

Memory Verse

Genesis 9:6

Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in His own image.

GRACELIFE



CHURCH

Thematic Overview of *Genesis 1-12* - Pt 16

***Genesis 9* – God, Government
and the Christian**

God is the **Creator, Sustainer** and **Judge**. He **created everything** in **6 days**, including Adam and Eve. Because He created them, they were **accountable** to Him, just as we are. They **partook** of the forbidden fruit, and because of **Adam's transgression, sin and death** entered the world. God promised a **Savior**, and society became **corrupt** and He **flooded** the world. At the end of *chapter 8*, Noah, his family and all of the animals got off the Ark at *God's command*.

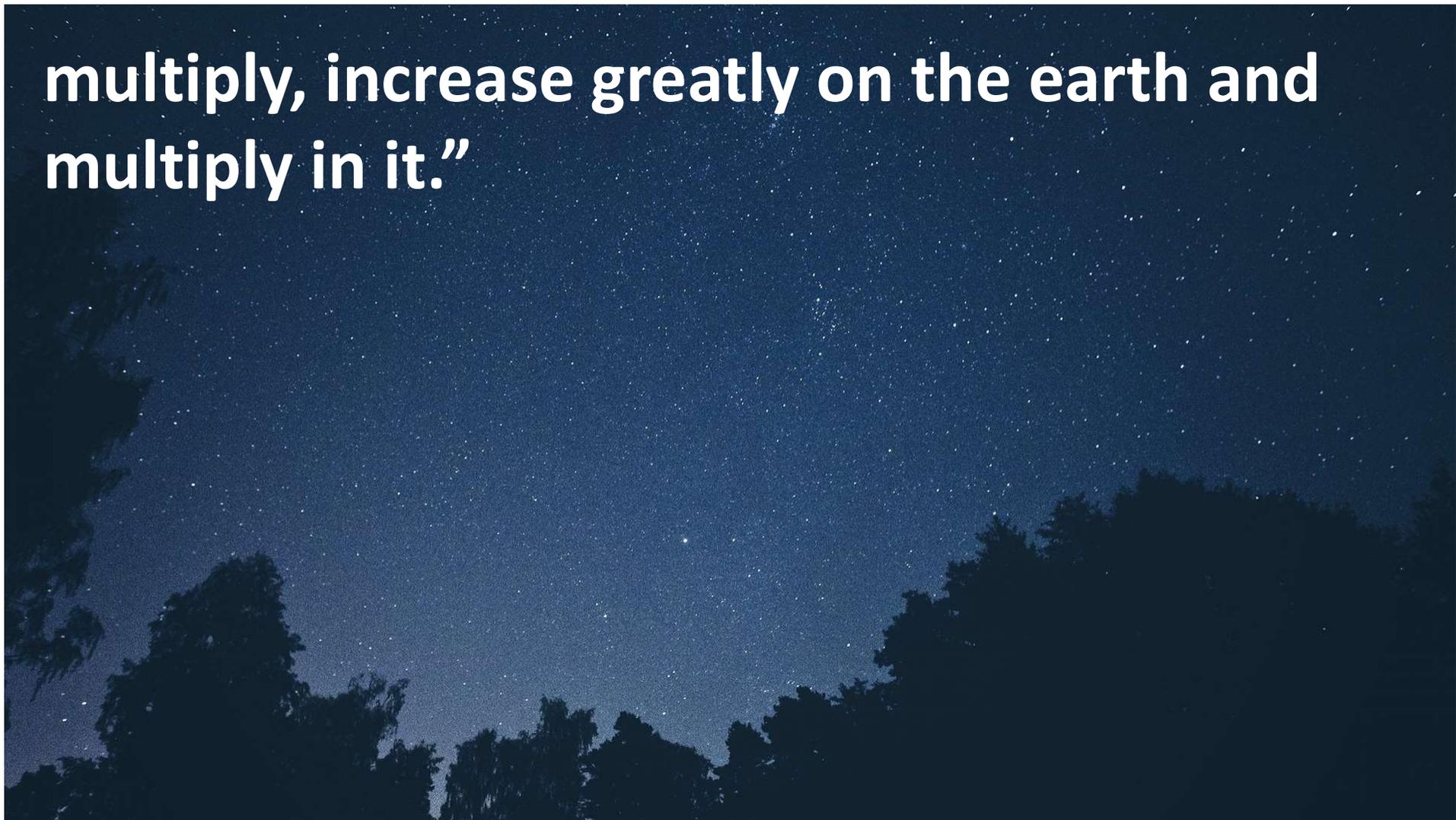
Genesis 9:1-7 - And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. 2The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. 3Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave

you the green plants, I give you everything.

4But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. 5And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man.

6“Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image. 7And you, be fruitful and

**multiply, increase greatly on the earth and
multiply in it.”**



A. 9:1-4 – Changes in Creation

God commanded Noah and his family to multiply on the earth, or have children and spread out. Also, animals will now be afraid of them... There was also a change in diet.

What did God originally give humanity as food?

A. 9:1-4 – Changes in Creation

This was long before the **Law** was given by God to Israel. Yes, God made a distinction between clean and unclean animals on the *Ark*. But *here*, God said it was ok to eat "*every moving thing...*" God later limits this to *clean animals for the Israelites*. God said it's **ok to eat meat**. There is *another major change in verses 5-7*.

B. 9:5-7 – Changes in the Law

Another change was about **human life**. Cain *murdered Abel... After the flood*, when God started something new, He set new guidelines for this "*new creation*" about human life. God speaks of "*reckoning*" or *giving an account* for an act done. If an *animal or human takes the life of another*, not in self-defense, then *that* person or animal has forfeited his or her life. **Why?**

B. 9:5-7 – Changes in the Law

God reiterates the *value*, and *dignity* of humanity in these verses. *God changed the law*. This law **didn't exist** before the flood, and there was great violence. One reason God did this was to *stop humanity from slaughtering itself*. This is *not referring to personal vengeance*, but this was the **origination of Government...**

B. 9:5-7 – Changes in the Law

This text is the foundation for the *death penalty*, which is legitimate. The *value of life* or *lack thereof*, is the foundation for every society. What is done with the *unborn*, the *sick, elderly* and *disabled* speaks volumes about a society. God created government to punish those who purposefully *without just cause*, take a life.

C. *Romans 13:1-7* - Gov't Created by God

Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. **3**For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad.

C. Romans 13:1-7 - Gov't Created by God

Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, 4for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. 5Therefore one must be in

C. Romans 13:1-7 - Gov't Created by God

subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. 6For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. 7Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

C. *Romans 13:1-7* - Gov't Created by God

1. Value of Life

Paul reiterates what *Genesis 9* states.

Government was created by God to *punish evil doers*, even to the point of **putting that person to death**. That is what the reference to *the sword* is in this text.

C. *Romans 13:1-7* - Gov't Created by God

2. Governmental Leadership

Government leaders are *put in place by God*. The ruler at the time of Paul was Nero... God also *instituted the leadership of Rome* as an Empire, and the *local leaders in Israel*. Those who rebel against those leaders will suffer judgment by those leaders, and God.

C. Romans 13:1-7 - Gov't Created by God

3. Governmental Authority

*Because life is valuable, and because government has God given **authority** to represent Him, He gave the responsibility to government, with *evidence and trial*, the **authority** to take a person's life who was *guilty of murder*.*

C. *Romans 13:1-7* - Gov't Created by God

3. Governmental Authority

Those in government are ***accountable to God***.
Government should punish the *evil doer*, to
protect the *good doer*. That is what God
ordained they do.

C. Romans 13:1-7 - Gov't Created by God

4. Governmental Payment

Pay your taxes. Because government is ordained by God, the means by which the government can do what they do, is **through taxation**. We cannot control where our tax dollars go...

C. Romans 13:1-7 - Gov't Created by God

5. Praying for Government Leaders

1 Timothy 2:1-2 - ...I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 2for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

C. *Romans 13:1-7* - Gov't Created by God

5. Praying for Government Leaders

Paul challenges believers to **pray** for those in authority. While we pray for their *salvation*, primarily, we pray for them to **keep the peace**, so we can lead a peaceful, quiet, godly and dignified life.

D. Questions about Government

1. What about when your leader isn't the most moral person?

In America at least, we can *vote for those we put in office*. We must learn about his or her character and past. This is important. But we must also learn about *his or her policies* and what he or she believes about ethical, religious, economic and societal matters.

D. Questions about Government

2. Is there ever a time to rebel against government?

Yes. When the *government oversteps its boundaries, meddles in the affairs of the church, tells us to do something **contrary** to Scripture, or forbids us from doing something Scripture **commands**.*

D. Questions about Government

3. How do I vote according to Scriptural guidelines?

A ***Biblical worldview*** demands we vote for a person, though *not necessarily a party* that: upholds freedom, keeps the unborn safe, will keep the economy strong, keeps the borders strong, supports the military, supports freedom of speech and bases justice on the *Constitution of the United States*.