

Genesis 8:15-9:7

- 1) God speaks to Noah—8:15-19
 - a) God speaks—8:15-17
 - i) A command to leave the ark—8:16
 - ii) A command to take all the creatures with him—8:17 (cf. 1:22)
 - b) All creatures obey, both human and animal—8:18-19

- 2) Noah worships Yahweh—8:20--22
 - a) Noah's worship—8:20
 - i) First clear reference to an altar and burnt offerings
 - b) God's response—8:21-22
 - i) A soothing [*nichoah*] (root of the name Noah) smell
 - ii) Internal response—8:21-22 (God reveals His inner thoughts)
 - (1) Negatively
 - (a) No future curse of the ground (cf. 3:17; 5:29)
 - (i) The Flood did not change the innately sinful heart of people (cf. 6:5)
 - (b) No more universal Floods
 - (i) Though destruction by fire awaits (cf. Isaiah 24:5-6; 2nd Peter 3:7, 10, 12)
 - (2) Positively—set the cycle of seasons; nature is generally predictable

- 3) God blesses Noah's family—9:1-7 (start of the dispensation of Human Government)
 - a) Announcement of the 5th recorded blessing—9:1a (cf. 1:22, 28; 2:3; 5:2)
 - b) Commands to populate the earth—9:1b (cf. 1:28)
 - c) Altered relationship with animals—9:2-4
 - i) Relationship of fear—9:2
 - (1) Domestic animals are exempt from this fear (cf. 1:24-25; 2:20; 3:14; 7:14; 9:10)
 - (2) Helps protect the 8 people from all the wild animals
 - ii) Relationship of authority—9:2
 - iii) Relationship of food—9:3-4
 - (1) Permission to eat animals
 - (2) Restriction from eating meat with its blood
 - (a) In contrast to offerings with blood (cf. 8:20)
 - (b) Is this still for today? cf. Acts 15:20
 - d) God holds human life in high regard—9:5-6
 - i) Recipients of the death penalty—9:5-6a
 - (1) Both animals and people
 - (2) Restraining the violence that previously covered the earth (cf. 6:11, 13)
 - ii) Reason for the death penalty—9:6b
 - (1) The image of God (cf. 1:26-27; 5:1)
 - iii) Valid for today? Cf. Acts 25:11; Romans 13:1-4
 - (1) It may not always deter crime, but it does cut down on repeat offenders.
 - e) Commands to populate the earth—9:7
 - i) cf. 1:28; 9:1
 - ii) In the first 4,000 years after the Flood, the world's population increased 0.5 percent annually (calculated in 1976)