

*Covenant of Grace*  
**Genesis 6:13-22**

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Introduction: How will the Seed of the woman win? How will He crush the Serpent's head? Doomed by covenant headship; Saved by covenant headship

1. A Picture of the New Creation.

- a. In Noah. This, really, is what is going on with Noah, isn't it? God is wiping out all of humanity, and even producing a new earth. On the ark, He will put an entire new Eden, with every kind of animal, and all food for them. Noah is a new Adam—we are all descended from him. God is treating him, already, as covenant head—saving all his family, all his “humanity” with him.
- b. In Jesus.
  - i. But Noah isn't the new Adam that we need. Oh, he'll do as far as getting us to Jesus physically goes. But spiritually? That's the bigger problem, isn't it? And, spiritually, Noah isn't even the new Adam that Noah needs. Let alone the new Adam that we need. Only Jesus is that!
  - ii. “My” covenant (not cut, but made to stand; it already existed!)—believers don't just get saved by God; they belong to Him with a belonging that starts outside of time and therefore cannot be undone by anything in time (no one can snatch them from My hand). Covenant headship on earth a display of this. Noah's family was included in this administration of the covenant of grace as a display of the importance of being connected to him. A “new creation” was included. All who belong to the covenant head are included. This is why we rejoice over the covenant of redemption, and God's covenant of grace with us in Christ!

2. The Process of the New Creation

- a. There are things that only God can do
  - i. Judge the world, v17
  - ii. Save His people, v18. Even in Noah's situation, he depends entirely upon God to make this thing work. But, in our justification, God doesn't just design the ark. He makes the ark Himself and put us into it Himself.
- b. And yet there are means that are appointed to us. There were means appointed to Noah. Very specific means. Materials. Dimensions. Layout. And there are means appointed to us. Word, sacrament, prayer.
- c. And, ultimately, inheritance is appointed to us. An entire renewed earth would belong To Noah, and his family, and those particular animals. What he might have sacrificed before to do right, he would far more than recoup. On that ark will be an entire new Eden. And in Jesus, the firstborn from among the dead, there is an entire New Heavens and New Earth--they belong to Him. He is the Heir.
- d. Both—justification by what God does alone, and sanctification by God's sustaining us in His appointed means—are covenant blessings in Christ.

Conclusion: Ultimately, if Noah does not participate in the true Last Adam and the true New Creation, the Ark is just a thrill ride on the way to Hell. For him, the real act of faith was believing in Jesus, and he built the ark as a consequence/part of that. You, too, must believe in Jesus! You, too, must therefore pursue the means of Jesus! God has also appointed means for bringing us to faith in Jesus. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God. And means for growing us in Jesus. Sanctify them by Your truth; Your Word is truth.