

BLESSING ON HUMAN SOCIETY — GENESIS 9:1-6

POSITIVE

BLESSING OF PROCREATION

FAMILY

9:1

“So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.” (Ge.9:1)

- God granted man the ability to procreate more in His image. This reiterates the blessedness of marriage (Ge.2:24).
- Even the unregenerate would confess that the best thing in life is love and children.
- How good is God, to mitigate the effects of sin by giving us intimate, joyous relationships?
- You see the joy on the faces of the parents in their children. That is God’s design.

BLESSING OF PROMINENCE

KING

9:2

“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.” (Ge.9:2)

- Man had prominence before the Flood (Ge.1:28; 2:19), but now in a different sense. They will have “fear and dread” of man. This is new. God has wired the animals to be afraid of us. The entire animal kingdom is for the use of man.
- For the most part, animals who might harm us are afraid of us. But in a bad situation they still can turn on man.
- Animals cannot get organized to conquer man. But man gets organized to conquer them.

BLESSING OF PROVISION

FOOD

9:3

“Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs.” (Ge.9:3)

- The only people who were ever under dietary laws were those in Israel under the Mosaic law. Under the original creation, there were no dietary laws.
- Man only ate plants, because death had not yet entered the world. But now, every moving thing shall be for food.

NEGATIVE

BLESSING OF PROHIBITION

HEALTH

9:4

“But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.” (Ge.9:4)

- There are some blessings that come by avoiding certain things. This prohibition is a blessing.
- There are parasites, bacteria, microorganisms that carry disease in the fallen world. Animals carry many of those harmful creatures.
- God is protecting all mankind. Do not eat live meat. Cook it. Do not eat blood. Blood carries diseases through the body.

BLESSING OF PROTECTION

JUSTICE

9:5-6

“⁵Surely 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. “Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.” (Ge.9:5-6)

- This is the predominant law of God for social protection. It is the law of capital punishment.
- This is not personal vengeance. This is the responsibility of man by divine mandate.
- Nothing is as devastating in human experience as somebody's death even among unbelievers.