

The Second Disappointing Utopia - Genesis 9:18-29

They now despised the church that they once had loved.

Utopia's have a bad track record.

You will never find a perfect church in this life.

Life after the flood must have been a utopia.

This story of the fall of Noah parallels the fall of Adam.

When did Moses write this? And why?

Sin, 2.0

Drunkenness makes a fool of even the wisest men.

Lesson #1, Everyone can sin. Even the best, the most righteous.

Lesson #2, Even the old can sin. Even old saints can sin.

Ham sinned

What are some theories as to the sin of Ham?

What can we say from the text?

Ham gazed with delight upon and announced the sin of his father.

He did the opposite of what his brothers did.

Ham dishonored his father. Sexual deviancy was somehow involved.

Today, we don't equate dishonoring parents with any great sin.

Noah's Prophecy

God is here announcing the future, through Noah.

God controls the future. Isaiah 46:9-11

The openness of God is a new man centered way of looking at God.

Canaan is cursed

He will be a servant of servants. He will serve his brothers.

This is not fair. Canaan did not sin. Why is he cursed? (Exodus 20:5)

How was this curse fulfilled? (Joshua 9:23; 1 Kings 9:20-21; Leviticus 18; Judges 1:28)

Shem is blessed

The seed of the woman will come in his line.

Japheth is blessed

He will greatly increase, and he will enter the tents of Shem.

God's purposes in Creation are being fulfilled; even with the continuation of human sin.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
January 19, 2020



The Prelude: *A time of silence to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*
(Elder to Lead Worship – Gary Mullen)

Welcome, Announcements and Silent Prayer (10:25)

Call to Worship: **Exodus 15:2** (Responsively)

Dear Christian, why do you worship?

The LORD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise Him, my father's God, and I will exalt Him.

Salutation: **1 Timothy 1:2** (Elder)

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Invocation (Elder)

* **Hymn # 75:** *O Father, You Are Sovereign*

Confession of Faith: **Isaiah 65:17-25** (Elder)

Call to Confession of Sin (in Unison)

Merciful God, You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You. We humbly confess our sins and ask Your mercy. We have not loved You with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with You, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in Your loving-kindness. In Your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from Your presence, or take Your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and sustain us with Your bountiful Spirit. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardoning Grace: **1 Peter 2:24** (Elder)

He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed.

* Congregation Stands

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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* **Hymn # 485:** *O Thou That Hear'st When Sinners Cry (Psalm 51)*

Offertory Scripture/Prayer: Genesis 28:20-22 (Elder)

Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that You give me I will give a full tenth to You."

Tithes and Offerings/Offertory Music

Gloria Patri: Hymn # 735

Choir Anthem: The Prayer

We pray You'll be our eyes, And watch us where we go
And teach us to be wise, In times when we don't know

Let this be our prayer, When we lose our way
Lead us to a place, Guide us with Your grace, To a place where we'll be safe

We pray we'll find Your light, And hold it in our hearts
As darkness falls each night, Remind us where You are.

Let this be our prayer, When shadows fill our day
Lead us to a place, Guide us with Your grace, Give us faith so we'll be safe.

Lead us Lord, lead us in Your righteousness;
Make Your way plain for us to see.
Lead us Lord, lead us in Your righteousness;
Make Your way plain for us to see.

We pray we'll find Your light, And hold it in our hearts
As darkness falls each night, Remind us where You are.

Let this be our prayer, Just like every child, Needs to find a place,
Guide us with Your grace. Give us faith so we'll be safe.
Lead us to a place, Guide us with Your grace,
To a place where we'll be safe. Lead us, Lord.

Children ages 4 - 2nd grade may go to Children's Church at this time

Prayer for the Congregation (Pastor)

Scripture Reading: Genesis 9:18-29

Sermon: The Second Disappointing Utopia by Pastor Mark Scholten

Prayer

* **Closing Hymn # 642:** *Be Thou My Vision*

* **Benediction: Micah 6:8; 2 Corinthians 13:14**

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Reminder – after each service there will be Elders available at the front of the sanctuary to meet with you individually to pray for you or any concerns you or your family may have.



Human Nature

A.W. Pink said, "In the Bible human nature is painted in its true colors: the characters of its heroes are faithfully depicted, the sins of its most prominent personages are frankly recorded. It is human to err, but it is also human to conceal the blemishes of those we admire. Had the Bible been a human production, had it been written by uninspired historians, the defects of its leading characters would have been ignored, or if recorded at all, an attempt at extenuation would have been made. Had some human admirer chronicled the history of Noah, his awful fall would have been omitted. The fact that it is recorded and that no effort is made to excuse his sin, is evidence that the characters of the Bible are painted in the colors of truth and nature, that such characters were not sketched by human pens, that Moses and the other historians must have written by Divine inspiration."

~ Gleanings in Genesis