

Genesis: Leaving the Ark

Genesis 8:1-9:17



God is gracious.

- Gracious Rescue
- Gracious Blessing
- Gracious Covenant

Gracious Rescue

- God takes those who deserve nothing good from Him and decides to bless them
- God remembering people means He's moving toward people to save them
- The central message of the flood is that God is so loving and gracious that He saves Noah's family
- No matter what tough situation you face in life, if God is with you, it's not forever

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Gracious Blessing

1. Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth
2. The fear and dread of humanity will be upon every animal
3. Animals are food for humanity
4. God protects human life and bans murder
5. Be fruitful and multiply, increase greatly on the earth and multiply in it

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Gracious Covenant

- Covenant - a deeply personal, but legally binding promise
- God promises never to wipe out the whole world with a flood again

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“It generally indicates some sort of significant silence — a failure to comprehend, a resistance to the speaker's word, and so forth... Here, God first flatly states His promise never to destroy the world again. The flood-battered Noah evidently needs further assurance, so God goes on, with a second formula for introducing speech, to offer the rainbow as outward token of His covenant.”

– Robert Alter

Gracious Covenant

- Covenant - a deeply personal, but legally binding promise
- God promises never to wipe out the whole world with a flood again
- God “reminds” Himself so we can be reassured that He’ll keep His promise
- God uses the bow, a weapon of war, as a sign that He will give the earth peace

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