

## ***The Church of the Servant King***

### ***Prophecy Series*** **(Proph3\_The Covenant With Noah)**

In our last lesson, we examined how God prophesied regarding the coming of a redeemer for mankind from the curse that resulted from the Fall of mankind in the Garden of Eden (Ge 3:15). We saw the relationship between the Fall and Satan's strategy in the Angelic Conflict. Next, in the Genesis account of the early history of man, we see God's counter strategy unveiled in the provision of an animal sacrifice (Ge 3:21) that covered man in both a physical way and a spiritual sense until the ultimate provision in fulfillment of the prophecy in Genesis 3:15 could be accomplished.

The grace of God that was extended to Adam and Eve was followed by continued failure on man's part to include Cain's slaying of Abel (Ge 4:8), murders performed by Lamech (4:23) and the events of Genesis 6 – the fallen angelic infiltration of the human race. The wickedness was so great and Satan's strategy was so effective that Scripture records that only Noah found favor in God's sight (Ge 6:8-11). In order to insure that the human race would continue so that the Angelic Conflict could be successfully resolved via the evidence to be presented by human history, God had to destroy the entirety of the human race save Noah and his family. The Scriptural account of this dramatic event is recorded in Genesis 6-8.

After the flood, God made a covenant with Noah (Ge 8:20-9:17) that He would never destroy the earth with a flood. In addition, God's covenant with Noah included several other provisions and promises: 1) Noah was instructed to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth (Ge 9:1); 2) all of creation was placed under human authority even though Satan still had ultimate dominion over the earth (Ge 9:2-3); and 3) for the first time, God gave Noah the right not only to eat of the green plants but to eat meat from animals (Ge 9:3-6). The rainbow in the clouds was given as sign of this covenant. This was the first time that the earth had seen rain from above (2:5-6 – the earth was watered with a mist prior to the flood) and when the sun emerged and shone its rays through the clouds, the first rainbow would have appeared.

The prophecy involved in this covenant with Noah brought a new hope for the fulfillment of the first prophecy of a redeemer recorded in Genesis 3:15. Had God not executed the judgment of the Flood, a corrupted and unbelieving human race would have likely destroyed itself before God's promise of a redeemer could be fulfilled. A provision was made to escape this judgment for those who would believe since Noah built such an Ark within view of all and likely related the reason for this strange contraption to all who would inquire (compare to 1 Pe 3:20). Nevertheless, none entered save Noah's family.