

(Genesis) Genesis 9:6-17

by J. Vernon McGee

God's covenant with Noah and all living creatures is a promise of protection and a visible sign of His promise.

Duration: 9:13

Scripture: Genesis 9:12

Topics: "Genesis"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker discusses the principles of government and protection for mankind as outlined in the Bible. The speaker emphasizes the importance of capital punishment as a means of upholding justice and preserving the sanctity of human life. The sermon also highlights God's covenant with Noah and all living creatures, promising not to destroy the earth with a flood again. The speaker urges the need for the law to be upheld and for society to return to biblical principles in order to ensure safety and order.

Transcript

Now, we have the next statement that God gives, and this is the amazing one, the fifth and the last one. "Whoso sheddeth man's blood by man shall his blood be shed, for in the image of God made he man." Now you have here, you see something that's quite interesting, the principle for government and protection from man, and he gives to government capital punishment. So we have first the propagation of the race, protection and rulership of the animals, provision for food, and prohibition, that is, no blood is to be eaten.

Now the principle of government, and this is the basis of capital punishment. And may I say to you that it's amazing the attitude that this generation, as it's gotten away from the Bible. You see, we do not have a Bible-oriented population today.

They're totally ignorant of the Word of God, and that's one reason we're teaching the Bible, because we believe it's very important to teach the Word of God, and that it's needed today. And as a result, you find the judges and the lawyers and our politicians all wanting to get rid of capital punishment. And they've done a pretty good job, and I think finally it'll be totally eliminated.

And at the same time, we have the most horrible crimes that are taking place, and there is an increase in crime. As many of us predicted, I have a little book, and the title of it is, is Capital Punishment Christian. You'd have to specify that in particular, because we're actually not offering it.

But I've dealt with this very important subject. I believe today that capital punishment is scriptural. I think it's the basis of government, that a government has the right to take a life when that individual in turn has taken a life.

Now why? Well, it's quite obvious, I think. It's in order that God might protect human life. You're not safe today to walk on the streets.

In fact, your life is not safe today. Now I know that the officials would deny this, and believe me, they are very quick to deny it. But the reason your life is not safe in this land of ours today is because of the attitude toward capital punishment.

When a criminal knows that if he takes a life, his life is going to be sacrificed, then may I say to you, he'll think twice before he takes a life. Then the idea today, we're trying to get a gun control law. May I say to you, the problem is not with the gun in the hand, it's the heart that's inside a man.

That's where the problem is today. And therefore you have to control man in this particular area to make it safe for you and for other human beings to walk our streets and to step out of their home at night. Why we are finding many members of our church, that is those that are single, women that are mature, that are single, they shut their door at night and they don't dare open up until the morning light.

May I say to you, we better get the law back on the statute books, let me tell you, and get rid of this sob sister stuff. Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed, for the image of God made him man. Now this is the basis of human government.

This is the area under which man and the Gentiles have moved. This has not been changed as far as governments of the world are concerned. Now will you notice, and you, be ye fruitful and multiply, bring forth abundantly in the earth and multiply therein.

And God continues on here, and God spake unto Noah and to his sons with him, saying, and I, behold, I establish my covenant with you and with your seed after you. That includes now the human race. Now he says, and with every living creature that is with you of the fowl of the earth, of every beast of the earth, with you from all that go out of the ark to every beast of the earth.

In other words, all of God's creatures are included in this. And there's a very interesting statement made by Isaiah about the lion and the lamb someday will lie down together and that they'll not hurt. And then Paul says the whole creation is groaning and travailing in pain.

May I say to you that God now has made this covenant for the protection of these until that day comes. For all of God's creatures, with every living creature that's with you, God says. Now will you notice, he says in verse 11, and I will establish my covenant with you, neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood, neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

Now here is God's promise and his purpose is that he'll no longer destroy the earth with a flood. The next judgment on the earth is a judgment by fire. We find that in 2 Peter, the third chapter.

Now we come down here to verse 12 and you have here the picture of the covenant and I think really a spiritual meaning of the covenant. It's sort of a sacrament, if you please. Now, the thing that makes it that, the visible signs to which are our next promises.

And here you have it. Now let me read this particular section here, beginning at verse 12. And God said, this is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that's with you for perpetual generations.

I do set my bow in the cloud. It shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. The rainbow is more or less of a sacrament.

That is, it's a token of a covenant. It shall come to pass when I bring a cloud over the earth that the bow shall be seen in the cloud and I will remember my covenant which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh and the water shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud.

Now will you notice, God says, I will look upon it and that I may remember. You see, God didn't say you'd see it. He said he'd see it.

He didn't say you'd look upon it. He'd look upon it, if you please. And it would be an everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.

That ought to be the encouragement when you look at a rainbow. Verse 17, And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth. Now this is God's covenant, not just with Noah, but all flesh that is upon the earth.

You see, what you have here is actually almost a sacrament. As we said, a sacrament is a visible sign to which are annexed certain promises. The Passover, they ate the Passover.

The brazen serpent was put up. And there was Gideon's fleece. And there's baptism today.

And the Lord's Supper. Dr. Lange puts it like this, God's eye of grace and our eye of faith meet in the sacraments. And that's what happens here when man looks at the rainbow.

Faith lays hold to the promise attached to the sign. You see, the merit is in what the sign speaks of. There's no faith in a promise and there's no assurance in a sign.

The word and the sign go together, you see. God makes a promise and attaches a sign to it. Now the rainbow is God's answer to Noah's altar.

God says, I'll remember and I'll look upon it. Friend of mine told me he was traveling by plane across the country. And they were going over a storm.

And all of a sudden, they saw a rainbow. And he says it was the first time in his life he'd ever seen a rainbow that went all the way around.

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/8/SID8612.mp3>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/j-vernon-mcgee/genesis-genesis-96-17/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net