

## Genesis 6-8

### The flood

6:1,2 There are several interpretations for this passage. One is that these are angels and their offspring are giants. Another is that the descendents of Abel took the daughters of Cain - and they made a very virile offspring. Another is that kings were, in those early days, looked upon as gods. The passage could be declaring how rulers made large harems.

3 God's spirit shines upon every heart. Jn 1:9 But that light will not continue to be snubbed forever. The more it is resisted, the more condemnation is stored up against that one. God limits our life in mercy. He reduced it from centuries to 120 years because of all the evil man got into when he lived longer. Later the psalmist says 70 to 80 years is the span of life. Ps 90:10 Perhaps the longer we have the more sin we become involved in so God had to continually shorten man's time on earth.

4 The meaning of the word is uncertain. Some claim it to be giants while others prefer the term mighty men. We see in prehistoric drawings the heroes drawn larger than others as if they were giants. The other side of that story is we have Goliath and tracks made in hardening mud of gigantic feet. Perhaps they are a line of prehistoric man that did not survive.

5 "Every inclination of the thoughts of his heart." And that is the mind and heart of unredeemed man - continual evil. Thank you Lord for your saving grace and the blood that gives us a new heart.

6,7 'nacham' means comforting sorrow - regret - pity. Seeing the sin and its destructiveness that man chose grieved the heart of God. It 'atsab' (pained or vexed) his heart. Something must be done to stop man from torturing himself and his fellow man (vs 11). A cleansing of the earth must take place. I have the same feeling, to a degree, when I must spank my children. Some argue against the omniscience of God with this verse - I think rather it reveals the heart of God against sin and what it does to us through our own choices. God does things that He knows will be painful to Him and to his creation at times but with an end in mind.

8 There was an exception. Someone dared to be different, to stand out. Noah had an ear that would hear God and a heart to obey what he heard. A heart that hears is heart not hardened by continually ignoring conscience.

9 He must have been righteous by faith just as Abraham was. How could he have no blame except the blood of Jesus had cleansed him from all his sin? How could he walk with God except through the work of Jesus. There is always a remnant.

10 Shem - the Asian race (Semetic), Ham - the Negro race, and Japheth the Caucasian race?

11 Sounds like today, and Jesus predicted that as it was in the days of Noah so would the time be when He returned. Matthew 24:37 This is what was grieving the heart of God. Imagine the cry of the masses that went up from the pain that sin had caused. It reminds me of some inner city areas today, or Muslim countries like Afghanistan. (written before 9/11) There is so much pain and God feels it all.

12 People corrupt themselves when they yield to the sin nature they inherit from Adam. So why was Noah different? He had a will to seek after God instead of the pleasures of sin. He responded to the call of the Holy Spirit just as you and I do. The rest of Noah's world did not.

13 They would destroy themselves painfully or God could do it in judgement in one fell swoop with much less suffering. Imagine the pain over generations that a world like that produces. It had to be stopped. The rising waters gave people a chance to repent. A knife in the back would not.

14 The world's first boat, one and half football fields long.

15 When God performs a rescue - He provides the blueprint.

16 Three stories with a skylig21,ht and one great door. Many see Jesus Christ as the ark of our salvation that carries us over the judgement of God. Lk 13:24,25

17,18 We think of Abraham as the first to covenant with God but actually it was Noah. They enter into the salvation of God. See 9:9 It seems this is a foreshadow of the New Covenant - entering into salvation.

19,20 You are to bring, but they will come to you. God often works that way – co-laborers.

21,22 Imagine the grain collected! The earth must have produced an abundance. No wonder he is called righteous. He is obedient to God in all things, to the smallest detail. That is not religion, that is submission in faith.