

Noah—Genesis 6

Noah Builds an Ark

I. Additional Scriptures...

1. Isaiah 54:9; Matthew 24:37, 38; 2 Peter 3:6,7
2. 6:3 + 1 Peter 3:20
3. 6:4; Numbers 13:33
4. Changeableness of God is in relation to the change in heart of man... 6:6; Num 23:19; 1 Sam 15:11; 2 Sam 24:16; Isa 63:10; Mal 2:6; Eph 4:30; Js 1:17.
5. 6:8, 9 + Ezekiel 14:14; Heb 11:7; 2 Peter 2:5

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: **Before the Flood**, but just barely.

III. Summary.

The length of days that men lived was accomplishing the purpose of multiplying and replenishing the earth (Gen 1:28). This chapter begins with a reference to that fact. SONS OF GOD surely has reference to those faithful to God through the line of Seth; DAUGHTERS OF MEN would include those who were faithful to God and those who were not. The Lord places a time limit upon His “striving with men,” to be 120 years. Evidently this date extends back before the birth of Noah’s sons just a bit and culminates in the Flood.

Giants were present during these days. Also when the marriages mentioned in verse 2 came to pass there were children from those unions who became mighty men of renown. God saw the wickedness of man was great and his every imagination was only evil continually. The extent of the wickedness is expressed as: “it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart” (v. 6). The Lord determined to destroy man and beast.

However, there was one man, Noah, who found favor in the eyes of the Lord. God spoke to Noah and gave to him detailed instructions about constructing an ark that would survive the great Flood. Noah and his family would be spared along with two of each animal. From 1 Peter 3:19-20 we can deduce that Noah preached to the people and it would have been possible for more to enter the ark of safety had they been so inclined. Noah followed all the instructions that the Lord had given him completely.

IV. Outline.

1. The population of the earth expands (Genesis 6:1-2).
2. Wickedness causes God to set a deadline for man to cease his rebellion (Gen 6:3).
3. The wickedness was so great that it is expressed as causing God to repent from His work of creating man and making the determination to destroy man (Gen 6:4-7).
4. Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord (Gen 6:8-10).
5. The earth was corrupt (Gen 6:11-12).
6. God gave instructions to Noah about building a great ark (Gen 6:13-17).
7. God would establish a covenant with Noah, sparing his family (Gen 6:18-21).
8. Noah did what God commanded (Gen 6:22).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ Noah only followed most of God’s instructions regarding building the ark.
02. _____ The word “multiply” appears in this chapter.
03. _____ God told Noah what kind of wood to use in constructing the ark.
04. _____ During this period, there was no one who found grace in the eyes of the Lord.
05. _____ The ark was to have 7 windows.

Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)

06. _____ Does this chapter say anything about food for Noah and the animals to eat while on the ark: (a) YES; (b) NO.
07. _____ As God saw the wickedness of men, how does the text describe Him: (a) grieved; (b) unhappy; (c) disquieted.
08. _____ God instructed Noah to build an ark that was—(a) 300; (b) 50; (c) 30—cubits long.
09. _____ God would establish this with Noah: (a) his seed; (b) covenant; (c) righteousness.
10. _____ How many persons are among the ones included in verse 18 of this text: (a) 5; (b) 8; (c) 12.

Fill in the Blanks

11. “The earth was also _____ before God, and the earth was filled with _____.”
12. “Make the an ark of _____ _____.”
13. Numbers ____:33... “And there we saw the _____, the sons of Anak, which come of the _____: and we were in our own sight as _____, and so were we in their sight.”
14. ___ Peter 2:5... “And spared not the old _____, but saved _____ the eighth person, a _____ of righteousness, bringing in the _____ upon the world of the _____.”
15. “Thus did Noah, according to all that God _____ him, so _____ he.”

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week’s handout

ANSWERS to Lesson 01-40 ... [01—False, Gen 4:1; 02—False, Gen 4:23; 03—True, Gen 4:9; 04—False, Gen 4:17; 05—True, Gen 4:15; 06—Lamech, Gen 4:24; 07—Cain, Gen 4:5; 08—Blood of Abel, Gen 4:10; 09—Jubal, Gen 4:21; 10—Lamech, Gen 4:19; 11—not, sin, Gen 4:7; 12—Hebrews, Abel, excellent, righteous; 13—35, blood, righteous; 14—tillest, yield, Gen 4:12; 15—call, name, Gen 4:26.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **...the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose** (Gen 6:2). This seems to me to be a way of expressing that God’s faithful ones (sons of God, mainly descendants of Seth), began to be less careful in selection of marriage companions and problems came as a result. This is what happened in the lives of Samson and Solomon. Marriage is a close union and one companion greatly influences the other. In a study of history, it seems to be the tendency that the allure of this world and its pleasures (which involve rebellion to God and His will) have a greater record of success than the other way around. This was the result that came from Solomon’s indiscretions in this area. (1 Kings 11:4).

2. **There were giants in the earth in those days;...** (Gen 6:4). The ASV does not translate the Hebrew word for “giants” here, but merely inserts the Hebrew term, “Nephilim.” There is only one other place where this same Hebrew word appears and it seems to me helpful in understanding what must be the subject here in Genesis 6. The other text is in Numbers 13:33. Here the report is being given by the 10 spies who brought back the evil report regarding the Promised Land. If we read that text it seems clear that the spies were comparing their own small size in relation to the GIANTS that they saw in Canaan. They considered themselves to be like GRASSHOPPERS. Likely, then, the term is appropriately translated in Genesis 6:4 as “giants.” This is the same translation used by the Septuagint version. Many seek to read into the text that these giants were the result of angels and women have sexual relations, but all such is mere speculation and seems contradicted by other passages (cf., Mt 22:30).
3. **...every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually** (Gen 6:5). This was a terribly depraved state of being for mankind. Sometimes we hear the excuse: “But everybody’s doing it.” Shem, Ham, and Japheth are surely the only ones who could truly say this to their parents. Think about living in such a time as that!!! And yet, even amongst such gross evil, it was possible to serve the Lord faithfully and find grace in His eyes (v. 8). What admiration we ought to have for Noah and his family!
4. **And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart** (Gen 6:6). Passages such as James 1:17, Malachi 3:6, and Numbers 23:19 teach us that God does not change. Yet, here it seems that we have God CHANGING His mind about something He had done—creating man. How do we reconcile these passages? We must understand that God is communicating with man in a language that man can understand. In the relationship between God and man, it is man who does the changing. God will deal with man based upon the changes man makes (cf., the “Additional Scriptures,” I.4 above). I agree with brother George DeHoff when he writes...
“It repented God that he had made man” is a figure of speech showing the exceeding wickedness of man. God “turned” from sinful man and no longer watched over him and protected him. [*Alleged Bible Contradictions Explained*, p. 58]
5. **Make thee an ark of gopher wood...** (Gen 6:14). This text has been referred to so often in debates about the use of mechanical instruments of music in worship that when those who defend the use of such instruments hear the term “gopher wood,” they become extremely irritated. However, we still need to appreciate and honor the fact that whenever God gives the SPECIFICS, it cannot be said the we have obeyed, “according to all that God commanded...” (v. 22), unless we follow precisely what God has said. God said to SING in Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16 and when we add mechanical accompaniment, we have not obeyed!!!
6. **Consider the success of Noah.** Noah was a preacher of righteousness, but no one listened to him. He did not have the response that Jonah had in his preaching efforts. No one listened and followed, except his own family. Doesn’t his faithfulness to the Lord and the fact that by his leadership and example his immediate family was carried to safety by the waters of the flood make him a truly great preacher?

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

M N B V C X Z L L K J H G F D S A P O I
 U Y T G B N H Y O U J M K I O L Y H N B
 G L E N G T H T G O B R F A S H I O N F
 V E D C X S H W S X K Q A Z M N B V C X
 Z L K J H T G F D S A E Q A Z W S X C D
 E R F V R B G T Y H N M D U J I K O L P
 V F R A T G B N H Y U J M K I O L P Y H
 B R E N D E C O R R U P T E D N C V F R
 T R G B N H Y U J M K T I O L O P M J U
 Y H E N B G T R F V H E D C X A R K W S
 X C V A B N M K J G H G F F D H O D S A
 P O I Y D C U B I T S T V G B V O F R E
 D C W S X T Z E A D Q W S I X C M V B N
 L W K U T G H D E S T R O Y O G S B V F
 D O O R R F V L E D C W S X Q L W S X C
 E D R F V T L G B N H Y U J M K E I Y H
 Y N D C V I R F B G T Y H N U J M N C I
 D I Z W F E D C C D E V F R B G T T C Y
 N W G O P H E R W O O D N B V C I X Z E
 M N B H G F T R E W Q A X C B P N U Y T

[The highlighted words may be found in the puzzle above.]

Gen 6:12-16

(12) And God **looked** upon the **earth**, and, behold, it was **corrupt**; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

(13) And God said unto **Noah**, The **end** of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is **filled** with **violence** through them; and, behold, I will **destroy** them with the earth.

(14) Make thee an **ark** of **gopher wood**; **rooms** shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with **pitch**.

(15) And this is the **fashion** which thou shalt make it of: The **length** of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the **breadth** of it fifty cubits, and the **height** of it thirty **cubits**.

(16) A **window** shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the **door** of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it.