

Giants, Grief, and Grace

1. Sin escalates

Gen. 6:1 ¶ When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them,

Gen. 6:2 **the sons of God** saw that the daughters of man were attractive. **And they took as their wives any they chose.**

Gen. 6:3 Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for **he is flesh** (not semidivine): his days shall be 120 years."

Gen. 6:4 The **Nephilim** were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they **bore children** to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.

Sons of God (Demons)

- Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7 (angels)

- Ps 29:1; 89:6 (sons of God = heavenly beings)

This also was the meaning placed on the passage by the Greek translators of the Septuagint (Angels of God), by Josephus, by the writer of the ancient apocryphal book of Enoch, and by all the other ancient Jewish interpreters and the earliest Christian writers.

Enoch - CHAPTER 6 (200 BC)

1 And it came to pass, when the sons of men had increased, that in those days there were born to them fair and beautiful daughters.

2 And the Angels, the sons of Heaven, saw them and desired them. And they said to one another: "Come, let us choose for ourselves wives, from the children of men, and let us beget, for ourselves, children."

- 2 Pet 2:4-5 (angels sin + flood)

- Jude 6-7 (left proper place)

why reject this view?

- Mk 12:25 (angels in Heaven don't...)

yet

- Heb 13:2 (entertained angels unaware)

- dan 10:13, 20; Ezekiel 28:1-2; 11-19 (possess)

Nephilim (fallen ones - not a race)

- num 13:32-33 (giants - post flood boogeymen)

He is flesh (mere flesh)

- Acts 12:20-23 (mere flesh)

2. God sees it

Gen. 6:5 ¶ **The LORD saw** that the **wickedness** of man was **great** in the earth, and that **every** intention of the thoughts of his heart was **only** evil **continually**.

saw wickedness

- Gen 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31 (contrast)

- 2 Tim 3:1-5 (not surprised by it)

3. He hates it

Gen. 6:6 And the LORD **regretted** (grieved) that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved (pained) him to his heart.

grieved

- Ps 78:40-41; Is 63:10 (provoked to rage)

- Lk 12:49-53 (came to cast fire)

4. and He will end it

Gen. 6:7 So the LORD said, "**I will blot out** man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them."

I will blot

- Lk 17:26-30 (like the flood)

5. But He first gives grace

Gen. 6:8 But Noah found **favor** in the eyes of the LORD.

favor (grace)

- 2 Pet 3:1-15 (patience today)

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intro:

The most boring statement of settled belief since forever is now considered controversial

problem:

Evil escalates

Isaiah 5:18-20 - Its bad to drag your sin along with you, its worse to flaunt it, it is worse still to call it good

meanwhile churches and Christian ministries are currently being listed as hate groups

southern poverty law center hate map - quoted by virtually every mainstream media site

transition:

Genesis 6 shows us the pattern we are living now is not new, neither is the answer

Main Idea:

Sin escalates

God sees it

He hates it

and He will end it

but He first gives grace

Implication:

From the fall of Man to the fall of marriage God has seen our escalating wickedness

what day did you become a Christian?

- > He has seen and grieved over every twisted moment of history, every tragedy, every bit of suffering, holding back His hand of judgement...until you were saved.

Application: Matt 28:18-20

Stop wringing your hands at the escalation of sin

see it

hate it

know that it will end

...and make disciples

but there is more - making disciples is the way to actually impact culture.

Acts 19:18-27 - it was disciple making that impacted Ephesus.

Acts 17:1-6 - it was disciple making that turned the world upside down

Our mission is not to take down or protect statues, its not to riot and protest, Its not to reform society or save the planet or stop global warming. It is not to fill stadiums, it is not to win your best life now, it is to make disciples as the world faces impending doom.

Articles for further study:

<https://cbmw.org/nashville-statement/>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Nephilim.html>