

First Baptist Church  
April 19, 2026  
“The Basics of Depravity”  
Genesis 9:18-29

I. Message

**a. A compromising circumstance – v.20-21**

- i. Noah began to farm (be a husbandman)
- ii. They harvested grapes and made wine
  1. Was wine-making a sin? No
  2. Was drinking the wine a sin? Not necessarily
  3. God had not even recorded a prohibition on drunkenness at this point (that comes later and several times)
  4. But alcohol has an interesting trickle-down effect
    - a. This has been true since THIS moment in human history
    - b. Alcohol opens the door for sinful living
- iii. Here is what happened to Noah:
  1. He got drunk
  2. And he got naked
  3. He lost his sense of dignity
    - a. Proverbs 23:31-33
    - b. Proverbs 20:1
    - c. Habakkuk 2:15
    - d. Lamentation 4:21
  4. And he exposed himself to his family
    - a. We don't have a lot of detail here...thankfully
    - b. What we DO know is that Noah lost his sense of shame, decency, dignity
    - c. Shamefully drunk and naked
    - d. As with all sin (or even unwise choices), it could have ended there
      - i. His sons could have helped him get this right
      - ii. Noah could have confessed to God and his family and repented
      - iii. But that is not what happened

**b. A crude conversation – v.22**

- i. Again, we don't have enough information to know exactly what happened here
- ii. Accidentally seeing the nakedness of someone is not in itself sinful
  - 1. But this phrase, "saw the nakedness"
  - 2. Implies that he looked with some kind of enjoyment
  - 3. He derived some kind of sick pleasure from the moment
    - a. Here is a principle all throughout scripture: Love finds a way to mitigate not amplify sin
    - b. 1 Peter 4:8
    - c. Proverbs 10:12
    - d. Proverbs 17:9
    - e. Love doesn't HIDE sin
    - f. But it DOES seek to deal with it in a decent quiet way

### **c. A careful covering - v.23**

- i. Shem and Japheth responded correctly
  - 1. Rather than look at their father in his shameful condition
  - 2. Rather than snicker about it like immature boys
  - 3. They dealt with it in a respectful way
  - 4. They aligned with the character of God described by **Habakkuk 1:13**
- i. Sin has consequences
  - 1. Hateful people love to publicize it
  - 2. But loving believers seek to mitigate the shame

### **d. A curse on Canaan - v.24-27**

- i. This cursing of Ham and blessing of his brothers should not surprise us
  - 1. Remember Deuteronomy 29-30?
  - 2. Obedience brings a blessed life
  - 3. Disobedience brings a cursed life
- ii. Why Canaan?
  - 1. Ham had four sons - Genesis 10:6 (you can turn there if you are curious)
  - 2. Why was Canaan cursed?
    - a. Probably because the other sons of Ham were already following God

- b. Perhaps Canaan had already shown signs of rebellion toward his Creator
- 3. Moses wrote this book
  - a. After the miraculous escape from Egypt
  - b. But before they entered the Promised Land (remember, Moses did not get to go in)
  - c. Moses wrote the Pentateuch (first 5 books)
- 4. So, this was probably read for the very first time just before the nation of Israel would enter Canaan-land, the land of the...Canaanites
  - a. So, the Israelites were on the verge of wiping out the Canaanites
  - b. This is what God was commanding of them
  - c. Complete removal of the Canaanites
    - i. Surely many of them asked if this was ethical
    - ii. The Holy Spirit, through Moses, is reminding them that the offspring of Canaan were CURSED!

- II. Conclusions – **“Life lessons from the shame of Noah”**
- a. Avoid situations that encourage sinful behaviors**
  - b. Remove excesses from your life, alcoholic or otherwise**
  - c. Discourage crude sexual and disrespectful humor**
  - d. Let Christian love mitigate the shame of sin rather than amplify it – Galatians 6:1-2**