

Genesis 6.1-22

The End is at Hand!

NATURAL TENDENCY – Categorize People / Labels, Assumptions, Prejudices

SOME PEOPLE SCORE HIGHER THAN OTHERS – better than others

Scale 1 to 100 / 100 = Jesus / 90 = Billy Graham, Pope, NOAH / 75+ BICF membrs

ASSSUME – People have same inherent Goodness as Jesus / Just not as Much

ALL WE NEED TO DO IS BE A LITTLE BIT BETTER – Work our way up Scale

1. Man's Rebellion

a. Spiritual Pollution vs. 1, 2 When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose.

Who are these PEOPLE? Some see COSMIC Sexuality btwn ANGELS & Women

Interpret > FIND MEANING of ORIGINAL AUTHOR to Original AUDIENCE

“Sons of God” later in Bible DOES Sometimes mean ANGELS

FLOOD takes away Man's Breath > No indication it KILLS ANGELS

Sons of God CAN refers to PEOPLE who Faithfully SERVE God

“You are the sons of the LORD your God...For you are a people holy to the LORD your God”
Deuteronomy 14.1

Ye are the sons of the living God.

Hosea 1.10

Genesis 4 & 5 – Two Lines of People / Sons of Cain & Sons of Seth

TWO DIRECTIONS OF HUMANITY – Away from God & Toward God

The line of Seth which was supposed to promote the will of God, had lost its values to the point that all that mattered to them was the beauty of the women in Cain's line.
Samuel Ngewa

Righteous Line CORRUPTED by intermarriage with the Sinful Children of Cain

Tragic Result – SPIRITUAL POLLUTION

...man is beyond self-help, whether the Seth-ites have betrayed their calling, or demonic powers have gained a stranglehold. Derek Kidner

b. Selfish Presumption vs. 3,4 Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years.” 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.

120 – YEARS left BEFORE Flood / AND/OR the LIFESPAN AFTER the Flood

v. 4 Translit NEPHILIM: ‘Mighty Men’/ GIANTS: Latin Vulgate & Septuagint

“in THOSE DAYS AND ALSO AFTERWARDS”

We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them."

Numbers 13.33

Those who SEE SUPERHUMANS Here – ½ Angel ½ Human > Flood FAILED!

The giants are not said to have sprung solely from this origin: if some arose in this way (also after that), others existed already (in this days). Derek Kidner

BIG People who TRUST THEIR MIGHT > Big Mark Blair, Yao Ming, Goliath

Not JUST PHYSICAL Size but SELFISH PRESUMPTION

PROBLEM that AROUSES God’s Wrath is PRESUMPTION

Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land... Genesis 4.16

‘went out from the presence of God’ NOT to END his LIFE

BUT to START New Life – ENOCH = New Beginnings / WITHOUT God

GOD! Who NEEDS HIM?? Cain Did Not!

Gov’t Official for Religion on Thursday “Only 20% of Chinese believe in God”

% HIGHER in America – Life Style quite DIFFERENT than LIP-SERVICE

"For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3.5

‘you will be as gods’ – i.e. WHO Needs God now? You are JUST as GOOD!

And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." Genesis 3.22

HUMAN Race FORGOT > 2 Parts to Being – Dust of Earth / Breath of God

The LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. Genesis 2.7

Jesus: “Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.” John 3.6

GOD ALONE who puts the EVERLASTING PART in Man > HE gives Spirit

v. 3 Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh:

CONTRAST between FLESH and SPIRIT > MAN is ONLY FLESH

All God needs to DO is TAKE AWAY His SPIRIT from MAN

How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures....When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust. Psalm 104.27-29

v. 5 STRONGEST STATEMENT OF HUMAN SINFULNESS in Scripture

OUR SCALE OF GOODNESS – deals with mostly EXTERNAL ISSUES

Dress too Short, Hair too Long, Eats too Much, Owns too Much, Plays too Much

Expect vss on Sin: List BIG GULPS Adultery, Murder, Stealing, of course Dancing

Many Churches AGAINST PREMARITAL Sex because it LEADS to DANCING

1) Internal Nature of Sin – WORST SINS WHAT WE CANNOT SEE

v. 5 “the thoughts of his heart” / SIN like ICEBERG – BIGGEST PART UNSEEN

“Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart” 1 Samuel 16.7

PHARISEES WORRY about Outward Contamination / Jesus – focus Inward Purity

For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man `unclean.'" Mark 7.21-23

OUR OBSERVATION of Outward Acts / OUR CONCLUSION of Inward Nature

Did you see the flowers he gave me? Isn't he sweet?

That man has COMMITTED MURDER – He is a terrible monster!

WE SAY – He is a murderer because he murdered someone

GOD SAYS – He murdered because he already was a murderer – OUR NATURE

GOD IS ABSOLUTELY JUST – SEES EACH ONE RIGHTLY – INTO HEARTS

2) Pervasive Nature of Sin v. 5 “every inclination of the thoughts of his heart”

Sin OUT FROM the CORE of Our BEING: Heart – Touches All Do, Say, & Think

Hike far back into MOUNTAIN VALLEY – think found PRISTINE STREAM

TAKE LONG COOL DRINK OF MOUNTAIN WATER

Only to walk around next bend FIND ROTTING ANIMAL CARCAS in STREAM

STREAM LOOKS PRISTINE – SOURCE POLLUTED

TOTAL DEPRAVITY – Every part of our being is touched by sin /

EVEN OUR BEST IS NOT PERFECT IN THE SIGHT OF A HOLY GOD

PIRATE SHIP – Running From the Law / FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE
 ON THE SHIP THINGS MAY LOOK GOOD / Sharing their Rum and Wenchies
 Saying Grace before downing their Glog / Take turns Swabbing the Deck
 Cultural Refinement – String Quartet plays Sunday Afternoon Concert on Deck

BUT IT IS STILL A PIRATE SHIP – RUNNING FROM THE LAW

“There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one. Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit. The poison of vipers is on their lips. Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of peace they do not know. There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

Romans 3.10-18

NOT AS BAD AS WE COULD BE, NOT AS GOOD AS WE SHOULD BE
 EVEN OUR BEST EFFORTS ARE STAMPED WITH THE TRUTH

“fallen short of the glory of God” Romans 3.23

CAN THIS DESCRIPTION BE ANY WORSE? ANY MORE HUMILIATING?

3) Continuous Nature of Sin v. 5 “*only* evil *all* the time”

We like to think we ONLY MAKE AND OCCASIONAL MISTAKE
 BUT IN THE SIGHT OF GOD IT IS A CONTINUOUS MISTAKE

“All man’s ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the Lord”
 Proverbs 16.2

“From our perspective a statement like this is almost beyond belief. We would not make it of other people, even the worst people. We certainly would not make it of ourselves. But this is God speaking – God who sees all things and sees the heart – and God is truthful.”
 James Boice

WE LEARN ABOUT A TERRIBLE GLOBAL FLOOD /

Changed the Landscape of Every Inch of Planet Earth

Flood NOT Change “every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood” Genesis 8.21
 “Without the Holy Spirit and without grace man can do nothing but sin and so goes on endlessly from sin to sin...this knowledge of our sin is the beginning of our salvation”
 Martin Luther

2. God’s Wrath

Sin is a TERRIBLE THING – ITS EFFECTS ARE TERRIBLE

Breaks Hearts, Destroys Homes, Corrupts Societies, Cripples Nations

WORST EFFECT OF SIN – What it does to God / Arouses Holy & Just Wrath

a. God’s Appraisal / “He will judge the world in righteousness” Psalm 9.8

v. 5 “The Lord saw...” / DELIBERATE CONTRAST WITH GENESIS 1

EACH CREATIVE DAY “And God saw that it was good” Genesis 1.4,10,12,18,21,25

6th & LAST DAY “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good” Genesis 1.31

NOW THE BITTER CONTRAST v. 12 “God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways.”

Now Mankind is FAR FROM THAT PERFECTION AND GOODNESS

What has changed God’s Outlook? – Sin!

“Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give an account” Hebrews 4.13

SCALE mentioned earlier / Opposite of Reality – not in Positive Numbers

MAN IS NOT CLIMBING HIGHER IN RIGHTEOUSNESS / SINKING IN SIN

TRUE SCALE WOULD SHOW Varying degrees of DOWNWARD DESCENT

- Measurement of Man’s Rebellion against God, His Law, and His Holiness

b. God’s Passion ANTHROPOMORPHISM – Human description of the Divine

GOD IS NOT A MAN – BUT HE IS A PERSON – PERSON WITH FEELINGS

v. 6 “the Lord was grieved...His heart was filled with pain”

v. 7 “for I am grieved that I have made them”

NOT ABSTRACT PRINCIPLE or IMPERSONAL FORCE / LIVING, FEELING

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
Ephesians 4.30

Great and Final Prophet – LORD JESUS – WEPT for those who PERISHED

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing”
Luke 13.34

WHAT WE DO Matters to God: HE has BROKEN HEART of Abandoned LOVER

“Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked? declares the Sovereign Lord. Rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live? For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!”
Ezekiel 18.23,32

“He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance”
2 Peter 3.9

SOME CHRISTIANS TALK CASUALLY, EVEN JOKINGLY, ABOUT HELL

GOD TALKS ABOUT HELL WITH TEARS IN HIS EYES

IF WE REALLY UNDERSTOOD, WE WOULD HAVE GOD’S PASSION

BOB PIERCE – Founder of World Vision – Prayed

“Let my heart be broken by that which breaks the heart of God” Bob Pierce

c. God’s Punishment “He does not leave the guilty unpunished” Exodus 34.7

GOD IS JUST AND HOLY / SIN CANNOT BE OVERLOOKED OR IGNORED

“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness” Romans 1.18

v. 7 “I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth”

v. 11 “Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight and was full of violence”

VIOLENCE def. “Man’s refusal to live in his God-given boundaries”

NOT ANGELS – OR Half Breeds Created by ANGELIC SEX

God FLOODED Earth because PEOPLE SINNED

v. 13 “I am going to put an end to all people”

v. 17 “I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it”

3. Noah’s Righteousness

IN MIDST OF THIS DARK ANALYSIS – LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL SHINES

“weeping may last for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning”

GOD Responds to EVIL in SIMULTANEOUS Extremes – Judgment & Salvation

CREATOR has FULL RIGHT to DESTROY His CREATION

But here GOD shows Himself as both JUDGE AND SAVIOR of the EARTH

He named him Noah and said, "He will comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed." Genesis 5.29

a. Reason for Noah’s Righteousness Why this man spared terrible judgment?

WIDESPREAD MISUNDERSTANDING OF THIS STORY

Out of all the bad apples in Barrel / God managed to find one good apple = NOAH

v. 8 “But Noah found favor in the eyes of God”

v. 8 “But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.” King James Version

“Do you mean Noah was just as bad as those who died outside his boat!?” YES!

“Do you mean that we here are just as bad as those outside the church? EXACTLY!

“But where sin increased, grace increased all the more” Romans 5.20

Jesus to Rich Young Ruler “No one is good – except God alone.” Mark 10.18

ONLY CLAIM TO GOODNESS IS DERIVED FROM HIM

“Abraham (Noah) believed the Lord, and he credited to him as righteousness”

Genesis 15.6

Genesis 15 – 1st Ref to WORD Faith in Genesis / REALITY seen in EDEN

REPENTANT Adam & Eve put FAITH in God their SAVIOR who Clothed Them

FAITH IS A GIFT – REPENTANCE IS A GIFT – SALVATION IS A GIFT

v. 18 “But I will establish my covenant with you”

COVENANT > Solemn Promise / Binding Contract / SEALED with BLOOD

NOT BI-LATERAL – 2 Equal Parties / UNI-LATERAL God is SOVEREIGN

We have NO BARGAIN RIGHTS with HOLY, ETERNAL God

FOUNDATION of Covenant with God UNDESERVED Mercy & Grace from God

WHY DID GOD MAKE HIS COVENANT WITH ISRAEL / OR NOAH?

The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery...

Deuteronomy 7.7-10

REASON? BECAUSE HE LOVED YOU! / Sovereign Mystery of God’s Grace

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. Titus 3.3-5

“While we were still sinners, Christ died for us”

Romans 5.8

b. Result of Noah's Righteousness Faith Results in Works/ Tree Produces Fruit

“For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance of us to do”
Ephesians 2.8-10

1st v. 8 “Noah found favor” THEN WE READ v. 9 “Noah was a righteous man”

THREE RESULTS OF GOD’S FAVOR IN NOAH’S LIFE

1) Right with God - “Noah was a righteous man”

Jesus said, “If you love me, you will obey what I command” John 14.15

FEW PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SO OBEDIENT AMIDST SUCH OPPOSITION

100 YEARS of ABUSE / HARD WORK / INCREDIBLE – Boat in the Plain?

Did not LIVE on SAN FRANCISCO BAY or SYDNEY Harbor > FAR INLAND!

No APPARENT Need for BOAT – Not BOAT: Ark = CHEST / FLOATING Chest

NO Reference in Bible to RAIN YET: ...the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground...A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters Genesis 2.5,6,10

1st Biblical Ref. RAIN: And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights.

Genesis 7.12

NEIGHBORS Must have THOUGHT NOAH NOT Playing with a FULL DECK

ELEVATOR did NOT Stop on EVERY FLOOR

ONE SANDWICH Short of a FULL PICNIC

NOT ONLY DID NOAH LIVE RIGHTEOUSNESS, HE PREACHED IT
 God did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly
 people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others 2 Peter 2.5

“Noah, a preacher of righteousness” / World = FOOL / GOD = FAITHFUL

This will be the experience of anyone who glorifies God in his or her generation, no
 matter how much evil has become part of that society. Samuel Ngewa



1855 young preacher named Charles Spurgeon to London / Many were Curious
 WHAT THEY HEARD WAS AN OLD FASHIONED, OUT DATED MESSAGE
 THE OLD GOSPEL THE PURITANS PREACHED A CENTURY BEFORE
 He was ridiculed as old-fashioned, out-moded, surely he would be short-lived
 ONE CRITIC “Up like a rocket, down like a stick”
 GOD USED THAT FOOLISH SPURGEON – Impacted English-speaking world
 MANY Say was GREATEST Preacher in ENGLAND

Athanasius stood alone / Luther stood alone / Knox stood alone / SO DID NOAH

2) Right with Man – “blameless among the people of his day”

Even though Noah’s critics were many / they could not find fault with him

BLAMELESS not Sinless – Dealt with Sin properly / Make SHORT ACCOUNTS

Forgiven by God, Faultless before men

NOAH DID NOT COMPROMISE HIS MESSAGE BY HIS MANNERS

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. 1 Peter 3.18-20

Peter DECLARES SAVING Gospel of Jesus > RIGHTEOUS One for Unrighteous

No ONE – from Adam & Eve to LAST Saved SINNER – SAVES Themselves

EVERYONE who Comes to God > RESPONDS to His SAVING INVITATION

LONG Ago – CHRIST HIMSELF was PREACHING to Noah's Neighbors

by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built

SPIRITS in Prison > JUDGED at TIME of Flood > Awaiting Final Condemnation

Queen Elizabeth BORN in 1926 / 1926 NOT YET Q.E. – Formally Crowned 1953

Time of NOAH – Spirits EMOBODIED – Men, Women, Boys, Girls > Opportunity

Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. 1 Peter 1.10,11

CHRIST HIMSELF was PREACHING thru PROPHETS > AND thru NOAH

The doom of death in the flood pictures the doom that Christ suffered for us. He was put to death in the flesh. But he was made alive in the power of the Spirit. It was in that power that he preached through Noah to those whose disobedience brought eternal condemnation. It is in that same power that he now saves us. Those who reject the gospel put themselves under the judgment that will come when Christ comes. But those who are united to Christ are saved by the same promise that delivered Noah and his family. Edmund Clowney

NOAH brought his FAMILY to SAFETY in way that LOT FAILED to Do

For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do--living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you. But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit. The end of all things is near.

1 Peter 4.1-7

3) Right on Time – v. 9 “he walked with God”

Walked with God like Enoch / LONG WALK / DIFFICULT WALK

MORE HE ENDURED THE UNRIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE EVIL WORLD

THE CLOSER NOAH WALKED WITH GOD

By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

Hebrews 11.7

GOD WAS ALSO RIGHT ON TIME – rain fell, waters rose, earth was destroyed

NOAH AND HIS FAMILY – SAVED BY GRACE – INSIDE ARK OF MERCY

ANCIENT STORY POINTS FORWARD TO A FUTURE JUDGMENT

ONE MANY PEOPLE NEVER IMAGINE WILL COME

JESUS IS OUR ONLY ARK, OUR ONLY SAVIOR, ONLY RIGHTEOUSNESS

THERE IS SALVATION IN NO OTHER NAME, ONLY JESUS CAN SAVE US

He alone can carry us through this world / and carry us into the Next

Genesis 6

1. When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, 2. the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. 3. Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal ; his days will be a hundred and twenty years." 4. The Nephilim were on the earth in those days--and also afterward--when the sons of God went to the daughters of men and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown. 5. The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. 6. The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. 7. So the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth--men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air--for I am grieved that I have made them." 8. But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. 9. This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. 10. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. 11. Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. 12. God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. 13. So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. 14. So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. 15. This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. 16. Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. 17. I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. 18. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark--you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. 19. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. 20. Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. 21. You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them." 22. Noah did everything just as God commanded him.