



1/16/26

*On this week's episode of Chosen and Cherished, we talked about why God wants us to seek Him and His strength. Spoiler alert... it's because He loves us. If you'd like to listen to the podcast, here's the link... <https://summitpoint.org/chosen-and-cherished/>*

*Blessings,  
Jonna*

*Genesis 9:18-28*

*Whenever my grandson, Valor, tells a story (He LOVES to tell Jonah and the Whale and David and Goliath), he always starts with the word, "So." It's so cute! So... I will start with that word, too.*

*So... Noah and his family have left the ark. Noah became a "man of the soil," and he planted a vineyard. Now, in Genesis 6, Noah had been called "righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God." So I don't know if he realized that he would get drunk from the wine. I think this was the first vineyard ever planted. But whether he knew what he was doing or not, he got drunk. And so he placed himself in a compromising position. I know from Ephesians 5:18 that God says not to be drunk with wine, but to be filled with the Spirit. Noah's drunkenness is a great example of why God doesn't want us to get drunk. God's not withholding good from us. He's protecting us from hurting ourselves and others.*

*But Noah did get drunk, "and he lay uncovered in his tent." He was naked and exposed. Noah's son, Ham, did not handle the situation well. He disrespected and dishonored his dad. He told his brothers about his dad's nakedness. What he should have done is what his brothers, Shem and Japheth, did.*

*Shem and Japheth did not join Ham in making fun of their dad as he probably thought they would. They were appalled. They took a garment, laid it on their shoulders, and walked backward into their dad's tent so that they would not see his nakedness. They refused to look at him out of respect. They did what God calls all children to do... they honored their father.*

*Well... Noah woke up. I'm guessing he had a headache. He probably saw the robe lying over him and knew he didn't put it there. So what happened? I'm not sure who told him what Ham did... maybe his wife? But he knew what Ham did, and he was not happy!*

*He cursed, not Ham, but Ham's son, Canaan. I looked up why Noah would curse Canaan instead of Ham. One of the thoughts is that God had blessed Ham along with Noah and his other two sons in Genesis 9:1. So, Noah would not curse someone God had blessed. Instead, he "cursed" his son, Canaan. This is also a prophecy of what was to come.*

*In this passage, Canaan was mentioned 4 times. That means God is making a point. He's saying, "Pay attention, this is going to matter later." Canaan is the land that God gave first to Abraham and then to the Israelites after He delivered them from the Promised Land. The descendants of Canaan were evil people who worshiped false gods and did horrific acts.*

*The prophecy was that Canaan would be "a servant of servants to his brothers." The fact that Canaan would serve his brothers is repeated 3 times. In Exodus 6, when God commissioned Moses to go get the Israelites and bring them out of captivity, He told Moses that He would be taking them to live in the land of Canaan. God was going to kick the Canaanites out. Joshua 21:43-45 tells us that God's plan was fulfilled, "Thus the Lord gave to Israel all the land that He swore to give to their fathers. And they took possession of it, and they settled there. And the Lord gave them rest on every side just as He had sworn to their fathers. Not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for the Lord had given all their enemies into their hands. Not one word of all the good promises that the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass." It doesn't really matter how long it takes, when God makes a promise, that promise will be fulfilled. I can trust Him completely.*

*Noah didn't just curse Canaan, which meant that Ham would be the ancestor of people who would never experience God's blessing... and he would have to live with the fact that he caused it... Noah also blessed Shem and Japheth (and not Ham). But first, he blessed the LORD.*

*He said, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem." Noah knew that Shem's honor and faithfulness were in obedience to the Lord. So first, Noah blessed the LORD who led Shem. Shem is also the forefather of Abraham...Jacob... Judah... David... JESUS. I would say that blessing on Shem was pretty huge.*

*Noah said, "Let Canaan be his servant," and then God fulfilled that prophecy. Noah also blessed Japheth. He said, "May God enlarge Japheth, and may he dwell in the tents of Shem..." where the huge blessing would always be with him. "And let Canaan be HIS servant as well." Yikes.*

*Noah lived 350 more years. He never saw that prophecy fulfilled in his lifetime... but it was fulfilled around 650 years after he died. When God makes a promise, He keeps a promise. He REMEMBERS His promises. They never slip His mind, no matter how long it takes.*

*This is huge. It's also huge that when God says He WON'T remember, He never remembers it*

*again. What does He promise NOT to remember? Hebrews 10:17 says that, because of Jesus' sacrifice for my sins, God "will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."*

*So... I see in Noah a righteous man who made an unwise choice. I can relate. It's my desire to seek the Lord and walk with Him. And sometimes I make unwise choices. I praise God for His mercy. I hope and pray I show the honor and respect that Shem and Japheth showed to their dad because of their faith in the Lord. I hope and pray I will NOT be like Ham... making foolish choices and not considering who it hurts. I pray that I will see the Lord and worship Him, trusting that all His promises are yes and amen.*