

## *Noah and His Sons*

*Genesis 9:18-10: 32*

*"The parallel between the two situations is striking. Both Adam and Noah were commanded to fill the earth and exercise control over it. Each of them is actually the ancestor of all men in the present world. Each sinned by partaking of a fruit - Noah of the fruit of the vine and Adam of the fruit of the tree of knowledge. As a result, each became naked and then was provided with a covering by someone else. Finally the prophecy resulted in a curse which has affected mankind ever since. Along with the curse, however, there were also the blessing and anticipation of ultimate salvation." Morris*

- I. In Scripture, the Lord God did not hide the sins of godly righteous men who walked by faith, He instead exposed them to show us the power of the sin nature and its penchant toward fulfilling its evil desires. It is a powerful force constantly vying for our attention through the lust of the flesh, the pride of life and covetousness. Each has its own vices that can bring about devastating consequences to anyone who lowers their guard toward their powerful influence. That's why we are told to be careful, self-controlled, alert and on our guard by standing firm in the faith. The alternative is not worth sinning against God no matter how appealing it may seem.

Gen. 9:20-21

1 John. 2:15-17

2 Peter 5:8-9a

**Romans 7:24-25a** *What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? 25 Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!*

**Galatians 6:7-9** *7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

- II. Noah's total disregard for his own dignity, and that's what getting drunk does by the way, led to tragic events that would not have existed otherwise. It shows us how our choices and actions, whether good or bad, can have a positive or negative effect on others. The one most directly affected was Ham. How he chose to handle his father's nakedness in a disrespectful way led to a malediction against him and his offspring. Shem and Japheth, on the other hand, acted out of love, grace and mercy by covering their father's nakedness to spare him from any more shame. It's a beautiful picture of Christ covering the shame of our sin through belief in the gospel.

*"So right here we learn of the great demarcation that divides all humanity into those who are blessed in that their sins have been covered and those who are cursed because their sins lay uncovered. The then-future beatitude of King David voices the diving reality: 'Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered' (Psalm 32:1)." Grant Hughes*

- III. The prophecy that Noah spoke after he sobered up came from a man who no doubt repented for having sinned against God and his sons in the way he did. We can also surmise that he grieved over the way Ham dishonored him. What he spoke came from God Himself. The Lord was not about to honor those who dishonor Him, which is what Ham did. His offspring proved to be a godless people who had no regard for holiness. God did not want them in the line of Christ. Instead, God chose Shem to carry the line of Christ and Japheth to benefit from it because of the grace and honor they showed their father Noah.

*"What is remarkable here is that the use of God's covenant name suggest that Shem (the ancestor of Israel) was already in covenant relationship with the Lord and that his blessing was found wholly in the Lord. This special relationship with the Lord is indeed the highest and greatest blessing anyone can experience."*  
Hughes

