



THE BOOK OF  
**GENESIS**

# ***GOD'S COVENANT WITH NOAH***

## ***GENESIS 9:8-17***

The beginning of His precious promises of grace!

- First, notice the 16 personal pronouns ***I, Me,*** and ***My*** all emphasizing *whose work this is . . . God's!*
- ***Law of First Mention:*** the word *covenant*
- The Greek word ***diatheke*** and the Hebrew word ***Berith*** are legal terms denoting a formal and legally binding declaration of benefits to be given by one party to another, which can be ***with*** or ***without conditions attached.***

# ***CONDITIONAL OR UNCONDITIONAL***

There is no mention made of man's obedience to any commands as a condition determining whether God would keep His part of the covenant.

- God promised unconditionally—as a result of Noah's faith alone—that He would never send a flood or destroy all flesh as long as the earth remained.
- God graciously gave Noah and his descendants a "sign"—the rainbow—that He would keep His word.

## ***STORMS ARE TEMPORARY* v. 8-10**

God made many important covenants in Scripture with *Moses*, with the *nation of Israel*, with *David*, and, especially, the “*NEW COVENANT*” of grace through faith in Christ. **Hebrews 8:1-13**

- As far as Scripture defines a specific covenant to us, this was the *first* covenant.
- It is significant that the covenant was not only with Noah and his descendants, but also with the animals.

## ***A VISIBLE SIGN*** v. 11-12

- God never wanted man to fear the return of ***Mabul Mayim***—the global catastrophic flood.
- The Hebrew word ***oth*** is translated *sign*, also *mark* or *token*.
- Regardless of modern-day threats of nuclear missiles, chemical and biological warfare, pollution of the planet, and climate change (polar ice melting), we have God's promise that He will never allow a flood to destroy the whole earth. So when it rains, cheer up!

# ***ENJOYING LIFE UNDER THE RAINBOW***

As though to make it emphatic, three times God says *“never again.”* **v. 11-15**

- He didn't lay down any conditions that men and women had to obey; He simply stated the fact that there would be no more global floods.
- That is why Jesus said not to worry! If you are His, you can live a life free of worry.
- All creation worships Him. **Rev. 4:6-7**

# ***THE THREE RAINBOWS***

- 1. Noah** saw the rainbow **after** the storm, just as God's people see it today.
- 2. But the Prophet Ezekiel** saw the rainbow in the **midst** of the storm. **Ezekiel 1:28**
- 3. Of course, the Apostle John** saw the rainbow **before** the storm of judgment broke loose. **Rev. 4:3**

**Jesus will one day wear this rainbow. Rev. 10:1-4**

*Before, during, and after every storm the grace of God remains . . . **you have His rainbow on it!***