

Week 4 - Day 24

First things first - Love God, Love Others

Read: Genesis 9:8-17

This is a covenant, or promise, that displays the restraint of God. God saw that the earth had become exceedingly wicked, and rather than wipe it out, He keeps the human race going through Noah. He then makes the promise that He will never exact judgment upon creation like that again. Psalm 7:11-12 says that "God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day. If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword; he has bent and readied his bow". The bow is a signal of judgment. However, when God sets his "bow" in the sky (we made it a rainbow), it is not pointing at the earth, but pointing at Him. He has declared that He will bear the judgment in Himself, as He did on the cross.

He declared in this covenant that every time He sees the rain, He will remember that He will not exact judgment upon creation; the bow pointing reminds Him that He has assumed the judgment and the suffering and the death in Himself. What great manner of love is this!

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Question: We often hear the question in ourselves and in others, how can God allow suffering? Have you considered just how much He entered our suffering, and assumed it Himself?

Prayer: Thank God for the rainbow, the judgment of God pointing back at Himself. Sit in the presence of God, quietly acknowledging the great love He has shown us.