

Covenant Theology

“The Common Grace Covenant: The Noahic Covenant”

I. Introduction

A. Apocalyptic themes – Common genre for TV, movies and music.

1. Typically, one figure survives.

B. Contrast to the Bible.

1. The world will not end until the New Heaven and New Earth are revealed.

C. This is an important aspect of the Noahic covenant.

1. The Noahic Covenant is the covenant of Common Grace.

2. It does two three things:

a. First – _____.

b. Second – _____.

c. Third – _____.

II. Defining Common Grace

A. The Noahic Covenant in Reformed Theology.

1. Sometimes dismissed because it is not redemptive.

B. Common Grace – a definition.

1. Common Grace is God's undeserved kindness to A_____ P_____ no matter what their R_____ persuasion.
2. "Common" equates to "general."
 - a. There are objections

C. Common Grace is distinguished from Special Grace.

1. These are both theological terms to identify biblical themes.
2. Special Grace
3. Common Grace
4. Common Grace includes:
5. Summation of Noahic definition.

III. The key text.

A. Genesis 8:20-9:17

1. Verses 20-22 – A bridge between the F_____ account and the covenant C_____.
2. Noah then builds an altar – Genesis 8:21-22
3. Note God's words in response.
 - a. One: God will not destroy the earth because of M_____.
 - b. Two, God promises to P_____ the normal cycle of seasons.

c. Three, The promise is made despite H_____ D_____. –
Genesis 6:5

d. Four, The promise is made in God's heart.

1. Genesis 8:21

2. Another bridge between this statement and God's speech in 9:8-17.

4. Parties of the covenant.

a. God

b. Noah, his D_____ (vs. 10).

c. Note different ways the second party is identified.

Verse 12 –

Verse 13 –

Verse 15 –

Verse 16 –

Verse 17 –

1. The covenant is U_____ C_____!

C. The Sign of the Covenant – A Rainbow

1. Hebrew understanding of the term.

2. Ancient Near East iconography.

a. Bow as an item of war.

b. Bow as a holding back of the firmament.

D. Terms of the Covenant.

1. Only One – God remembering His covenant.
2. No terms for humanity, but there are obligations.
3. Regulations discussed.
 - a. “Be fruitful and multiply,” verse 1.
 - b. “All things for food,” verse 3.
 - c. Corollary to “work.”
 - d. “Whoever sheds man’s blood by man his blood shall be shed,” verse 6.
 1. The moratorium on murder ends. (See Gen. 4)
 2. See Paul – Romans 13:4.
 3. Establishment of the State and the presence of Natural Law.
4. Summation.

IV. There is the seed to come.

A. Reference to Christ.

B. Place of Comfort.