

Lessons From The Rainbow

➤ = next PowerPoint slide

➤ Intro:

- **story of the rainbow**
 - **God saw the sin of man**, and was sorry that He created mankind
 - **so, He decided to destroy** all living things except the fish
 - **but Noah was a righteous man**, so God wanted to save him
 - **God commanded Noah to build an ark**
 - told him the size of the ark, and what to use to build it, what to put in it
 - **after Noah built the ark, God told him to get in** the ark with his family and specific animals
 - **then God made waters** come out of the earth, and it rained for 40 days and 40 nights
 - **after the land dried, God commanded Noah to come out** of the ark
 - **after Noah came out, he worshiped God**
 - **God established a covenant with Noah and mankind, promising** there would never be another flood to destroy the earth
 - **the sign of the covenant was the rainbow**

- **What are some lessons we can learn from the rainbow?**

- **The rainbow shows we need to be reminded as human beings**
 - joke:
 - wives, husbands need constant reminding
 - parents have to remind kids all the time
 - **Gen. 9:12, 13, 17** rainbow is a sign of the covenant, from generation to generation
 - rainbow a reminder of the covenant God made with the human race
- - **God has given us His word to be a constant reminder to us**
 - **Jn. 14:26** Holy Spirit brought to apostles' remembrance all Jesus said
 - God's word is the record of the remembrance brought to their minds
 - **2 Pet. 1:12-13, 15** Peter, wrote, to remind
 - God's word used to remind us, so not forget, even though apostles dead
- - **Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper as a remembrance of Him – memorial, memory, remember**
 - **1 Cor. 11:24-26** Jesus, Lord's Supper, do this in "remembrance" of Me, **proclaim** death
 - we need to be reminded every week, of what Jesus did for us
 - **proclaim:** we remind ourselves, and the whole world
 - **1 Cor. 11:27-30** Christians who don't do it in remembrance of Christ, die spiritually
- - **circumcision: a sign (reminder) our covenant with God – Abraham, Law of Moses**
 - **Rom. 4:10-11a** physical circumcision, Moses, sign of the covenant (Gen. 17:11)
 - **Col. 2:11-12a** as Christians, we are circumcised with the circumcision of Christ when baptized
 - **Rom. 2:28-29** circumcision of heart by the Spirit, a Jew inwardly and not of the flesh
 - **Phil. 3:3** we are the true circumcision, worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ, put no confidence in the flesh
 - **our inward circumcision seen by the way we live, is a sign of our covenant with God**
 - **Phil. 1:28** our manner of life a sign of our salvation
- we need spiritual reminders today
 - not those created by man (Christmas), but those created by God
 - ongoing reading and studying Bible
 - continually teaching in the church: doctrine, practical application
 - Lord's Supper: weekly reminder until Jesus comes again
 - teaching in the home needs to be reinforced and constantly reviewed
 - the reminder that every Christian shares with everyone he contacts: his life, walking in the footsteps of Jesus

- **The rainbow shows God's power over nature** – we are responsible for seeking Him out and obeying
 - **Gen. 9:12-14** rainbow created, laws of nature changed
 - God created world (universe), laws of nature, changes them at will – miracles

- **- illus.: God made the sun stop moving for a day** – i.e., likely made the earth stop rotating around the sun for a day
 - **Josh. 10:12-14** Joshua defended Gibeon, attacked the armies of 5-king-coalition who attacked Gibeon, Joshua prayed and God made the sun stop moving for a day
 - **What would happen if the earth stopped rotating**, without God suspending or changing the laws of nature?
 - **part, if not the whole universe, ripped apart**
 - **note:** earth is rotating at a speed just over 1,000 MPH, and moving around the sun about 67,000 MPH

- **- illus.: God made the sun go backward 10 degrees** – i.e., the earth to reverse its rotation
 - **2 Ki. 20:8-11** God made sun move backwards 10 degrees (prob. 5 hours)
 - **Is there any possible way the earth could stop its rotation and reverse direction, without God changing the laws of nature (universe)?**

- **application:**
 - **the rainbow (and all creation) shows us we have a responsibility to seek out God and obey Him**
 - **Rom. 1:20** creation of the world, His invisible attributes, eternal power and divine nature, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse
 - **God uses His creation (nature, universe) to accomplish His will, whatever He desires**

- **The rainbow shows that when God makes a covenant with man, the covenant applies to future generations, as long as it is in effect**
 - **Gen. 9:12-13** rainbow a sign of the covenant made to Noah and successive generations
 - **today, covenant with rainbow still in effect**, and it will be for as long as the earth stands
 - **application: the covenants God makes lasts** for as long as they stay in effect, for successive generations

 - **illus.: God's covenant He made with Israel upon their exodus from Egypt was in effect until the new covenant He made through Christ (Heb. 7-8)**
 - **the covenant continued from generation to generation** for as long as it's in effect

 - **illus.: God's covenant made with Abram, through which we're saved in Christ today, will remain in force forever** – sign changed from spiritual circumcision to spiritual circumcision, law of Christ
 - **if not, we wouldn't be saved**

- **- God's covenant with man for salvation in Christ will never be replaced, it will stay in effect for all generations**
 - **Heb. 5:9-10** all men today are bound to obey the law of Christ, or suffer eternal damnation (**Gal. 6:2**)
 - **illus.: everyone bound by God's laws of marriage, whether they're Christians or not**

rainbow: shows need reminding / God power over nature, we must obey / covenant in force today, must obey Christ

➤ **The rainbow is a symbol of God's eternal glory** – we'll see and be part of for eternity in heaven

- **Rev. 4:3; 10:1** rainbow emblematic of beauty, majesty, and peace

- the rainbow was created by God as a symbol of peace, to remind us of His covenant with us not to destroy the earth with a flood again

➤ - prophetically, rainbow a sign of the peace we have in Christ today, which we'll enjoy with God in heaven, as we worship before His beautiful and majestic throne

Summary / Inv.

- **summary:** review PP

- **inv.:** would you like to have peace with God for eternity