

Genesis 6 – Let it Rain!

OVERVIEW: GRACE – G – Noah, R- Rain, A-Angels, C- Covenant, and E – Evil all the time.

Gen 6:1-2 *Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.*

E. Widespread Sin and the Universal Flood (Chaps. 6-8)

6:1, 2 There are two principal interpretations of verse 2. One is that **the sons of God** were angels who left their proper sphere (Jude 6) and intermarried with women on earth, a form of sexual disorder that was most hateful to God. Those who hold this view point out that the expression "sons of God" in [Job 1:6](#) and [Job 2:1](#) means angels who had access to the presence of God. Also, "the sons of God" as a term for angels is a standard Semitic expression. The passage in Jude 6, 7 suggests that the angels who left their own abode were guilty of vile sexual behavior. Notice the words "as Sodom and Gomorrah" at the beginning of verse 7, immediately after the description of the fallen angels.

The main objection to this view is that angels don't reproduce sexually, as far as we know. [Mat 22:30](#) is used to prove that Jesus taught that the angels don't marry. What the verse actually says, however, is that the angels *in heaven* neither marry nor are given in marriage. Angels appeared in human form to Abraham ([Gen 18:1-5](#)), and it seems from the text that the two who went to Sodom had human parts and emotions.

The other view is that **the sons of God** were the godly descendants of Seth, and **the daughters of men** were the wicked posterity of Cain. The argument is as follows: The preceding context deals with the descendants of Cain (chap. 4) and the descendants of Seth (chap. 5). [Gen 6:1-4](#) describes the intermarriage of these two lines. The word *angels* is not found in the context. Verses 3 and 5 speak of the wickedness of *man*. If it was the *angels* who sinned, why was the race of *man* to be destroyed? Godly men are called "sons of God," though not in exactly the same Hebrew wording as in [Gen 6:2](#) (see [Deu 14:1](#); [Psa 82:6](#); [Hos 1:10](#); [Mat 5:9](#)).

There are several problems with this view. Why were all the Sethite *men* godly and all the *women* of Cain's lineage ungodly? Also, there is no indication that Seth's line *stayed* godly. If they did, why should they be destroyed? Also, why should such a union between godly men and ungodly women produce giants? - BBC

For a deep dive on this topic, read [The Unseen Realm](#) by Michael S. Heiser.

Gen 6:3-5 *And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown. Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

The LORD warned that His Spirit would not strive with man forever, but that there would be a delay of one hundred and twenty years before the judgment of the flood would occur. God is longsuffering, not willing that any should perish, but there is a limit. Peter tells us that it was Christ who was preaching through Noah to the antediluvians by the Holy Spirit (1Pe_3:18-20; 2Pe_2:5). They rejected the message and are now imprisoned.

What was the condition on the earth before the Flood? What caused God to bring the judgment of the Flood?

Dr. Vernon McGee, who espouses the Sethite interpretation, explains that verse 6:5 provides that answer without the need of the fallen angels.

Regarding the giants (Heb. nephilim, "fallen ones") Unger explains:

The Nephilim are considered by many as giant demigods, the unnatural offspring of "the daughters of men" (mortal women) in cohabitation with "the sons of God" (angels). This utterly unnatural union, violating God's created orders of being, was such a

shocking abnormality as to necessitate the worldwide judgment of the Flood.

Gen 6:6-7 And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."

The Lord's sorrow does not indicate an arbitrary change of mind, though it seems that way to man. Rather, it indicates a different attitude on God's part in response to some change in man's behavior. Because He is holy, He must react against sin.

Gen 6:8-10 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God. And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Why did God save Noah? Because he walked with God? Yes, but we are also told: "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith" (Heb_11:7). It took faith to prepare an ark on dry land when it had not even drizzled! In this same chapter in Hebrews, we are told that it was by faith that Enoch was translated.

Noah (v. 9) and Enoch (Gen_5:22) are the only men in Scripture who are said to have walked with God. If Enoch is a symbol of the church raptured to heaven, Noah symbolizes the faithful Jewish remnant preserved through the Tribulation to live on the millennial earth. – BBC

Gen 6:11-13 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth."

The entire human family has turned from God "... There is none righteous, no, not one" (Rom_3:10). There are just a few, though, who do believe Him—Noah and his family. Here is one man who walked with God; he believed God. Here is a man who still trusted God—"by faith Noah." Here is a man who was willing to risk building a boat on dry land. If the rains did not come, he certainly would be the laughingstock of the community. I think he was just that for 120 years, but Noah believed God. -McGee

Gen 6:14-16 Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch. And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. You shall make a window for the ark, and you shall finish it to a cubit from above; and set the door of the ark in its side. You shall make it with lower, second, and third decks.

In the preparation for the Flood, God is giving the people ample opportunity. Noah preached for 120 years with no converts. All those that go to Hell, choose it. God's word is clear that he does not want any to perish (2 Peter 3:9).

Gopher wood is an almost indestructible wood very much like our redwood here in California. The word for "rooms" has the idea of nest. The elephant would need a room, but the mole would not need quite that much space. He could be given just a little dirt in a corner, and that is all he would need. The ark was to be made waterproof with pitch.

What can we learn and apply today from this bible story?

1. If the storm is coming, it is the part of wisdom, not of cowardly fear, to prepare for it.

2. His faith was in season and out for 120 years. He started building the ark and it had never rained on the earth.
3. He was likely ridiculed by all relentlessly, yet we are not told it ever stopped or delayed the ark.
4. Obedience – He did all that was commanded.

Gen 6:17-18 And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you.

God is bringing judgment upon the earth—upon animal and bird and man – not the fish of the sea. The Word is clear.

Verse 18 gives the first mention of covenant in the Bible. Scofield lists eight covenants: Edenic (Gen_2:16); Adamic (Gen_3:15); Noahic (Gen_9:16); Abrahamic (Gen_12:2); Mosaic (Exo_19:5); Palestinian (Deu_30:3); Davidic (2Sa_7:16); and the New Covenant (Heb_8:8).- BBC

Gen 6:19-21 And of every living thing of all flesh you shall bring two of every sort into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive. And you shall take for yourself of all food that is eaten, and you shall gather it to yourself; and it shall be food for you and for them." Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

Noah was the world's first prepper. Noah is now to do something very practical. It took a lot of hay in the ark to feed these animals. Some people are going to say, "But some of those animals ate meat. They would eat each other!" I do not think so. Up to the time of the Flood, apparently both men and animals were not flesh-eating. They just did not eat flesh; there were no carnivorous animals. We are told of a day in the Millennium when the lion and the lamb will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like an ox (see Isa_11:6-7). That could certainly come to pass, for that probably was the original state of the animal. - McGee

A pair of every living creature was to be brought into the ark, as well as food. Critics claim that the ark was not big enough to hold all the species of animals and enough food for one year and seventeen days. But it is likely that the ark contained only the basic kinds of animal and bird life, and that many variations have resulted since then. The ark was more than large enough for this. - BBC