

## THE NOAHIC COVENANT

(Genesis 8:21-9:17)

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Soli Deo Gloria!

**INTRODUCTION.** The Noahic covenant was made by "God" with Noah (the new head of the human race after the Flood), "and with [his] seed after [him]" (Gen9:9), and with "every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth" (Gen9:16); thus, it is made with all living creatures on this earth, including us. Furthermore, it is an "everlasting covenant" (Gen9:16) made with "perpetual generations" (Gen9:12), such that it never ceases to be applicable. Whereas the Mosaic covenant would subsequently be made by the LORD with the nation of Israel, introducing many additional promises and obligations upon that one nation, the Gentile nations were never a party to it (cf. Ps147:19-20); the covenant that governs the relationship between God and the Gentile nations is the Noahic covenant.

The Noahic covenant is unusual relative to the other Biblical covenants. The Abrahamic, Land, Davidic, and New covenants are all unconditional covenants in which the LORD makes promises to Israel without putting them under any obligations. In contrast, the Mosaic covenant is a conditional covenant in which promised blessings from the LORD on the nation of Israel are contingent upon that nation fulfilling its obligations under the covenant. The Noahic covenant includes both unconditional promises from God as well as subjection of the Gentile nations to covenant obligations (see below).

**GOD'S COVENANT PROMISES.** God's unconditional promises guaranteed by the Noahic covenant are: **1)** never again destroy the earth with the waters of a flood (Gen9:11,15), **2)** preserve earth's climate with regular, predictable, and beneficial patterns of nature (i.e., seasons; Gen8:22; Cp., Jer33:20-21), and **3)** provide the rainbow as a token in remembrance of the covenant (Gen9:12-15).

Implications for a Biblical Worldview. Per the Noahic covenant, **nature is constrained by the word of God** (cf. Job26:10; Ps104:5,9; Isa54:9; Jer5:22); this has profound implications for modern (pagan) fears of catastrophic, anthropogenic climate change. Biblical *uniformitarianism* promised by God in the Noahic covenant is the basis for the modern scientific method.

**GENTILE COVENANT OBLIGATIONS.** The obligations of the Gentile nations under the Noahic covenant are: **1)** multiply and fill the earth (Gen9:1,7), **2)** eat animal flesh in addition to plants, although consumption of blood is prohibited (Gen9:3-4), **3)** execute murderers (Gen9:5-6), and **4)** recognize and honor the rainbow as God's token of the covenant (Gen9:12-15).

**JUDGMENT UNDER THE COVENANT.** While the promises of God are not contingent upon the faithfulness of Gentile nations to honor their obligations under the Noahic covenant, it is implicit that failure to do so will bring judgment. The Gentile nations will be judged during the Day of the LORD (i.e., the 7-year Tribulation) for their failures under the Noahic covenant (cf. Isa24:1-6). Rather than destruction of the world by water as in the days of Noah (which is precluded by the Noahic covenant), the future destruction will be by fire (cf. Isa24:6; Zeph3:8; 2Pet3:7,10; Rev16:8-9). Note that in the Book of Revelation, the subjects of God's judgment/wrath (who repeatedly refuse to repent) are consistently referred to as "them that dwell upon the earth" (cf. Rev3:10; 6:10; 11:10; 12:12; 13:8; 13:14; 14:6; 17:8), which is the same designation as used for those who are a party to the Noahic covenant (cf. Gen9:17).

## GENTILE PERFORMANCE UNDER THE NOAHIC COVENANT

COVENANT OBLIGATION	CHARACTERISTICS OF THE END TIMES
1) Multiply and fill the earth (Gen9:1,7)	Population control/reduction; LGBT agenda does not procreate
2) Eat animal flesh, blood prohibited (Gen9:3-4)	Climate change agenda to prohibit raising/eating of animals
3) Execute murderers (Gen9:5-6)	Prohibition, neglect, and perversion of capital punishment
4) Honor rainbow as the token of God's promises* under the Noahic covenant (Gen9:12-15)	Rainbow coopted as a symbol for sexual perversion

\* The tenets underpinning the catastrophic, anthropogenic climate change agenda explicitly reject God's promises to preserve earth's climate with regular, predictable, and beneficial patterns of nature (Gen8:22) and firmly fix the boundaries of the world's oceans (Ps104:5,9).