it and that He would look upon it; and if you have ever seen a rainbow from an airplane window at the proper altitude it seems to go all the way around the earth!

Alright, while this is not the end of our Spiritual Safari, this is as far as Noah travels with us on the earthly leg of our expedition through the entire Word of God. It must be winter - and I told you it would get cold - so get ready for the big chill. This report is going to end sooner than later with a cold disappointment. Many people apparently believe that, because all people were destroyed in the flood, sin was wiped out of the world. They feel that because Noah has not had any sins revealed yet, and they erroneously jump to the conclusion that after the flood, sin was somehow eradicated from off of the earth. Well, that's not how God is telling us this account at all....

18 And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and Ham is the father of Canaan.

19 These are the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread.

20 And Noah began to be an (farmer) husbandman, and he planted a vineyard:

21 And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.

~ I wondered for a very long time why only one grandson was mentioned in verse eighteen. All I can come up with is that they are going to the land of Canaan, and that would be nice information because it would be an encouragement. Now, I know that our contemporary society hates to call

sin what it is: sin - but here it is again — Noah got drunk! Many excuses, such as the Canopy Theory and ignorance of the affects of alcohol have been made for Noah — but there is just no good reason whatsoever for Noah to have gotten drunk. We have this sin come out of nowhere, too; none of Noah's sins have been mentioned at all until now. Well, it's a new beginning here in a new earth - but the same old sin is still there - even if we have a new way of doing the sinning; and this reveals all of that conclusively and irrefutably....

22 And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.

23 And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness.

24 And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him.

25 And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

26 And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

27 God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

~ I should like to ask Noah - why Canaan — and not Ham? I mean, Ham saw his dad's nakedness and Canaan was directly related to Ham - but may not have even been in town that day. You see, drunks always get it wrong — every time. That is why the Word of God constantly condemns drunkenness. Solomon's mother will tell him that drunkenness will adversely affect his judgment! Joel said we are to call a *solemn* assembly. Noah died, according to this account, a drunken, raving, misguided, angry and totally off base individual. With all of that in mind, we need to clarify

something here: skin pigmentation composing coloration is not a curse – or an affect – of sin. That erroneous assertion is absolutely absurd. To say that the curse of Ham is why African people are black is, well, I believe it is pure, unadulterated heresy and blasphemy - not to mention utterly ignorant – and what we need to carefully note and consider seriously here is what Noah did when he awoke from his drunken stupor.

What we have here is the account of a man who fell, a story of the weakness of the flesh. This is one of the places where the Bible gets right down to the nitty-gritty of life, too. Maybe you and I don't get drunk but, perhaps, we are living in the flesh to the extent that is just as displeasing to God as Noah has now become? To be perfectly clear, Noah did NOT lose his salvation, but there was still no excuse for getting drunk. We have a blind misconception of the universe that we live in today. Billions of dollars to put man on the moon and on Mars is just not anything spectacular when we spend literally nothing on how to live on the earth, which is all we should be concerned with. This book tells you and me how to live on the earth – not in outer space where everything changes.

Here, we also have another firm indicator that God wrote the Bible. If man had written it, it would have either covered up Noah's sin and made him a hero - or man would have recorded it in much more sordid detail than it is. It was recorded for a purpose; to let us know that God will soon be encouraging the children of Israel to enter the land of Canaan. A judgment came upon them, and a quick check of secular history will reveal that the Canaanite's have pretty much disappeared from the face of the earth. We are told this was all written for our learning. Imagine that! The Bible just might have something to teach you and me that is totally relevant today....

28 And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years.

29 And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years: and he died \sim

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