

September 17, 2023 (Sermon Notes)

“The Days of Noah – Part 1” Genesis 6:1-7

(1) 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."

Introduction

Overarching umbrella over any portion of Scripture ... The doctrine / attributes of God

What we've seen so far ... real history

One important aspect of Adam living as long as he did –

- Methusaleh 243 years of overlap
- Lamech 56 years of overlap

Matthew 24:37-39 But as **the days of Noah** *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. (38) 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, (39) and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, **so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.**

What were the days of Noah like? (Are we living in “the days of Noah”?)

Outline:

They Were Days of Exponential Multiplication 1

They Were Days of Unusual Demon Possession 2

They Were Days of Spiritual Persuasion 3

They Were Days of Powerful Oppression 4

They Were Days of Moral Perversion 5-7

I. They Were Days of Exponential Multiplication ¹

(1) Now it came to pass, when men began to **multiply* by the myriads, by tens of thousands on the face of the earth*** **throughout the earth**, and daughters were born to them,

multiply = massive increase: conservative estimates 4-7 billion people

on the face of the earth = men would have been required to spread out to find land for their families to farm and live

It is certainly possible for this kind of exponential population increase to take place.

Population of the Earth by Year in Modern Times:

1800 = 1 Billion 1900 = 2 Billion 1959 = 3 Billion 2023 = 8 Billion

The days of Noah were days of exponential multiplication

Are we living in the days of Noah

II. They Were Days of Unusual Demon Possession ²

Genesis 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, **(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.

This is not an easy verse to interpret.

Who are the “sons of God”? To whom does this designation refer? Answer: angels – fallen angels = demons

- Isaiah 14 ~ Ezekiel 28 ~ Revelation 12

There are multiple interpretations of this phrase, but two main interpretations that have any credibility at all:

- 1) **The Godly line of Seth** – there is some evidence from the context
 - Chapter 4 – the lineage of Cain
 - Chapter 5 – the lineage of Seth
 - Luther and Calvin and most of the reformers held this view
- 2) **Fallen angels or demons** – this is the view I have come to hold after most of my life holding to the “line of Seth” view.
 - It is a position I hold humbly, and not very dogmatically

- This is not a teaching of first priority – nothing to break fellowship with other believers who hold the other view.
- I hope to show you, from the text of Scripture itself and from other supporting sections of Scripture, why I hold this view.
- And not only that, but I want us to see how it applies to us today in our lives.

In the Bible, you have elect and non-elect angels. At some point, possibly just after the creation of the earth, Satan led a rebellion in heaven and he and his followers, one-third of all the angels, were cast out of heaven to earth. How many? At least 33 million, but probably even more.

Hebrews 12:22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels,

Revelation 5:11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,

Old Testament Verification

Job is the oldest book in the Old Testament – it was written during the patriarchal period – the time of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Gen. 12-50)

Job 1:6 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 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 38:7 When the morning stars sang together, And all **the sons of God** shouted for joy?

Psalms 29:1 A Psalm of David. Give unto the LORD, **O you mighty ones**, Give unto the LORD glory and strength.

Psalms 89:6 For who in the heavens can be compared to the LORD? *Who* among **the sons of the mighty** can be likened to the LORD?

New Testament Commentary

1 Peter 3:18-20 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, **(19)** by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, **(20)** who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

2 Peter 2:4-9 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,

Jude 1:6-7 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.

Luke 20:34-36 [Matthew 22 and Mark 12] Jesus answered and said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage. **(35)** But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; **(36)** nor can they die anymore, **for they are equal to the angels and are sons of God**, being sons of the resurrection.

So ... "Sons of God" is a designation for created beings – created directly by God, not born like mankind. It is used Scripturally as a term for angels.

How could spiritual beings like angels marry human beings? To do so, they would have to inhabit or possess the bodies of humans. We know that demons, fallen angels, are able to possess other bodies:

- Satan inhabited the body of a serpent
- Angels took on the form of men in Genesis 18-19
- Hebrews 13 tells us we should be hospitable because in doing so some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Conclusion: These were fallen angels who were possessing the bodies of human men and those men were marrying and producing offspring with the women of the earth. These were NOT fallen angels in some type of angelic bodies reproducing with humans and creating a new hybrid race of people on earth. Again, they were demons possessing the bodies of men and marrying and producing offspring with the women of earth.

So, here's the picture ...

How did it come to this? ...

Why would any human want to yield control to a demon spirit? For the same reason that Eve gave in to the serpent in the garden – to be like God!

Jewish commentator: "Evil doesn't come to man with darkness. It comes to man with light!"

Application

So what? Why is this important to us some 5,000 years later?

- 1) Where had Satan been since the garden? He was still active!
- 2) Satan is alive and active today!
 - Some things that we see happening in the world and the culture around us can only be explained by demon possession. =
 - Hitler, Stalin ...
 - the current madness ...
 - the anti-Christ
- 3) We must realize that we are living in days in which demonic activity is going to be continually increasing, and we must be prepared DAILY for spiritual battle!

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. **(4)** For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, **(5)** casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Ephesians 6:10-13 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

(11) Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

(12) For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

(13) Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

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III. They Were Days of Exponential Multiplication 1

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