

Connect Group 7-3-22

Welcome

Opening Question: Do you have any special Independence Day traditions? OR, what is the best firework show you have ever seen?

Worship

Word

Read Genesis 9:18-29 and answer the following questions.

- 1) Look at verses 18-19. In what ways is the world starting over again?
- 2) Look at verses 20-23. How does this episode show the truth of Genesis 8:21?
- 3) Contrast the behavior of Ham with his brothers?
- 4) Obviously Canaan (Ham's son) was involved in some aspect of this situation, as he is specifically mentioned in the curse by Noah. Contrast the blessings and cursing pronounced by Noah.
- 5) The mention of Canaan shows that Noah has grandchildren who are old enough to be morally responsible for their actions. What does this say about the passage of time since the flood?

Read Genesis 11:1-9

- 1) How do these verses show the continuing decline of humanity following the flood?
- 2) What things are the people doing that are wrong?
- 3) Now does God judge the makers of the tower?
- 4) What is the result of God's judgment?

Digging Deeper:

- 1) The story of Babel is sandwiched in between genealogies (in chapter 10 and 11) showing the growth of humans on the earth. Often, we skip over these family trees. Why are these genealogies important? What can they teach us?
- 2) The group of people at Babel were certainly not all the people on the earth. Why do you think this group (and God's judgement) is significant?
- 3) The division of languages also creates the division of people into different groups. In what ways is this action a means of restraining the wickedness of mankind?
- 4) At Babel, human beings had moved from honoring God to honoring themselves. How do we see this same error at work today?
- 5) The author of Genesis displays deliberate irony and sarcasm in this passage. They are making such a 'great tower' that God HAS to 'come down to see it.' How does this remind us of our smallness before the Almighty?
- 6) Read and comment: Psalm 8:3-4, Isaiah 40:17, 21-23.
- 7) The Spirit's coming in Acts 2:1-12 is a manner of reversing the Genesis 11 judgment. What does the re-unification of every tribe in tongue (in Jesus) tell us?
- 8) What else stands out from these passages?

Works

Pray for your lost friends and family members.

Pray for EBC in our efforts to share Jesus with our community.