

GENESIS 5-6:11

Please turn in your Bibles this evening to Genesis chapter 5 as we continue our study through the Word of God.

We have seen in our study of Genesis that God created the heavens and the earth, and it was very good.

He created man and woman and placed them in the Garden of Eden. And God said to them that they may partake of every tree that is in the garden except for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

If they did, if they disobeyed God, then death would come upon them, or the death process would begin.

As soon as Adam partook of the fruit of this tree, sin separated man from God and the death process started, the second law of thermodynamics where things are wearing down, falling apart, moving from order to disorder.

In our last study we looked at the judgment that came upon man, upon woman and upon Satan who tempted them.

As we continued on, we followed the genealogy of Cain, who slew his brother Abel. Sin entered the world through Adam and now that sin nature has affected the descendants of Adam, his son Cain.

But this lineage of Cain we only follow for a short time because his lineage is cursed. The Messiah won't be coming from the lineage of Cain.

Now you may be wondering why God even gives us the lineage of Cain if it is not important.

I think there is a good reason because the lineage of Cain shows the life of a person apart from God.

Here is how it is played out as you look at the meaning of their names.

CAIN = ACQUISITION

ENOCK = DEDICATED

IRAD = FUGITIVE OR WILD ASS

***MEHUJAEEL = "BLOT OUT THAT YAH IS GOD" OR WIPE OUT THE
NAME OF GOD***

METHUSHAEL = THEY ARE DEAD WHO ARE OF GOD

LAMECH = POOR AND LOWLY

Now you may be thinking, ***"What is the point?"***

Listen carefully because this is what we see in the ungodly as we have seen in the life of Cain.

An acquisition that is a dedicated fugitive or wild ass who is trying to wipe out the name of God, saying, "They are dead who are of God" and the reality is, they are poor or lowly!

I think that is a pretty good description.

I know we went over this last time, but I wanted you to see this again because tonight we are going to follow another genealogy from Adam to a man named Noah and as you will see, there is great hope found in this genealogy!

So with that as our introduction, let's begin reading in Genesis chapter 5, beginning in verse 1, and let's see what the Lord has for us as we study His Word.

GENESIS 5**VERSES 1-2**

Here in the book of Genesis we see this phrase, “**This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. . .**” Genesis 5:1.

Where else in the Bible do we see this phrase spoken of?

In Matthew 1:1 we are told, “**The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ . . .**”

Why is this important?

For two reasons.

First of all, we see what the first Adam brought into this world, death through sin.

Paul speaks of that in I Corinthians 15:22 as he wrote, “**For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.**”

And just as the first man, Adam brought death into the world, the last Adam, Jesus Christ brought us everlasting life!

Paul put it like this in I Corinthians 15:45, “**And so it is written, ‘The first man Adam became a living being.’ The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.**”

And you will see this played out as we go through Genesis chapter 5. It is the story of mankind, and it is a story of sin and death. Some eight times we see the phrase “**and he died**” in this chapter!

That is the first man, Adam.

And without the last Adam, we would be dead and gone forever from God. But, as Paul wrote in Ephesians chapter 2:1-5, **“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).”**

And what we will see in this chapter, from the genealogy of Adam, is the story of redemption!

VERSES 3-5

First of all, let me show the difference from when Adam was created to when Seth came on the scene, and this is important.

We are told that Adam was made in **“the likeness of God.”** In other words, without sin, he was perfect when he was created.

From there we now move to Seth, and we are told that Seth was created in the image of Adam and not God.

Why is that?

What is the point of putting it that way?

Because when Adam sinned that sin nature was passed down to every generation of man, including you and me!

Paul put it like this in Romans 5:12, **“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.”**

Sin not only entered the world through Adam, but it was passed down to all of us. Our spirit, that which communicates with God, is dead and it is only through being born again that our spirit is made alive again. And that salvation only comes through Jesus Christ!

That means everyone is born into this world a sinner and needs to be born again!

We are also told that Adam had Seth when he was 130 years old. That doesn't mean that he did not have any other children during that time. We are told here in Genesis 5:4 that he begot even more sons and daughters after the birth of Seth.

And Adam had Cain and Abel and I am sure many other sons and daughters, but there was one God wants us to focus on and you will see why in a few minutes.

For Adam, he lived 930 years and he died, just as God warned would take place if he disobeyed the Lord.

Death is a result of sin and has been passed on to all of mankind through Adam!

Now we are going to list what each name means. Remember what we saw as we looked at the genealogy of Cain, the message God had for us.

Well, God has a message for us here as well and as you will see, this is important, very important.

Look at what we have so far,

ADAM = MAN

SETH = APPROVED

VERSES 6-8

ENOS OR ENOSH = SUBJECT TO DEATH

VERSES 9-11

CAINAN = SORROWFUL

VERSES 12-14

MAHALALEEL = FROM THE PRESENCE OF GOD

VERSES 15-17

JARED = ONE COMES DOWN

VERSES 18-20

ENOCH = DEDICATED

VERSE 21

METHUSELAH = DYING HE SHALL SEND

VERSES 23-24

Here we are told that Enoch “**walked with God.**” What does that mean to walk with God?

It means that we walk in agreement with God as Amos 3:3 tells us, “**Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?**”

You see, if you don't agree with God in regard to sin, if you don't hate sin as He does, how can you walk together?

It also means we walk by faith as we are told in II Corinthians 5:7, "**For we walk by faith, not by sight.**"

That means we trust in the Lord, and we walk as He leads us.

It means we walk in the light as I John 1:5-7 tells us, "**This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**"

In other words, you can't walk in darkness and walk in God for God is light and there is no darkness in Him at all.

You can turn from the darkness and walk in His light and have fellowship with Him, but you can't live a life in rebellion against God and say you are walking with Him.

And then we read that God had taken Enoch, he went to be with the Lord!

What in the world does that mean?

Maybe you heard of the story of the little girl who was sharing the story of Enoch with her mom.

She said, "Enoch took very long walks with God. And one day, as he was walking with God, he walked so far away that God said to Enoch, '*Enoch, it is too far for you to go back home. Come home with Me!*'"

Don't you love it!

Here was a man who was walking in a very wicked world. At this point there may have been as many as 6 to 7 billion people on the earth.

And yet, Enoch did not surrender to the wishes of the world, but he walked in obedience to God!

And again, the idea is that you are giving your life as a living sacrifice unto the Lord and following after Him, that was the heart of Enoch, and it should be our heart also.

You see, he was a man of faith as Hebrews 11:5 tells us, **“By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, ‘and was not found, because God had taken him’; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.”**

Let us live our lives in such a way that it pleases God!

We also see this special relationship that Enoch had with God, and we see that played out as his son was born and he named him Methuselah.

Why that name? I believe the reason is very simple. Enoch named him that name because he was in touch with God.

You see, his name means, **“dying he shall send”** and as we will see, in the year that Methuselah died, the flood came.

In fact, Jude tells us that Enoch was a prophet, **“Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, ‘Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.’”** Jude 14-15.

Enoch spoke of the second coming of the Messiah, of Jesus Christ and that God’s people will come with Him, you and me!

Enoch spoke of the coming judgment, the flood as well. And, like I have said, in the year that Methuselah died, the flood came!

So we see here that Enoch didn't die but was taken up to be with the Lord after walking with the Lord for 300 years!

Where did he go?

Remember the story of Elisha in II Kings 2:11, it seems like he was taken to be with the Lord to heaven.

How did that happen before Christ?

I don't know, I don't believe he went to Hades, which would later be called Abraham's bosom until the Messiah came where believers went to.

Keep in mind there were two compartments down there and the other side is filled with unbelievers!

This obviously was the exception and not the rule for both Enoch and Elisha.

Remember in Hebrews 9:27, where we are told, "**And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment.**"

You see, it is the rule but there is the exception, some have died twice like Lazarus and others won't die like in the Rapture, but that is the exception. I believe that is what we see here.

VERSES 25-27

LAMECH = TO THE POOR AND LOWLY

Keep in mind that Methuselah is the longest living person in the Bible, he lived 969 years!

Why is that?

First of all, when he died what was coming?

The ***FLOOD!***

Can you imagine every time he got sick, how the people may have felt, how anxious they may have been, “***Is this it?***” I am sure they took good care of Methuselah!

Now, with his life being the longest in the Bible, it truly shows or gives us a picture of the grace of God!

Judgment was coming but God was patient and longsuffering, giving man every opportunity to repent before the flood came!

It is as Peter reminds us in II Peter 3:9, “**The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.**”

God is so gracious and merciful to us!

VERSES 28-31

NOAH = REST OR COMFORT

Now, why did God devote a whole chapter to these men who begot and be-gone, or they died?

Listen carefully to how this plays out as I list the meanings of these men like I did with the descendants of Cain.

It goes like this.

The man approved to death, sorrowful. From the presence of God, one comes down, dedicated. Dying, he shall send to the poor and lowly, rest and comfort!

That is the Gospel message given to us thousands of years before Christ came.

It is the Good News to a world that was moving quickly into darkness, and it is Good News for us today.

It is as Paul said in Romans 1:16-17, **“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’”**

Keep this in mind. If these genealogies are consecutive, and I believe they are, Seth died when Noah was 14 years old. And Methuselah was alive when the ark was built and when he died, the flood came, in that same year!

So this information was passed down from the person who witnessed it.

VERSE 32

As we move into Genesis chapter 6 we are going to see the focus center on the family of Noah and how God will use Noah and his children in a powerful way.

You see, just as things in this world are growing dark, so too we see that taking place here in Genesis.

God is preparing to pour out His judgment upon a world that is in rebellion to Him, and yet, in the midst of His judgment we will see His grace and mercy.

Keep in mind that all the death we see is a result of sin. And as far as I can tell, the death rate is still 100%, all will die.

But the Good News is that Jesus has taken the sting out of death for us. The Bible tells us that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.

Yes, we can have eternal life with Him, and that eternal life begins right now as we surrender our life to Him! God has done this for us, and may we thank Him for His grace and mercy that He has extended to us!

You see, we are saved by faith alone, through grace alone in Christ alone. The only thing we have added to salvation is sin, God has paid the price and we can receive that gift by faith in Him!

As we read on we are going to see the wickedness of the world in comparison to the righteousness of a man and his family.

GENESIS 6

VERSES 1-2

Now this is a very controversial portion of Scripture.

Why is this a controversial portion of Scripture?

The reason is simple. Who are the sons of God and who are the daughters of men that are spoken of here?

There are two main views on this, and I will share with you both views, but I believe, as you look at the Scriptures, there is only one view that is supported by the Bible.

Now you may not agree with me and that is fine. My challenge to you is to look at what is being said here and see what really makes sense.

The first view is simple and is probably the least controversial.

In this view they believe that the sons of God are the godly line of Seth, and the daughters of men are the ungodly line of Cain.

That sounds good and is the least controversial as I have said, but there are some problems with that, big problems.

First of all, when you look at the lineage of Seth, were they all godly?

Absolutely not! And for the most part they were not godly.

You see, at this point in time, from the lineage of Seth there was only one family that was godly, so that can't be it.

Not only that, but why were only the sons of Seth believers and only the daughters of Cain unbelievers? What about the daughters of Seth and the sons of Cain?

Here is another one we need to think about. Why would believers marrying unbelievers make God angry enough to wipe out almost all the earth's population except for eight people? That does not make sense to me.

Now some would like to say that in the New Testament that term "**sons of God**" is used for believers, so why not here? (Matthew 5:9, Luke 20:36, Romans 8:14, Romans 8:19, Galatians 3:26)

Because that term, "**sons of God**" is never used in the Old Testament for believers.

We do see it spoken of three times in the Old Testament, but again, this is not referring to believers and I will show you what it speaks of in a few minutes. (Job 1:6, Job 2:1, Job 38:7)

I do want to deal with some of the arguments that speak of this being people, just human beings, this phrase and they will go to Luke 3:38, which says, "**the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.**"

And the point here is that Adam was called "**the son of God**" and thus, this must be speaking of people, right?

No, that is not right!

Let me ask you this. Why is Adam and for that matter angels, called “**sons of God**”?

Because they were created by God!

That is what Luke is speaking about here.

If that is true, and it is, then why are we called “**sons of God**”?

Because, as believers, we are a direct creation of God through the new birth, being born again by the Spirit!

That is what Paul said in II Corinthians 5:17, “**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creatin; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.**”

One more point showing that this could not be speaking of the godly line of Seth and the ungodly line of Cain.

Just think about this one for a minute. Just because a believer and an unbeliever have children, it does not mean that they will produce some kind of ungodly offspring or Nephilim in the Hebrew.

Yes, God says we are not to unite with unbelievers, but just because they come together it surely doesn't mean they will produce some kind of unnatural offspring, that just does not make sense!

Not only that but as you look at the Old Testament you see godly kings have some very wicked children and you see some very wicked kings have some very godly children.

So to say that this is speaking of the godly line of Seth, these sons of God; and the ungodly line of Cain, the daughters of men, just is not supported by the Scriptures.

Warren Wiersbe holds to this view of the godly line of Seth marrying the ungodly line of Cain and wickedness was produced. I don't agree with him but listen to what he has to say. It is good to hear what others think of this verse.

He wrote,

Some interpreters view 6:1-7 as an invasion of fallen angels who cohabited with women and produced a race of giants. But as interesting as the theory is, it creates more problems than it solves, not the least of which is the union of sexless spirit beings with flesh and blood humans.

Even if such unions did occur, could there be offspring and why would they be giants? And how did these “giants” (Nephilim, “fallen ones”) survive the Flood (v. 4; Num 13:31-33), or was there a second invasion of fallen angels after the Flood?

The term “sons of God” does refer to angels in Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7; but these are unfallen angels faithfully serving God. Even if fallen angels could make themselves appear in human bodies, why would they want to marry women and settle down on earth?

Certainly their wives and neighbors would detect something different about them and this would create problems.

Furthermore, the emphasis in Gen 6 is on the sin of man and not the rebellion of angels. The word “man” is used nine times in verses 1-7, and God states clearly that the judgment was coming because of what humans had done. “And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth” (v. 5).

- Warren Wiersbe, The Wiersbe Bible Commentary – OT, p. 36

Again, we have looked at the evidence and I believe there is a better explanation than that and the Scriptures do support it even though many don’t want to believe it.

I believe that this phrase, “**sons of God**” or *BEN ELOHIYM* refers to angels, and in this case, fallen angels, demons.

Where is my support for that? Hold on.

We see this in Job 1:6 where we are told, **“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.”** (See also Job 2:1, 38:7).

In fact, the translators of the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Old Testament Scriptures, which took place in around 250 B. C., translated the phrase **“sons of God”** here in Genesis 6:2 as angels! They understood what was being said and we just don’t want to even think about it because it is like some kind of bad horror movie.

We may not like it but that is what this is saying.

But isn’t there problems with believing that these fallen angels cohabitated with women and had offspring?

Not really.

I do realize that some point to what Jesus said in Matthew 22:30 and say that angels can’t have sex, but that is not what the text says.

Jesus said, **“For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.”**

Henry M. Morris gives us this insight to what Jesus was saying. He wrote, *“When Jesus said that the angels in heaven do not marry, this does not necessarily mean that those who have been cast out of heaven were incapable of doing so.”*

Keep in mind that when angels are spoken of in the Scriptures, it is always with a masculine pronoun, **“he”** and they are always, always described as men. That is why they are called **“the sons of God.”**

And keep in mind that the angels we are talking about here in Genesis chapter 6 are fallen angels.

Let me show you how this all plays out and I think you will clearly see this has to be speaking about angels!

In Jude 6-7 we are told, **“And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”**

First of all, we are also told by Jude that these fallen angels are chained!

Are all fallen angels chained?

Obviously not!

And we need to keep that in mind that not all of these fallen angels are chained, but some are. And I believe it is these angels who committed this sexual sin with the daughters of men that God has chained and one day will release during the Tribulation Period to bring about one of His judgments, the fifth trumpet judgment spoken of in Revelation chapter 9.

Thus, I believe these fallen angels cohabitated with women and produced **“giants”** or the fallen ones.

You see, it had to be sexual sin, they left their proper domain, the boundaries that God has set.

And in Jude 7, as he speaks of the sexual sin of Sodom and Gomorrah, he says that their sin was similar to these angels, why?

Because they too left their proper domain or the boundaries that God had set, they went after strange flesh, men having sex with men and women with women, these cities were filled with this sin.

And when Jude tells us that they went after “**strange flesh**” the Greek word for “**strange**” is HETEROS and it means that they went after something that was not natural to fulfill their lustful desires, to satisfy the flesh!

Thus, these angels are bound until Judgment Day, and like I said, I believe they are going to be released from the bottomless Pit, part of the fifth trumpet judgment spoken of in Revelation chapter 9, those demon locusts!

Listen to how The Living Bible puts these verses here in Genesis 6:1-2. It reads, “**Now a population explosion took place upon the earth. It was at this time that beings from the spirit world looked upon the beautiful earth women and took any they desired to be their wives.**”

I think that is the correct way to look at these verses.

Also, from the book of Enoch, which of course is not an inspired book but may give us some accurate historical information, we are told, “*And it came to pass that the children of men had multiplied that in those days were born unto them beautiful and comely daughters. And the angels, the children of heaven, saw and lusted after them, and said to one another: ‘Come, let us choose us wives from among the children of men and beget us children . . . [They] took unto themselves wives, and each chose for himself one, and they began to go unto them and to defile themselves with them, and they taught them charms and enchantments . . . And they became pregnant, and they bare great giants . . . And there arose much godlessness, and they committed fornication, and they were led astray, and became corrupt in all their ways.’*”

Obviously this is speaking of the fallen angels or the demons!

Now, why did they do this?

Keep in mind that God told Adam and Eve that it would be through the seed of the woman that salvation would come to man and death to Satan.

Thus, Satan influences Cain to kill his brother Abel, but God's plan was going to go through Seth and not Cain or Abel!

And here he is trying to pollute the genetic pool or making it so the Messiah could not be born.

And he came very close to succeeding!

Boice tells us, *"The Savior could not be born of a demon-possessed mother. So if Satan could succeed in infecting the entire race, the deliverer could not come."*

So you can agree with me or not, but I think the point that is being made here is that these fallen angels cohabitated with women to produce the fallen ones!

VERSES 3-4

Make no mistake about it. God is patient, He is longsuffering, but there does come a point where He will judge sinful man.

But again, notice God's grace. He is waiting 120 years before He pours out His judgment, 120 years for man to repent and get right with God!

From when these words were spoken until the flood came upon the land, as judgment was poured out, it was 120 years.

I am always amazed at the longsuffering of God, the patience of God.

In regard to salvation, I also see God saying this.

Yes, He is longsuffering but there does come a point where a person has rejected God so much, his heart is so hard, that he no longer can be saved; he has passed the point of no return!

Let me give you an example.

The religious leaders of Jesus day saw the miracles that He did and yet they *WOULD* not believe. And they kept hardening their hearts so much that eventually, they *COULD* not believe.

In John 12:39-40 we are told, **“Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again: ‘He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, Lest they should see with their eyes, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.’”**

God is gracious and longsuffering, but His Spirit will not strive with men forever!

Here in Genesis 6:4 we see the word “**giants**” and in the Hebrew it is *NEPHILIM* or “*fallen ones.*”

This is speaking of the unnatural offspring that was produced by these fallen angels and the daughters of men.

Now it does say that some were around after the flood, but I don’t believe it was on as large of a scale as we see here in Genesis chapter 6!

The Scriptures do speak of these giants on the earth after the flood as we see Goliath and his brothers as well as a group called Anakim and Emim, people that lived in the land of Canaan. (Deuteronomy 1:28, Deuteronomy 2:10)

And maybe that is one of the reasons we see God tell the children of Israel to wipe out the Canaanites completely! But again, it was not on the large scale that we see here in Genesis 6:4 and as we read on we will see how this wickedness permeated the land!

I think we all see that the judgment of God is about to come down and what I find interesting is that we see the increase of demonic activity in the days we are living in. It should sound familiar because that is what was going on in the days of Noah!

And if you don't think it was bad, listen carefully to what we are told about those days, and I think we can see the parallel with the days we are living in and how quickly we are moving away from God!

VERSES 5-7

We do complain a lot about how wicked our world is, but it is not that different than the time spoken of here in Genesis. In fact, it is probably better at this point in time than it was back then. But it will get worse!

Imagine the depravity of man as his thoughts are wicked throughout the day! Keep in mind there were probably over 7 billion people living on the earth at this time, and some feel that number is even higher, and wickedness permeated their lives!

Now we can fast-forward to the New Testament because Jesus takes what was going on here in Genesis and applies it to the last days judgment of God.

Listen carefully as Jesus made these interesting remarks in Matthew 24:37-39 in regard to His return and the judgment of man.

He said, **“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”**

Notice, society was filled with wickedness and yet life went on. They were totally unaware of the coming judgment of God.

Now, look at these conditions before the flood came and see how they parallel what is going on today and how people are totally unaware of the coming judgment of God!

- ***THERE WAS A POPULATION EXPLOSION – GENESIS 6:1***
- ***THERE WAS SEXUAL PERVERSION THAT PERMEATED THE WORLD – GENESIS 6:2***
- ***THERE WAS HEAVY DEMONIC ACTIVITY IN THE WORLD – GENESIS 6:2***
- ***MAN’S HEART WAS CONTINUALLY EVIL – GENESIS 6:5***
- ***THERE WAS WIDESPREAD CORRUPTION AND VIOLENCE – GENESIS 6:11***

It is as Peter reminds us, **“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”** II Peter 3:9-10.

Yes, God is patient, He is longsuffering, and He wants people to come to Him, but remember that His Spirit will not strive with man forever. He is going to judge the world for their wickedness, and I believe that day is fast approaching!

Now you read Genesis 6:6 and it almost seems like God made a mistake. He was sorry that He made man and now He is going to change His mind and destroy man.

Make no mistake about it, God did not change His mind about creating man. We are told in Malachi 3:6a, **“For I am the LORD, I do not change . . .”**

Then what is this all about, that God was sorry that He made man and that this grieved His heart?

Folks, God is not unfeeling or uncaring. Yes, He knew exactly what man would do and thus, He is sorry to see how sin is destroying people's lives, it broke His heart.

Remember when Jesus went to the tomb of Lazarus, His friend and he wept, why?

It wasn't for Lazarus because He was going to raise Lazarus from the dead, so why did He weep?

I believe it was because of the effects of sin upon people's lives, how it causes so much pain!

That is our God; He truly loves us and is grieved over our rebellion and sin!

And what we see here is the wrath of God that is going to be poured out upon a world that is in rebellion against Him.

Please understand that God did not fly off the handle and lose His temper. His judgment is righteous, it is fair. You see, the land needed to be cleaned but who would carry on the race if God wiped man out and everything that lived?

Where would the seed come from in the midst of all this evil?

Look at the next verse and you will see!

VERSES 8-11

Notice what this verse says and doesn't say.

Noah **FOUND** grace, it doesn't say he **EARNED** grace or **WORKED** for grace.

You see, grace is the unmerited favor of God upon us, giving to us that which we don't deserve.

Yes, sin filled this world, but in the midst of all that sin we see Grace abound even more!

Paul makes that point in Romans 5:15-21 as he tells us, **“But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man’s offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification. For if by the one man’s offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) Therefore, as through one man’s offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man’s righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous. Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”**

That is the grace of God, and you can’t add to grace because you can’t add anything to that which is perfect for it will only cheapen it, weaken it, make it of no value!

If you add works to grace, then it is no longer grace but works and God owes you something! I think you can clearly see how wrong that is.

Many years ago there was a London traffic jam that prevented C. S. Lewis from arriving at a certain religious symposium on time.

The panel, comprised of the world’s most highly esteemed religious thinkers, began without him.

Their first question was this: *“What is unique about Christianity?”*

A great question but the Buddhist, Muslim, Jew, Taoist, as they all discussed this they could not arrive at a conclusive answer.

In the midst of their debate, C. S. Lewis burst into the room.

“Dr. Lewis,” said the moderator, *“tell us what is unique to Christianity.”*

“That’s easy,” Lewis replied, *“It’s grace.”*

Christianity is the only religion where you don’t have to earn merit to get into heaven; you don’t have to do this or that because it is all grace!

Paul said in Ephesians 2:8-9, **“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”**

Every other religion wants you to do something; they require you to do this or that, while Christianity tells us to receive the free gift of life by faith, which is found in Jesus! Folks, it is all God’s grace, there is nothing more, there is nothing less, there is nothing else!

For Noah, he was not sinless, but he was not contaminated like the rest of the world and maybe even the animals as they too were destroyed in the flood, except for a few! But Noah found ***GRACE!***

Paul, in Hebrews 4:16 tells us, **“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”**

You see, outside of Christ the enemy condemns, while the Lord pours out His grace upon us, even and especially during our time of need!

And I think you see that with Noah as you look at Genesis 6:9-10. You see, I believe this is not only speaking of Noah living a life that was pleasing to God, but also his family was not corrupted with the fallen angels infecting his gene pool you might say.

In other words, we are told that he was “**perfect in his generations**” or that he was pure in his genetic profile!

The word “**perfect**” comes from a Hebrew root that means – *UNCONTAMINATED!*

As I have said, he and his family may have been the only ones not contaminated by this demonic inbreeding! Thus, this flood of judgment was coming upon the contaminated!

In II Peter 2:5 we are told of Noah, “**and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly.**”

That was this man Noah, in a world of darkness he shined brightly!

And that should also be true of us. In the darkness of this world, we need to shine brightly!

Remember we have talked about what Jesus said regarding the last days and His coming, how it will be like the days of Noah.

And we see how demonic activity has increased but maybe, like in the days of Noah, we see it go even deeper.

Maybe you have heard of transhumanism. It speaks of many different things, like combining humans with computers, eliminating disease by various means, like gene altering.

Which is interesting to me because that is what it was like in the days of Noah, the gene pool was altered, and we are beginning to see that today!

And understand the ultimate goal.

Transhumanist Mark Pesce openly states that he believes that transhumanism will allow us *“to become as gods.”*

Listen to what one participant stated at a recent conference about transhumanism and religion. *“Transhumanism is a thrust toward transcendence.”*

In other words, transcendence speaks of being beyond the limits of all possible experience and knowledge.

That is what the world is working towards and yet, like Noah, we are called to shine and share our faith!

Now we are also told that Noah walked with God.

For Noah, he spent time with the Lord, followed what the Lord desired of him, and we will see that as we read on next time. You don't do the things that Noah did without walking with the Lord!

What about us?

Folks, we are saved by grace, and we don't have to do good works, but we get to serve the Lord and as we do we bring Him honor and glory! Our actions are not based on a works salvation, but we are saved for good works! It is what should flow from our lives!

In our studies here in Genesis we have seen two men walk with God and it is an interesting picture.

Enoch walked with God, and he was taken to be with the Lord before God poured out His judgment upon an ungodly world.

Enoch is a type of the Church who will be taken up to be with the Lord prior to God pouring out His wrath during the 7-year Tribulation Period.

Then who does Noah represent?

I believe Noah represents the faithful Jewish remnant that will go through the Tribulation Period and God will see them through this storm of judgment!

We are also told here in Genesis chapter 6 that Noah has three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth and as we will see, they will all play a part in propagating the human race after the flood.

We will continue our study here in Genesis chapter 6 next time but let me close with this. Two different pictures.

Here in Genesis 6:11 we are told, “**The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.**” Not a pretty picture, nor is it intended to be one. It is just the facts. Man turned from God, the gene pool was corrupted, and the end result is that violence filled the land.

And as I read this, I get the idea that creation itself was corrupted! In fact, in Genesis 6:12 we are told that “**all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.**”

We are very close to that today and I believe judgment is very close, the judgment of God upon a Christ rejecting world. A world that has been corrupted! If I stopped there, we don't see much hope. So I will not stop here but I will close with this, “**But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.**” Genesis 6:8.

As dark as things get, people can come to the light of Jesus Christ and find grace. For believers, as bad as it gets, we can find grace in Jesus. May we never lose sight of that!

Don't lose sight that in the midst of this judgment we see God's grace extended to Noah and his family and what God has promised, salvation through the seed of the woman, is still going to come to pass in spite of Satan's attempts to prevent it!

God always has a faithful remnant, even if it is just eight people as we will see, eight people that will be spared the judgment of God! ***THE GRACE OF GOD!***