

# Genesis: God and the Originals

## THE NOAHIC COVENANT AND BABEL

### The Blessing and the “Nefesh” (9:1-7)

#### Vv. 1-3

1. How is God’s blessing of Noah and his sons in these verses similar and dissimilar to the blessing of Adam and Eve?
2. Why do you think there is a difference?

#### Vv. 4-7

3. What one prohibition has God added in v. 4?

The word “lifeblood” is a combination of two Hebrew words for “\_\_\_\_\_” (nefesh) and “\_\_\_\_\_” (dahm).

BONUS: Does v. 4 mean I can’t eat my steak rare?

4. Do verses 5-6 mean animals can’t eat each other, or is there something else God is intending?

BONUS: Does v. 6 justify capital punishment?

### The Covenant and the Sign (9:8-17)

#### Vv. 8-12

5. What is God’s covenant in these verses and with whom is it?

#### Vv. 13-17

6. What is the sign of God’s covenant?

The word for “rainbow” in Hebrew is simply \_\_\_\_\_ (in the mist).

7. A bow is for war. How is it ironic that God would choose that as the sign of this covenant?



[https://  
designflourish.wordpress.com/  
2015/04/08/vector-final/](https://designflourish.wordpress.com/2015/04/08/vector-final/)

## The Blessing and Cursing of Noah's Sons (9:18-28)

8. Read these verses at your table. Write down any questions that go unanswered in the text.
9. Some scholars have suggested possible extra meanings to Ham "seeing" the nakedness of his Father, that it points to:
- A. Ham violating his father sexually.
  - B. Improper sexual relations within the family in general.
  - C. The impropriety of seeing your parent naked (hebrew = "bare").
  - D. Simply a disregard for your parents.

Which one do you think it is?

BONUS: Is Noah to be held at fault for anything in this story?

BONUS: Who is this story about more than the three sons of Noah (look at the blessings and the curses)?

## The Tower of Babel (11:1-9)

### Vv. 1-4

10. Where is the tower of Babel?

11. What are the people trying to accomplish and how are the resources they are using an ironic way of going about it?

### Vv. 5-9

12. What is God's problem with the people's plan?



<https://www.quora.com/Where-is-the-location-of-the-Tower-of-Babel>

BONUS:

The word "confuse" in v. 7 is suggestively similar to the idea of "moral stupidity." What else is spiritually wrong with what the people are trying to accomplish?