

Does replenish mean to Fill or re-fill?

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The changed meaning of the Bible word "**replenish**" has come to provide support for belief in the Gap Theory.

*And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and **replenish the earth**. (Gen 9:1)*

Rather than **fill** the earth, which is the meaning of the word '**replenish**', Gappists believe that God gave Adam and Eve the go ahead to **repopulate** or to **restock** the earth after God destroyed his first creation (which he didn't) along with a pre-Adamite race.

Now at the first glance, this would seem to have merit, in that the **popular** use of the word today is exactly that – to re-fill or re-stock. But, when dealing with the Authorized Bible – the King James, we must tread carefully.

Words change

Certainly, the meanings of words have changed over time. For example, Paul says he was **let** (Rom 1:13) when he wanted to travel somewhere. The meaning today is to be **allowed** but Paul's use of the word meant he was **hindered** - which is the opposite.

Satan also likes to get involved in all of this, and one of favourite tricks is to take words of the Bible and give them another meaning, such that the effect is twofold:

1. Christians stop using certain words of the Bible, and indeed, may be ashamed to do so
2. Unsaved people can look at the Bible and justify their lifestyle.

For example, take the word **gay** (Jam 2:3) where a man is wearing gay clothing, and in the Bible, it means **bright**. However, this term has been

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ambushed and commandeered by a very small minority. So it should come as no surprise then, that satan has helped to change the word '**replenish**' to mean **restock**.

Supermarket shelves

Now to everyone's mind, the word **re-stock** is associated with **supermarket** shelves. For example, a grocery department head might walk along and notice that all the tins of Baked Beans are gone and the shelves are empty. He calls over a store employee and says "I'd like

you to re-stock the shelves." The employee looks and sees that he needs to find some more cartons of Baked Beans. He's **not** thinking "I'll get some cans of Tuna." And so to re-stock, he replaces **like with like**.

Early gappist theory meant that God's instructions to Noah would see him re-populating the earth with men and women, to **replace** the men and women who drowned prior to the Lucifer's flood after Gen 1:1.

But doesn't Noah restock the earth?

Not necessarily, as re-stocking may not be filling. Adam does better – he fills.

Now according to the gappists, because Noah re-populates the earth, **which he does**, this second mention of the word '**replenish**' in the Bible, has taken on the meaning of **to restock**, and becomes the substituted meaning to the first mention, where Adam is told to fill by replenishing.

So the popular meaning of the second mention is carried back to the first mention to read: *Be fruitful, and multiply, and **restock the earth**, and subdue it: (Gen 1:28)*

No, re-stocking does not necessarily mean re-filling, but any re-stocking that happens is the byproduct of filling.

Strong's number 4390 **Maw-law** is the Hebrew word from which **replenish** is translated and it means to **fill**, be **full** of, **accomplish**, **confirm**, be **at an end**, **fulfill**,

fullness, **furnish**, **satisfy**, **consecrate**.

Even if you play the Greek Game by substituting different English words from the back of Strong's Concordance, you **can't** give

the word '**replenish**' the meaning of '**restock**'.

The plain reading

There's a plain reading of *Be **fruitful**, and **multiply**, and **replenish** the earth. (Gen 9:1)*

God says to be

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fruitful – give birth
multiply – have plenty of babies
replenish - fill the earth

Restock and restock?

Now wouldn't you think that being fruitful and multiplying would mean to restock? So gappists have us believe that God says to Noah "Be fruitful and multiply (**restock**) and **then** replenish (**restock**)? Surely not.

Further understanding is had when God says to Noah - *And you, be ye **fruitful**, and **multiply**; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and **multiply therein**.* (Gen 9:7)

In this verse God simply tells Noah to populate the earth by telling him to be fruitful and multiply, and of course in doing so, he will be filling (or replenishing) the earth.

But doesn't the word 'replenish' mean the same in Gen 1:28 as in Gen 9:1?

Absolutely, but as we've seen it's **not** the common accepted meaning of today. With man the pinnacle of God's creation, God tells both Adam and Noah to **finish** and **satisfy** God's creation by **filling** it with people.

In comparing the two accounts, people naturally assume that because Noah restocks the earth by replenishing, then Adam must **also** be restocking, because the same word 'replenish' is used.

However, as gappists began to see that sin only entered the world through Adam, and not via the rebellious **pre-Adamite men**, reason took over and this got watered down to less definitive terms, such as a race **like men**, a pre-Adamite race of **beings, sons of God, angels** and **spirit beings** and so on. Adam was only filling **not** restocking – there was no replacing like with like.

Dictionaries

Although English dictionaries were not in existence before the 18th century, a 'dictionary like' publication was **Robert Cawdrey's Alphabetical Table of 1604** which defines the word "replenish" as "fill".

Also, the **Oxford** English Dictionary states that the foremost usage of the word 'replenish' was 'to **make full, stock with.**'

Below, are reproduced copies of the word '**replenish**' out of three of **Webster's** dictionaries – **1828, 1891** and **1892**.

Noah Dictionary of 1828	Webster's
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REPLEN'ISH, *v.t.* [Norm. *replener*, to fill;
It. *riempire*; L. *re* and *plenus*, full.
]

1. To fill; to stock with numbers or abundance. The magazines are *replenished* with corn. The springs are *replenished* with water.

Multiply and *replenish* the earth. Gen. i.

2. To finish; to complete [*Not in use*]

Shak.

REPLEN'ISH, *v.i.* To recover former fullness. *Bacon*

REPLEN'ISHED, *pp.* Filled ; abundantly supplied

Noah Webster's Dictionary of 1891

RE-PLEN'ISH, *v.t.* [Norm. *replener*, to fill;
It. *riempire*; L. *re* and *plenus*, full.]

1. To fill; to stock with numbers or abundance. The magazines are *replenished* with corn.

The springs are *replenished* with water.

Multiply and *replenish* the earth. Gen. i.

2. To finish; to complete [*Not in use*]

Shak.

RE-PLEN'ISH, *v.i.* To recover former fulness. *Bacon*

RE-PLEN'ISH-ED, (re-plen'isht,) *pp.*
 Filled ;
 abundantly supplied
RE-PLEN'ISH-ING, *ppr.* Filling ;
 supplying
 with abundance

**Noah Webster's Dictionary
 of 1892**
Re-plen'ish (rē-plĕn' ĭsh), *v. t.*
 [REPLENISHED
 (-plĕn'isht) ; REPLENISHING,] To fill
 up again ;
 To fill completely

Kent Hovind explains:

In the 1828 dictionary, the word 'replenish' had a primary meaning of **fill** and a secondary meaning of **fill again**.

In 1891, it was the same way with the primary meaning of the word being **fill**. The secondary meaning is to **recover former** fullness.

In 1892, **IT SWITCHED!**

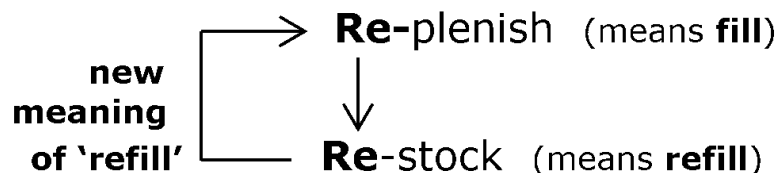
Notice how **fill again** is the primary meaning, and to **fill** is the secondary meaning.

In later dictionaries after this, what used to be the original meaning, **to fill**, is now gone, and the new dictionaries often only list **fill again**.

Conclusion ...

Gappists have wrongfully taken the "re-" from the word 'replenish', and prefaced it onto the word 'stock' to get the word "**re-stock**".

Then this new meaning of 'restock' has been applied back to 'replenish', such that its meaning of 'fill' has been changed to 'refill'



Furthermore ...

The fuller meaning of 'replenish' is not just **to fill** but **also to consecrate**.

You can stock, restock, and fill supermarket shelves – but you can't replenish them.

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Adam wasn't re-populating, re-stocking or re-filling the earth. He wasn't just stocking and filling it either!

"None of these" says God to Adam, "You're doing a far greater thing than just filling the earth, you are **consecrating** it.
