

**SERIES TITLE:** HIGH WATER MARK

**PART THREE:** THREE RELATIONSHIPS

**TEXT:** GENESIS 9:1-17

**INTRODUCTION.**

Noah, the ark, and the world-wide flood is one of the most familiar accounts in the Bible. Almost every culture has a similar story. Believing that the flood occurred, and happened way the Bible describes, is not the only response God intends for us. There is much to learn about who God is and how he operates in our lives.

**DISCUSSION.**

Which best describes your life today: a raging storm, an enclosed ark, or a dove with an olive branch? Why?

**EXAMINATION.**

9:1-7 Why does God repeat for Noah much of what he told Adam? (Gen. 1:28-30)

What new instructions does God add?

What might be some reasons for these new instructions?

Why the prohibition against eating meat with the “blood still in it”?

How does this tell us animal life and human life is not equally sacred?

9:8-17 What purpose does the sign of this covenant serve? Who is it for?

Note: Just as chap. 8 talked about God remembering, so it does here. This phrase “combines the ideas of faithful love and timely intervention.” [Kidner] “God’s remembering always implies his movement towards the object of his memory.” [Childs]

Does this mean there were no rainbows before the Flood? Why or why not?

What is the significance of the word rainbow being the word for a warrior’s bow?

**APPLICATION.**

- What does this covenant teach us about:
  - The stewardship of the earth?
  - The sanctity of all life?
  - The grace of God?

- In what area of your life does this passage bring you comfort?
- Where does it challenge you?
- How can you know that because of Jesus, for every storm in your life there is also the grace of God?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?