

AWKWARD.

Pastor Bill Meiter

April 20 & 21, 2024 #2

“BEING A TRUSTWORTHY PERSON IN THE MIDST OF AN AWKWARD MESS!”

TODAY'S PASSAGE:

Genesis 9:18-27 ESV... The sons of Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.) 19 These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the people of the whole earth were dispersed. 20 Noah began to be a man of the soil, and he planted a vineyard. 21 He drank of the wine and became drunk and lay uncovered in his tent. 22 And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside. 23 Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned backward, and they did not see their father's nakedness. 24 When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, 25 he said, "Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be to his brothers." 26 He also said, "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Shem; and let Canaan be his servant. 27 May God enlarge Japheth, and let him dwell in the tents of Shem, and let Canaan be his servant."

CREATION... FALL... FLOOD...

- From the time of Adam to Noah, sin ran rampant. . . Genesis 6:7-8
- God commanded Noah to build an ark. . . Gen. 6:14
- Noah is commended for his fearful obedience. . . Hebrews 11:7
- But even righteous men sometimes stumble. . . Gen. 9:18-27

HAM MADE AN AWKWARD SITUATION EVEN WORSE

- Instead of coming to the aid of his father, Ham went and blabbed to his brothers.. Gen. 9:22
- Ham is one of the first examples of gossiping in the Bible.

- Gossip is a cancer that God hates. . . Lev. 19:16; Prov. 16:28; James 1:26; 2 Cor. 12:20; 1 Tim. 5:13

SHEM AND JAPHETH TO THE RESCUE

- Shem and Japheth did what Ham should have done. . . Gen. 9:23
- Ham wasn't spreading "fake news" but rather "unnecessary news".
- A trustworthy person doesn't make awkward situations worse. . . Prov. 11:13
- Noah cursed the descendants of Canaan (Ham's son)... Gen. 9:24-27

BEING A TRUSTWORTHY PERSON IN THE MIDST OF AN AWKWARD MESS

- A worthless person sows seeds of discord. . . Prov. 6:12-14
- It's an abomination before God when people make matters worse. . . Prov. 6:16-19
- Satan is going to tempt people to blab. . . precisely when things get awkward!
- There is nothing easy about being a trustworthy person. . . It takes courage and self-control!

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION :

1. How have you seen people make awkward situations even worse by their poor decisions?
2. Why does God hate it when people sow seeds of discord?
3. What can we learn from the actions of Shem and Japheth?
4. What does it take to be a person where "gossip" goes to die?



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