

Gen 6:1-8 The Antediluvian World

I. Man's Growth on the Earth (Vv. 1-4)

- A. Time covered – When... (v.1)
- B. Interpretation Difficulties: Sons of God & Nephilim
 - 1. Sons of God (בְּנֵי אֱלֹהִים, *bene Elohim*) (vv.2,4) Job 1:6, 2:1, 38:4-7, Luke 3:37-38
 - a) Angels => offspring grotesque monsters? 2Pet :4-11, Jude 5-7
 - b) Angels *possessing* men => offspring genetically selected men (giants)?
 - c) “Godly” line of Seth => offspring not godly men; ungodly men like everyone else?
 - d) Royal line of rulers => offspring more tyrannical rulers?
 - e) Sinful Men => offspring sinful men (that live to be 900+ y.o.) Gen 6:11-13
 - 2. Nephilim (נְפִילִים) – Giants (v. 4)
 - a) Only used three times in OT.
 - (1) Gen 6:4 – here
 - (2) Num 13:33, twice. Sons of Anak, The Anakim
 - b) Are there giants in OT?
 - (a) Most famous Goliath ~9'9" 1 Sam 17:4-7
 - (b) Giants left in Gaza, Gath, Ashdod Josh 11:21-22
 - c) Is there any hint that *these* giants were offspring of angels?

II. Being fruitful, multiplying vv. 1-2

- A. Children born to these unions, population increase (growth rates 1%: 28.7M, 2%: 349T)
- B. Multiple wives? Polygamy. Already seen w/ Lamech: Adah & Zilah.

III. God's Forbearance v.3

- A. Strive (דָּן, *din*, judge 18, plead cause 2, plead 1, contend 1, execute 1, strife 1)
- B. So 120 years and His forbearance, striving, contending with Man, ceases
- C. At that point, 120 years to Judgement, The Flood.

IV. Growing Population => Children continue being born v.4

- A. Giants – health, physical size, intellect, complete genome, time to learn & accumulate
- B. Bore *children* (יָלַד, *yallad*). They bore *something* to them.
- C. *Mighty Men*
- D. *Men of Old* (two lifetimes will take you to The Flood)
- E. *Men of Renown* – famous, or infamous
- F. Three descriptions of what was born: Men

V. Then: Wickedness and evil v.5

- A. Wickedness of MAN great, every thought EVIL
- B. Thought leads to action, thought controls our actions Matt 15:16–20

VI. God repents and grieves, pronounces judgement vv. 6-7

- A. Repented v. 6
- B. Grieved v. 6
- C. Will Destroy. Doesn't say how yet. Not until Gen 6:17

VII. Noah found grace v.8

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Genesis 6:1–8 (NKJV) *The Wickedness and Judgment of Man*

6 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, ² 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.

³ 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." ⁴ 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.

⁵ 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. ⁶ And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. ⁷ 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." ⁸ But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Job 1:6 (NKJV) ⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.

Job 2:1 (NKJV) Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD.

Job 38:4–7 (NKJV)

⁴ "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?

Tell Me, if you have understanding.

⁵ Who determined its measurements?

Surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶ To what were its foundations fastened?

Or who laid its cornerstone,

⁷ When the morning stars sang together,

And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

2 Peter 2:4–11 (NKJV) ⁴ For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; ⁵ 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; ⁶ and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; ⁷ and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked ⁸ (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)—⁹ then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, ¹⁰ and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, ¹¹ whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.

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Jude 5–7 (NKJV) ⁵ But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶ 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; ⁷ 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.

Genesis 6:11–13 (NKJV) ¹¹ The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹² So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. ¹³ 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.”

Numbers 13:26–33 (NKJV) ²⁶ Now they departed and came back to Moses and Aaron and all the congregation of the children of Israel in the Wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. ²⁷ Then they told him, and said: “We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this *is* its fruit. ²⁸ Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land *are* strong; the cities *are* fortified *and* very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there. ²⁹ The Amalekites dwell in the land of the South; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan.”

³⁰ Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.”

³¹ But the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they *are* stronger than we.” ³² And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, “The land through which we have gone as spies *is* a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it *are* men of great stature. ³³ There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.”

1 Samuel 17:4–7 (NKJV) ⁴ And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, from Gath, whose height *was* six cubits and a span. ⁵ He had a bronze helmet on his head, and he *was* armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat *was* five thousand shekels of bronze. ⁶ And *he had* bronze armor on his legs and a bronze javelin between his shoulders. ⁷ Now the staff of his spear *was* like a weaver’s beam, and his iron spearhead *weighed* six hundred shekels; and a shield-bearer went before him.

Joshua 11:21–22 (NKJV) ²¹ And at that time Joshua came and cut off the Anakim from the mountains: from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel; Joshua utterly destroyed them with their cities. ²² None of the Anakim were left in the land of the children of Israel; they remained only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod.

Matthew 15:16–20 (NKJV) ¹⁶ So Jesus said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? ¹⁸ But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. ¹⁹ For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. ²⁰ These are *the things* which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.”

Luke 3:37–38 (NKJV) ³⁷ *the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalalel, the son of Cainan,* ³⁸ the son of Enosh, *the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.*