



## 2021 2Q The Promise: Lesson 3 All Future Generations

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

Last week I read a quotation from an article entitled *The Covenant of Grace* from a pamphlet entitled *Savior of the World*. I said this was written by EG White. One of our online listeners, Kent Johnson, emailed that it was written by WW Prescott, another SDA pioneer. I doubled checked and Kent is right. I made this mistake for three reasons, 1) I got the quote from the EG White Estate website and didn't see the small note that it was written by WW Prescott 2) the concepts expressed are true and consistent with design law understanding of things and 3) being very familiar with the writings of EG White the writing style read like her. So, I went and did a little research comparing the WW Prescott article with some of EG White's writings and in some places he quoted her directly but didn't reference her. All the Bible texts are referenced, but some quotes are in quotation marks but with no reference. Other places it is just very similar in style but not a direct quote, the concepts are the same:

WW Prescott article is in black EGW in red below it:

**Everything depends on the right action of the will. The power of choice God has given to men; it is theirs to exercise.** You cannot change your heart, you cannot of yourself give to God its affections; but you can choose to serve Him. You can give Him your will; **He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure.** Thus **your whole nature will be brought under the control of the Spirit of Christ;** your affections will be centered upon Him, and your thoughts will be in harmony with Him.

Everything depends on the right action of the will. The power of choice God has given to men; it is theirs to exercise. You cannot change your heart, you cannot of yourself give to God its affections; but you can choose to serve Him. You can give Him your will; He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure. Thus your whole nature will be brought under the control of the Spirit of Christ; your affections will be centered upon Him, your thoughts will be in harmony with Him. SC 47.1

**When the principle of love is implanted in the heart, when man is renewed after the image of Him that created him, the new covenant promise is fulfilled,** 'I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them.' And if the law is written in the heart, will it not shape the life?

When the principle of love is implanted in the heart, when man is renewed after the image of Him that created him, the new covenant promise is fulfilled, 'I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them.' And if the law is written in the heart, will it not shape the life? SC 60

It may throw light upon the whole problem of His manifested grace if we give some thought to **the**



**divine purpose in creating us.** This is clearly stated in the Scriptures. God speaks of His sons and daughters as those “whom I have created for My glory.” Isaiah 43:7. And He further says of Israel, “Thou art My servant; Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” Isaiah 49:3. **Creation was an act of love on the part of a holy God in bringing into existence beings who could reveal the glory of His own love Love formed us in His own image, that we might love.** Genesis 1:26. **Hence the fundamental law of our being, and the very purpose for which we have been redeemed,** was expressed by our Lord when He was asked to distinguish between the commandments in the law: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second like unto it is this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments the whole law hangeth, and the prophets.” Matthew 22:37-40.

**Every act of self-sacrifice for the good of others will strengthen the spirit of beneficence** in the giver's heart, allying him more closely to the Redeemer of the world, who “was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, that we through His poverty might be rich.” **And it is only as we fulfill the divine purpose in our creation that life can be a blessing to us.**—The Review and Herald, December 7, 1886. Counsels on Stewardship 20.2 **Every faculty, every attribute with which God has endowed us is to be used to His name's glory. Man must cooperate with Christ to restore the moral image of God in man,** and it is in wearing the yoke of Christ, and learning daily Christ's meekness and lowliness, **that Christ can use him to be a blessing to his fellow men.** This Day with God 90.2

**The yoke that binds to service is the law of God. The great law of love revealed in Eden, proclaimed upon Sinai, and in the new covenant written in the heart, is that which binds the human worker to the will of God.** DA 329.3

**There is one thing which God does not do, and which He does not permit any other person to do. He has given to us freedom of will, and He will not disregard it.** I can say No to God, and He will be governed accordingly, but I must take the inevitable consequences. **In this sense I am the arbiter of my own destiny. I can take my own choice.**

**The law of love being the foundation of the government of God,** the happiness of all created beings depended upon their perfect accord with its great principles of righteousness. God desires from all his creatures the service of love,—homage that springs from an intelligent appreciation of his character. He takes no pleasure in a forced allegiance, and **to all he grants freedom of will,** that they may render him voluntary service. GC88 493.2

**O that every one might realize that he is the arbiter of his own destiny!** Your happiness for this life, and for the future, immortal life lies with yourself. MYP 31.2

**Sin banishes love and genders hatred. Sin seeks to abolish the law of love to God and man, and to put in its place the law of selfishness.**



**Sin destroys in the human soul both the desire and the capacity for knowing Him.** The whole human organism is deranged, the mind perverted, the imagination corrupted. For want of moral force to overcome, the soul is debased. From Splendor to Shadow 125.1

**To the heart that has become purified, all is changed. The Spirit of God produces a new life in the soul, bringing the thoughts and desires into obedience to the will of Christ; and the inward man is renewed in the image of God.** From Splendor to Shadow 125.2

Man was originally crowned with glory and honor, and given dominion over the world (Psalm 8:5; Genesis 1:26), **empowered to reign upon a throne of love; but distrust of God dethroned him, and he became the slave of sin. The purpose of God in the gospel is to restore man to his place on the throne by renewing the love of God in his heart, and so enabling him to conquer selfishness;** “He that overcometh, I will give to him to sit down with Me in My throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with My Father in His throne.” Revelation 3:21. **Love is the all-conquering power, and love will win.**

“To him that overcometh,” Christ said, “**will I grant to sit with Me in My throne**, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne.” Revelation 3:21. **The one who stands nearest to Christ will be he who has drunk most deeply of His spirit of self-sacrificing love,**—love that “vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, ... seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil” (1 Corinthians 13:4, 5),—love that moves the disciple, as it moved our Lord, to give all, to live and labor and sacrifice even unto death, for the saving of humanity. AA 543.2

**When we seek for appropriate language in which to describe the love of God**, we find words too tame, too weak, too far beneath the theme, and we lay down our pen and say, “No, it cannot be described.” We can only do as did the beloved disciple, and say, “Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God.” [1 John 3:1.] In attempting any **description of this love**, we feel that we are as infants lisping their first words. Silently we may adore; for silence in this matter is the only eloquence. **This love is past all language to describe. It is the mystery of God in the flesh, God in Christ, and divinity in humanity. Christ bowed down in unparalleled humility, that in his exaltation to the throne of God, he might also exalt those who believe in him, to a seat with him upon his throne.** CE 77.1

**Here is the true test. If we abide in Christ, if the love of God dwells in us, our feelings, our thoughts, our purposes, our actions, will be in harmony with the will of God as expressed in the precepts of His holy law.**

**Here is the true test. If we abide in Christ, if the love of God dwells in us, our feelings, our thoughts, our purposes, our actions, will be in harmony with the will of God as expressed in the precepts of His holy law.** SC 61.1



**There is no power which will compel us to choose to commit sin. There is no power which will compel us to choose to do righteousness. We alone are responsible for the choice which we make.**

**No one can force you to give your heart to Jesus, no one can compel you to throw off the yoke of Satan. You may choose to do his bidding, to be children of the wicked one...**  
RH December 24, 1889, Art. A, par. 8

**In the work of redemption there is no compulsion. No external force is employed. Under the influence of the Spirit of God, man is left free to choose whom he will serve. In the change that takes place when the soul surrenders to Christ, there is the highest sense of freedom.** The expulsion of sin is the act of the soul itself. True, we have no power to free ourselves from Satan's control; but when we desire to be set free from sin, and in our great need cry out for a power out of and above ourselves, **the powers of the soul are imbued with the divine energy of the Holy Spirit, and they obey the dictates of the will in fulfilling the will of God.** DA 466.4

**From the first promise of victory over the serpent, made in Eden (Genesis 3:15), to the last promise of the advent of our Lord in glory to reward those who have been redeemed by His loving mercy (Revelation 22:12), we are dealing with the covenant of grace.**

**Before the foundations of the earth were laid, the covenant was made that all who were obedient, all who should through the abundant grace provided, become holy in character, and without blame before God, by appropriating that grace, should be children of God. This covenant, made from eternity, was given to Abraham hundreds of years before Christ came. With what interest and what intensity did Christ in humanity study the human race to see if they would avail themselves of the provision offered. Fundamentals of Christian Education 403.1**

So, while the article was authored by WW Prescott, the concepts are those that we believe are the truth and therefore not surprising were also expressed in the writings of EGW.

## **SABBATH**

---

Memory text: "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD." (Gen 6:8 KJV)

"But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD." (NIV84)

What do you think this means? Does it mean:

- Noah was the only one who figured out the secret to get God to be gracious?
- That God wasn't gracious to anyone but Noah?
- That God plays favorites and God preferred Noah and didn't like the other people on Earth?
- Noah took advantage of the grace/favor God made available to everyone? If this is how you read it, why does it say found favor in the Lord's eyes?



Here is how I rendered it in *The Remedy*:

“But the Lord was pleased that he had a friend in Noah.”

There is certainly nothing wrong with the translation from the Hebrew in the KJV or the NIV, then why did I paraphrase it as I did?

Note the context of this statement:

The LORD saw how great man’s wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. 6 The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. 7 So the LORD said, “I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth—men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air—for I am grieved that I have made them.” 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. (Gen 6:5-8 NIV84)

Is the context emphasizing the issue from Noah’s or God’s perspective? So, to me it seemed more accurate to render it as focusing on God, that despite the heartache God experienced because all His other children were wicked, with hearts hardened against Him, He was pleased that Noah was his friend. But the traditional way of translating this makes it sound like God just couldn’t take it any more and was going to lash out to punish, but Noah was fortunate to find favor in God’s eyes.

Here is my paraphrase of these verses from the design law understanding:

The Lord saw how human beings, by choosing to indulge selfishness, had completely corrupted themselves, destroying in themselves his design of love, and how their every desire was totally selfish and their hearts sought evil all the time. 6 The Lord grieved at their suffering, and his heart ached over humanity’s terminal condition. He also grieved at the action his love must take in order to slow the spread of sin and to keep open the avenue for the Messiah to come and save the human species. 7 So the Lord pronounced his therapeutic plan: “I will remove the malignantly selfish humans from the face of the earth that I have made; I will remove humans and animals, both large and small, and the birds of the air. Having to do this grieves me, for I have created them.” 8 But the Lord was pleased that he had a friend in Noah.

The lesson gives the example of how bacteria multiple rapidly through fission with one cell becoming two, two becoming four, four becoming eight and so on. And then states, “This microscopic phenomenon in the natural world illustrates the rapid growth of evil after the fall.”

What are the strengths and weaknesses of this illustration?

- Strengths—sin is like an infection in that once it is has invaded, once it has become part of a heart or mind, it will spread and increase on its own unless actively opposed.



- Weakness of the illustration—we are not petri dishes in which bacteria grows on its own. We have individuality, the power to think and choose and God did not leave us on our own. God has provided every resource necessary to stop the spread of sin in our hearts and minds and prevent the corruption of our characters and to restore us to righteousness.

The Bible tells us in Genesis 3 that God promised the Messiah to come and eradicate sin and save humanity. It tells that God would put enmity between the woman and the serpent. This means that God would intercede in human hearts to convict of sin, to woo, to put a desire for something better, to draw us—to give us power to resist sin and overcome it. God did not abandon us to the power of sin, but has been interceding to restore us to sinless perfection. From the very first moment sin entered, God has been interceding in three places:

- God intercedes in our hearts and minds to draw us back to Himself
- Here is an historic quote from EGW commenting on God’s intercession in human hearts:
  - The Lord says, "I will put enmity between thee and the woman." **The enmity does not exist as a natural fact.** As soon as Adam sinned, he was in harmony with the first great apostate, and at war with God; and **if God had not interfered in man's behalf, Satan and man would have formed a confederacy against heaven**, and carried on united opposition against the God of hosts. **There is no natural enmity between evil angels and evil men;** both are evil through transgression of the law of God, **and evil will always league against good. Fallen men and fallen angels enter into a desperate companionship.** {ST, July 11, 1895 par. 5} [Understand if the heart is not under the influence of the Holy Spirit it is naturally in harmony with satanic agencies. Meaning, that even if Satan isn't specifically tempting, encouraging, guiding, inspiring, the unrepentant heart, devoid of God's influence, will value the same methods as Satan, will practice the same principles, come to the same conclusions and take the same actions as the evil one. These actions are the activities driven by fear and selfishness, known as survival of the fittest. These actions will lead to lying, manipulating, seeking to dominate and control others, power over, passing laws and enforcing those laws with coercion, taking away liberty, inciting more fear, the destruction of love, inciting more division, exploiting others to protect self. All of this will be the natural results of human action without specific temptation of Satan's agents if humans are not under the influence of God's Spirit.]
- God intercedes with the principalities and powers to put a hedge of protection around us to limit the power of evil to harm in order to allow all who will to choose Him and be reborn with new hearts to receive eternal salvation.
  - The book of Job reveals God restrains evil forces
  - Elisha and the angel army holding back the Assyrians
  - God holding back the scorpions and snakes in the desert
  - The four angels holding back the four winds of strife
  - God's actions in OT times to keep open the avenue for the Messiah
- God interceded in the course of sin itself, in what sin naturally does to human beings when Jesus “who knew no sin became sin for us so that we might become the righteousness of God.” (2Cor 5:21)



- Jesus became human, with a humanity subject to our weakness and temptations and was tempted in every way like we are, yet without sin (Heb 4:15). He exercised the power of His human abilities to trust His Father and receive power from His Father to live victoriously over internal and external temptations to act selfishly, (the temptation of the survival drives seen in Gethsemane). And He established in humanity a perfect, sinless, human character thus becoming our Savior (Heb 5:9), altering the natural results of what sin would do by picking up humanity damaged and terminal from Adam's sin and fixing, healing, perfecting, cleaning it. (2Tim 1:10)

So while it is true that sin, if unchecked, would multiply like a bacterial infection, it is not true that sin has been left without remedy to stop it.

## SUNDAY

---

The first paragraph contrasts the perfection of God's creation at the end of creation week with the wickedness before the flood and states, "the transgressions and rebellion were clearly something that even a loving, patient, and forgiving God couldn't tolerate."

What does this mean to you? How do you hear it? What is the message that you take away from it?

The transgressions and rebellion were "*clearly* something that a loving, patient, and forgiving God couldn't tolerate"? Clearly?

Does it make it sound like things got so bad God just couldn't take it anymore, that God becomes intolerant? Does it make it sound like God only has so much patience and when God reaches the limit of His patience He just can't take anymore wickedness and lashes out to crush those in rebellion?

Does it make it sound like God is not infinite, but limited in patience, limited in His ability to tolerate offenses against Him, limited in self-restraint, that there is a limit beyond which God simply can't take it anymore?

Now, I want to be very clear. We believe there are limits, real limits, real limitations to how far **sin** can go, no question about it; but are those limits of how far sin can go, limitations in God, or limitations in sinners?

Can we rephrase the concept of limits on sin in some way that expresses it better, that expresses the limitation as being due to the limitations of human nature and not some limitation in God's character of love? And can we understand God's actions to intervene as evidences of His limitless, infinite, love and patience acting when sin reaches a limit whereby any further patience on God's part no longer has any redemptive value, but would only allow pain, suffering and the obstruction of God's saving plan? In other words, can we see God's actions as infinite patience and love acting with mercy to heal and save when sin reaches a limit that the only way forward for life and health is for God to act, to excise necrosis?



What law lens does one read the events through?

If human law, then God is acting to punish; He gives His law. He gives warnings and time, and if people won't change, then God must inflict punishment. This is how most people read Scripture and stories like the Flood because they assume God's law works like human law.

But with the design law view, we realize God waits until waiting any longer will do no good. He waits until the limits of resilience in the sinner is surpassed and the faculties in the sinner that respond to truth and love are irrevocably destroyed and no amount of truth and love will have any impact on them. Then God acts, not to inflict punishment, but to therapeutically intervene to limit suffering and save the species, in this case keep open the avenue for Messiah.

How long did God wait? Until there was only one righteous man and his family left on the Earth! Does that sound like God became intolerant or impatient? Just the opposite, it sounds like infinite love and patience waiting until there was nothing more love could do except act therapeutically in order to save the species.

The lesson makes a great point in the third paragraph, "Genesis 6:5 and 11..." This is true; sin is progressive, the law of diminishing returns, the same sinful activity that brought the initial reward, pleasure, or thrill, will be less rewarding the next time, so the sinful activity has to become more vulgar, corrupt, vile, extreme, a bigger dose, compounded with others abuses in order to get the thrill:

- the gambler has to risk more, make bigger bets
- the addict has to take more, bigger doses or compound with other substances
- the sex addict has to watch and indulge in ever devolving acts
- serial killers start with abusing animals, then killing animals and work their way up to people

Not only is the practice of sin progressive, it simultaneously destroys the faculties that prefer righteousness. Every act of sin sears the conscience, warps the character, hardens the heart so that minds become warped. The human heart is deceitful above all things and utterly wicked (Jer 17:9).

The unrepentant lie to themselves, and others—"this isn't sin." They:

- Deny, distort, blame, project, externalize, obfuscate, accuse others
- They hate all messages that would counter their sinful lives, not just written or spoken messages, but the lives of the righteous who won't participate in their sinful choices. Those in darkness won't come into the light lest their evil deeds be exposed.
- It isn't enough that they are left free to corrupt themselves, because of what sin does; sin always causes guilt, fear, shame, inadequacy until the conscience is fully seared, so the unrepentant sinner must live in a world of lies to minimize their sense of guilt and shame.
- They seek to deny their own guilt and shame by demanding that people around them (society) accept them and tell them that they are okay. They cannot leave people who have different values free to live differently, but will seek to corrupt the innocent into their own sin or expel or destroy those who remind them of their own sinful lives. We see this in high schools where those using drugs work so hard to get those who don't use drugs to partake and if the some





- won't join in, then they are rejected and ostracized, or even intimidated, mocked, and bullied.
- The unrepentant will seek to silence voices that speak truth; they will seek to destroy the livelihoods of those whose lives are not conforming to their wicked standards.
  - Look at Daniel—he didn't go around pointing out the sin in other's lives. He didn't go around preaching about the falsehood of the Babylonian and Persian gods. He merely went to his window and prayed to God three times a day and lived his life by refusing to participate in activities that gave honor to pagan gods. And what did the pagans do? They sought to destroy him.
  - Look at God's prophets through Old Testament times, how many were persecuted.
  - Look at Jesus—He spoke truth to the people and those wicked leaders sought to destroy Him. Same with the Apostles.

The wicked cannot stand those who live godly lives and speak the truth in love.

This is another evidence that those who have discernment can use to determine where God's enemy is at work. The people of God present the truth in love and leave others free. The enemies of God always seek to abuse, coerce, compel, restrict, restrain, punish, silence, eliminate the sources of truth:

- The Dark Ages church persecuted and sought to destroy the Reformers
- Nazi Germany persecuted and sought to destroy all voices that opposed their persecution of the Jews
- Communist countries always persecute and silence voices who challenge their authority, expose their abuses
- What about today—who seeks to de-platform, silence, coerce, intimidate, and use the power of either the state or commerce to inflict punishment for speaking up and refusing to go along with agendas that violate liberty?

There was a progression to the wickedness, the hardening of the hearts of people in Noah's day. Do we see a similar thing happening today? Let's examine the progression in Noah's day and compare the pattern to today:

- First, they rejected God and adored nature in the place of the God of nature and came to value their own genius, ingenuity, and works of their hands and thus they forgot the knowledge of God—selfishness, rather than love, became the primary drive to existence
  - This led to worship of the created instead of the Creator, and in harmony with the law of worship, they became more debased
  - Has the theory of evolution become dominant in the world today? Are people forgetting the knowledge of God? And what happens when we worship the created rather than the Creator?
- Second, they became sexually perverse rejecting monogamy and engaging in polygamy and rather than marriages of co-equals men dominated women and women used their sexuality to seduce men
  - Has human sexuality become perverted in society today? Has God's design for marriage been devalued?
  - Has pornography grown like no time in human history?



- Has gender itself come under attack?
- Third they became violent, taking by force whatever they wanted, including the women they wanted and blood sport became a passion
  - Have we seen in the world today increasing violence and the decreasing value of human life?
  - Have we seen groups advancing their agenda through mobs, riots, and violence?
  - Have we seen the state using more coercive powers of force and intimidation?
  - Have we seen increasing terrorism and wars?
- Fourth they perverted their diets and began eating animals
  - Have we seen in the world today the perversion of human diet and undermining of human health?
  - Have we seen the foods God created to nurture us replaced with foods God never gave for us to eat?
  - Have we seen the foods God did give us processed and altered with various man-made dyes, chemicals, preservatives that alter its nutritional value?
  - Is human health and mental health undermined by unhealthy diet? Absolutely!
- Fifth they perverted nature—it is my view that the dinosaurs are the result of various breeding, hybridization and other experiments done by the antediluvians to create creatures of violence for their blood sports. And because they were not part of God's creation they were not included on the ark.

From one of the founders of the SDA church, EG White, commenting on events prior to the flood:

**But if there was one sin above another which called for the destruction of the race by the flood, it was the base crime of amalgamation of man and beast which defaced the image of God, and caused confusion everywhere.** God purposed to destroy by a flood that powerful, long-lived race that had corrupted their ways before him. He would not suffer them to live out the days of their natural life, which would be hundreds of years. It was only a few generations back when Adam had access to that tree which was to prolong life. After his disobedience he was not suffered to eat of the tree of life and perpetuate a life of sin. 3SG 64.1

**Every species of animal which God had created were preserved in the ark. The confused species which God did not create, which were the result of amalgamation, were destroyed by the flood.** 3SG 75.2

Do you think this is too fantastical, that the writer was using her imagination to create fiction, or the writer was writing truth?

- Have we seen in the world today the corruption of nature itself, man-made bio weapons, viruses altered in virology labs and released upon the population?
- Have we seen the making of animal hybrids that are not part of God's creation?

Well, today, more than 6000 years from the fall, when we don't have the vitality they did, this is what we are doing today:



Hybrid animals today:

- Liger—a cross between a tiger and a lion
- Zonkey—a cross between a zebra and a donkey
- Jaglion—cross between a jaguar and lion
- Geep—cross between a goat and sheep
- Grolar bear—cross between a polar and brown bear
- Coywolf—cross between a coyote and wolf
- Wholphin—cross between a false killer whale and dolphin
- Beefalo—cross between a buffalo and cow

[https://www.boredpanda.com/strange-hybrid-animals-that-are-hard-to-believe-actually-exist/?utm\\_source=google&utm\\_medium=organic&utm\\_campaign=organic](https://www.boredpanda.com/strange-hybrid-animals-that-are-hard-to-believe-actually-exist/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=organic)

But what about human-animal hybrids?

- “In a remarkable—if likely controversial—feat, scientists announced that they have created the first successful human-animal hybrids. The project proves that human cells can be introduced into a non-human organism, survive, and even grow inside a host animal, in this case, pigs.”  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/science-and-technology/human-pig-hybrid-created-lab>
- Human Monkey hybrids created in China <https://singularityhub.com/2019/08/13/wait-what-the-first-human-monkey-hybrid-embryo-was-just-created-in-china/>
- Mice with human brain cells are smarter <https://www.intelligentliving.co/mice-human-brain-cells/>

These are just some of the amalgamations that have occurred in our day.

Are we seeing the world corrupting itself just like it did prior to the Flood? And what is the impact upon the hearts and minds of people of these actions?

What is the role of the Christian in combating this activities?

- **First** we share the everlasting gospel, which calls people back to worship the Creator God—calling people out of both the godless worldview AND the imperial dictator god worldview, to worship Him who made the heavens, earth, sea and fountains of water. We share the good news of our God of love whose laws are design laws that life itself is built upon! And thus we always live out God’s design laws and never seek to advance God’s cause using Satan’s methods, for regardless of how righteous the cause, when Satan’s methods are brought to bear it will worsen the problem. The various coercive practices and loss of liberties brought about under the COVID rules are already demonstrating a devastating result that will in the end kill millions more than any potential lives saved from the virus.
- **Second** share God’s original design for human relationships—God designed marriage of two co-equals who are joined together in bonds of other-centered love. We call people out of self-centered, survival driven, fear-based relationships in which individuals seek power over others



to dominate and control them. We oppose the sexual exploitation of others and the lies about human gender and sexuality that are infecting the world.

- **Third** we refuse to use violence, coercion, intimidation, or compelling power to force our way. We present the truth in love and leave others free and we trust God with the future. We do not use the methods of the world, imperialism, threat, inflicted punishments, to force people to comply with the truth as we know it. Thus we are peacemakers, not war makers.
- **Fourth** we return, as far as possible, to the healthiest diet we can consume in the circumstances where we live. We teach the principles of healthy nutrition and advocate for healthy lifestyle, but we leave others free to decide for themselves.
- **Fifth** we protect nature, we as far as possible seek to be good stewards of the planet and the animals on the planet. We do not seek to advance the human being by splicing in animal DNA, or computer chips creating cyborgs. We recognize that we are created in the image of God and any attempts to improve on the human being will eventually degrade it. This does not mean we avoid medical interventions, prosthetics, designed to restore lost function whether cochlear implants, or artificial joints, of course we do. It means we don't seek to evolve the species into some next generation of so-called advanced species, what some are calling human 2.0.

## TUESDAY

---

The Covenant with Noah—read Genesis 6:18:

But I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. (RSV)

What is the covenant? Is this a separate covenant from the covenant of grace or is it part of that covenant?

What is the covenant of grace? The promised Messiah to remedy sin and save humanity.

Was the covenant with Noah necessary to achieve or fulfill the covenant of grace? Yes, so it is part of the larger covenant, a local and specific action to carry out the covenant of grace, keep open avenue for Messiah to save the world.

Read third paragraph, "However unique this..." Do you like the way this is expressed? What does it suggest? How would you say it differently?

Did the sin problem affect human beings differently than God? Yes, we were dying, terminal, corrupted, damaged, broken—God remains sinless, perfect, infinite, unsullied—but was God without injury? No, God had been wounded by loss, by grief, by heartache from the rebellion and sin in His universe and the loss of His heavenly family as well as Adam and Eve.

So, certainly we need a solution to do something different for us than God personally needed to for Himself—we needed healing, God didn't. But the very same solution that heals us also benefits God in



that He has the joy of saving the people He loves. We benefit by personally being healed, saved, delivered from sin—God doesn't need this. God benefits by saving those He loves, both His human family and also stopping the loss of more of His heavenly family.

Parents, if you act to save your child from dying from some condition, do you benefit from that action? Of course, in a different way than the child who is healed, but you are benefited *because* you love the child. So God's benefit is because He is love!

So, understanding this that God's benefit is saving the lost and protecting His heavenly family from rebellion, here are some quotes I find do a good job in describing this larger perspective on what God accomplished through Christ:

- For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to **reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven**, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. (Col 1:19-20 NIV84)
- **But the plan of redemption had a yet broader and deeper purpose than the salvation of man. It was not for this alone that Christ came to the earth;** it was not merely that the inhabitants of this little world might regard the law of God as it should be regarded; but it was to vindicate the character of God **before the universe**. To this result of His great sacrifice--its influence upon the intelligences of other worlds, as well as upon man--the Saviour looked forward when just before His crucifixion He said: "Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all unto Me." John 12:31, 32. The act of Christ in dying for the salvation of man would not only make heaven accessible to men, but before all the universe it would justify God and His Son in their dealing with the rebellion of Satan. **It would establish the perpetuity of the law of God and would reveal the nature and the results of sin.** {PP 68.2}
- **By coming to dwell with us, Jesus was to reveal God both to men and to angels.** He was the Word of God,--God's thought made audible. In His prayer for His disciples He says, "I have declared unto them Thy name,"--"merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,"--"that the love wherewith Thou hast loved Me may be in them, and I in them." But not alone for His earthborn children was this revelation given. **Our little world is the lesson book of the universe.** God's wonderful purpose of grace, the mystery of redeeming love, is the theme into which "angels desire to look," and it will be their study throughout endless ages. **Both the redeemed and the unfallen beings will find in the cross of Christ their science and their song.** It will be seen that the glory shining in the face of Jesus is the glory of self-sacrificing love. **In the light from Calvary it will be seen that the law of self-renouncing love is the law of life for earth and heaven;** that the love which "seeketh not her own" has its source in the heart of God; and that in the meek and lowly One is manifested the character of Him who dwelleth in the light which no man can approach unto. DA 19, 20
- **That which alone can effectually restrain from sin in this world of darkness, will prevent sin in heaven. The significance of the death of Christ will be seen by saints and angels.** Fallen men could not have a home in the paradise of God without the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. Shall we not then exalt the cross of Christ? **The angels ascribe honor and glory to Christ, for even they are not secure except by looking to the sufferings of the Son of God.** It is through the efficacy of the cross that the angels of heaven are guarded from



apostasy. Without the cross they would be no more secure against evil than were the angels before the fall of Satan. **Angelic perfection failed in heaven.** Human perfection failed in Eden, the paradise of bliss. All who wish for security in earth or heaven must look to the Lamb of God. The plan of salvation, making manifest the justice and love of God, provides an eternal safeguard against defection in unfallen worlds, as well as among those who shall be redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. {5BC 1132.8}

Does God benefit from the covenant? Yes, but in different ways than we do.

Regarding the covenant or agreement—can God save a sinner without that sinner’s participation or agreement? Can a sinner be saved without God?

God, through Christ becoming human and living sinlessly and overcoming and reestablishing God’s law into the species, could save the human species, which He did in Christ. But any other individual human God cannot save without that individual human’s consent and active participation.

## WEDNESDAY

---

Read first paragraph, “Few natural phenomenon...” Do you see how Satan will take something of God and exploit, abuse, pervert, coopt it for his agenda to injure and harm?

Other examples of Satan doing this?

- The law of worship—replacing the truth of God for a lie and getting people to worship the created or anything other than God and being damaged by it.
- The Sabbath—either rejecting it completely and losing the benefits of weekly rest and time with God and the evidences that the Sabbath reveals in God’s design law methods of truth, love and freedom. Or keeping the day but replacing it with imposed law understanding such that it becomes a rule people must keep in which the Sabbath misrepresents God as imperial and punishing.
- Marriage—rejecting co-equals operating upon other-centered love where the relationship builds up both parties, they expand and grow as they unite their complementary abilities in loving union and instead making marriage something else—hierarchical in which one spouse dominates and rules over the other; polygamy in which true union of co-equals never occurs; cohabitation without marital commitment; adultery and every other means to subvert the relationship.
- Foods given by God for our health replaced with foods never given to us by God to eat, or by manipulating the foods to such a degree with added manmade chemicals that the foods become harmful rather than nurturing.
- Replacing God’s law with man’s law and teaching that justice is infliction of punishment rather than eliminating defects and restoring to health

Read third paragraph, “The Lord said He would...” Have all humans been benefited from the



covenant of grace given in Eden, even those who reject it?

Hasn't God held at bay the full consequences of sin to allow the plan of salvation to be carried out and offered to all humanity? Isn't this a benefit to all humanity whether they accept it or not? So in that regard God's actions to carry out the covenant of grace is just like the covenant with Noah.

## **THURSDAY**

---

The lesson raises the concept of the remnant, those who are left. Noah and his family being a remnant. What does this concept mean to you?

Who are the remnant today?

Read sixth paragraph, "At the time of the Flood..." What do you understand the concept of God being Judge and the judgment to be?

What law lens to you understand it through? If human law then what does it mean?

If design law what does it mean? To make it simple and help you shift your mind from a false human law model of judicial proceedings with artificial imposed rules and punishments, just replace the word "judgment" with the word "diagnosis" and "judgments" with "therapeutic interventions" and you will get it right.

God looked upon the world and diagnosed or judged that all hearts were beyond healing except Noah and his family.

- He judged that the rest of the world had rejected Him and practiced sin so long that they had destroyed the faculties that respond to truth and love and there was nothing more He could do to save them.
- He judged that if He didn't intervene that Noah and his family would be destroyed and the avenue for Messiah would be closed and the entire human species lost.
- Thus He judged a therapeutic action was necessary. He needed to act to put to sleep the rebellious and terminal children so that the healthy children would not be destroyed and the avenue for Messiah would remain open and the human race saved.
- Further, He judged that the conditions on Earth had to be changed to reduce the easiness of life, to make life harder in order that the necessities of living would occupy their time and reduce time for sinful indulgence.
- Further, He judged that it was necessary to reduce life span to 120 years so that the truly wicked could not influence as many generations and accumulate as much power and thus again limit the spread of sin and rebellion.

So, through design law we see the Flood as an incredible manifestation of love, mercy and grace in carrying out the plan of salvation and nothing in it of a punitive or arbitrary nature.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**New Member's Section is now open:** This resource requires a FREE account sign in and will contain member's only content, such as *The Remedy* and *Could It Be This Simple* audio books. Other exclusive content will be added over time.

Our goal, as a ministry, is to continue to enhance your growth and experience with the wonderful, life-changing message of God's design and healing plan.

**SHARING campaign:** April 2021 *The Remedy of the Lord in Song: The Psalms*

**USE OUR WEBSITE STORE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER—DON'T SEND AN EMAIL**