



Genesis 8
From sermon 9.6.20

Read *Genesis 8:1-14*

Review from Sunday's sermon: History is full of stories where God's deliverance resulted in praise and worship. Each of us may even have our own. After a year of being on the ark and no word from God, Noah was likely beginning to fret and question. On his own, he sends out two birds in hopes of getting news concerning the floodwaters and restored life.

1. What does it mean that "God remembered Noah..."? His remembrance and His addressing of the fallen world's sin is complete. He now focuses on Noah, his family, and restoring the planet.

1a. What does it not mean? That God, at any time, had forgotten Noah and the Covenant made with him. See Deuteronomy 31:6, Isaiah 49:14-16 [Hebrews 13:5], & Matthew 28:19-20

2. While the flood narrative of Genesis 8 is literal and historical, it does contain some rich symbolism. Consider the three mentioned objects below and discuss their biblical meanings.

- Raven—associated with death and judgment. Comes first, before restoration. See Proverbs 30:17
- Dove—associated with grace and life (and peace). See Luke 3:22
- Olive Branch—associated with peace, provision, and light.

Read *Genesis 8:15-22*

3. What was Noah's response to his salvation? Offering, praise, and worship

4. What is the bigger meaning of his altar building and the offering? Thanksgiving, but also including an acknowledgment of his sin and God's grace. Their sin demanded death = a Substitute.

4a. How does it tie in two what we learned in chapter 7? We (and Noah) now know why extra clean animals were needed.

4b. How is repentance and acknowledgment of sin the foundation of all God-accepted worship? The immeasurable grace of God is meaningless if it hasn't saved us from something otherwise inescapable. Even our Reformed Doctrine begins with Total Depravity. We are utterly undeserving of God's love, adoption, and salvation. True worship begins with our unworthiness before we can exalt His worthiness. See Psalm 51:1-17

5. What is Common Grace and how does it differ from Saving Grace? A common grace is bestowed on all mankind—regardless of geography, era, or even faith. It's the daily provision and joys of life. See Matthew 5:44-45.

Saving Grace is bestowed only on God's elect. It resurrects the dead spirit unto life, faith, belief, repentance, and adoption. See Ephesians 2:1-6

5a. What are some common graces God promises in chapter 8? Various answers. Seasons, plant life provision, food from the earth, postponement of judgment, never again by flood.