GENESIS 6

Nephilim

1 Now,[i] it came to pass as people multiplied in number across the face of the earth, they had daughters. **2** Then some *angelic*[ii] sons of Elohim saw that the daughters of humans were beautiful. So they took as many wives for themselves as they wanted.[iii]

3 Then Yahveh said, "My Spirit will not continue striving[iv] with people forever because they are flesh. I will reduce their life span to 120 years."

4 In those days, the *angelic* sons of Elohim[v] had sex with the daughters of men. Their children were the fallen ones.[vi] These became the famous mighty men[vii] of ancient days. This also happened after that.[viii]

5 Now Yahveh saw how great the human wickedness was on the earth.[ix] Every imagination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually.[x] **6** Then Yahveh regretted that He had made humans on the earth, and it grieved Him in His heart.

7 So Yahveh said, "I will destroy the humans whom I have created from the face of the earth. This includes humans, beasts, creeping things, and the birds of the air. I AM[xi] sorry that I made them."

Noah: Uncorrupted DNA

8 But Noah[xii] found grace[xiii] in the eyes of Yahveh.

9 These are the generations of Noah. He was a just man with an uncorrupted[xiv] lineage.[xv] He walked[xvi] with Yahveh Elohim.[xvii] **10** Noah fathered three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. **11** The earth was also corrupt before Elohim. Violence filled the earth. **12** When Elohim looked on the earth, He saw that it was corrupt. Everyone on the earth lived corrupt lives.

Heb 11:7 & 1 Pet 3:20

13 Then Elohim told Noah, "I intend to make an end of all flesh, for violence fills the earth through them. Watch! I will destroy them with the earth. **14** Make an Ark[xviii] from gopher[xix] wood. Build rooms in the Ark. Cover[xx] it with tar[xxi] on the inside and outside. **15** This is how you will make it. The Ark will be three hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide, and 30 cubits high.[xxii] **16** Put a window in the Ark one cubit below its roof. Put a door in the side of the Ark. Make it with lower, second, and third decks.

17 "Watch! I, even I, will bring a flood of waters on the earth. It will destroy all flesh that has the breath of life from under heaven. Everything that is on the earth will die. **18** But I will establish Yeshua's[xxiii] covenant[xxiv] with you.[xxv] You will go[xxvi] into the Ark. Your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives will go in with you.

19 "And you will also bring two of every living thing, male and female, into the Ark. You will keep them alive with you. **20** A pair from every kind of bird, cattle, and every creeping thing of the earth after their kind will come to you so that you can keep them alive.

21 "Take every kind of food and store it with you. It will be food for you and for them."

22 This is what Noah did.[xxvii] He did everything that Elohim commanded him. That is just what he did.

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[i] First Enoch provides the backstory for the next four verses.

[ii] The Hebrew בְּנֵי־הָאֱלֹהִים means "sons of God." This is a phrase used in the OT for supernatural created beings. We loosely call them "angels" (Job 1:6, 2:1, 38:7; Psalm 89:6; Luke 20:36). See the article "Names of God."

[iii] This is the second major supernatural rebellion against the Most High Elohim. The first was Lucifer's failed attempt to dethrone God.

[iv] The Hebrew דִּין means judge or plead ones cause. Before the flood, God judged everyone. That is why God drowned all people but 8. The Flood was God's judgment. But this verse shows that God would use a different way of judging humanity.

[v] The Book of Enoch explains that intelligent angels clearly joined with Lucifer to usurp God's throne (Isa 14, Ezek 28) and were cast out of heaven. We know that all angels were required to report to God (Job 1:6, 2:1). However, some fallen angels disobeyed God's command to appear before Him (1 Enoch 6:20). These defiant rebellious fallen angels had sex with human females who gave birth to giants (1 Enoch 3:2, 9; 4:6).

[vi] First, the only Hebrew word for giants is רְפָאִים (*r^{e}-faw-eem*, Rephaim, as in Deut 3:11). Sometimes, the Hebrew גִּבּוֹר (*gib-bor*) as in Job 16:14) appears as "giants." The Hebrew in Gen 6:4 for "those who are fallen" ("fallen ones") is הַנְּפִלִים (*hah n^{e}-fi-leem*, Nephilim). Num 13:32-33 also uses נְפִילִים. The domain for angels was the heavens. The domain for humans was the earth. The angelic angels rebelled against God's boundaries and produced corrupted offspring. The real issue is not their size. The real issue is that they were hybrids. Some of these corrupted hybrids were normal size but with special powers and abilities.

Second, God's Gen 3:15 declaration of war is in foresight here. Lucifer does not have to win this war outright. All he needs is a stalemate. One such chance was to corrupt the DNA of every human being. If he had succeeded in doing that, there would be NO uncorrupted Seed of the Woman (Jesus) to save humanity.

Third, 2 Pet 2:4 (using the Book of First Enoch) notes that angels sinned and were cast into Tartarus. Jude 6-7 confirms that angels cohabited with women. What is scary is that Gen 3:15 talks about two seeds. We are big on the Seed of the Woman who will save us. But there is also the seed of the devil. Daniel's prophecy of the end times shows that "they" will mingle with the seed of men. Whatever they are, they are not the seed of men. Whatever they are, they are not normal humans. Whatever they are, they will rise to importance. (Don't overlook the last phrase in verse 4.)

[vii] Extra-biblical sources give us insights into that culture. The Nephilim were "arrogant giants" (Wisdom 14:6). "The giants born there were famous of old, great in stature, expert in war. God did not choose them" (Baruch 3:28).

[viii] The Hebrew כֵּן means so, therefore, thus, in the same way. This sort of thing happened in the same manner after the flood (Jude 7)! Goliath and his brothers are just one example of this corruption.

[ix] How do you go from the Nephilim to human wickedness? The answer comes in two parts. First, we learn from other non-biblical source (First Enoch) that the Nephilim taught humans all sorts of evil (astrology, drugs, idolatry, immorality, warfare). The intent was that this knowledge would bring world-wide depravity and skills in self-destruction.

Second, we know that they corrupted the DNA of whole population (but Noah and his family). This is spiritual warfare. Lucifer almost got a stalemate to God's declaration of war in Gen 3:15. This spiritual warfare surrounds us today. There is intelligent evil that seeks our destruction.

[x] This verse doesn't naturally follow from the first four verses. But the Book of Enoch shows that the angelic beings taught humans how to sin through their seven wisdoms. Yes. Adam and Eve sinned. But depravity exploded with the false teachings of these angels. That is why Peter links the fallen angels to false teachers.

[xi] The words "I AM" are all capitalized as a stylistic play on words that point to the "I AM" statements of Jesus in the NT.

[xii] Noah is a real person. God mentions him with Job and Daniel in Ezekiel 14:14, 20. Jesus refers to him in Matt 24:37-39. Peter talks about him in 1 Pet 3:20 and 2 Pet 2:5. Paul talks about him in Hebrews 11:7.

[xiii] The Hebrew חֵן (*beyn*) means graciousness. It is from חָנַן (*chaw-nawh*), which means to stop in kindness to an inferior. The word חֵן does not have the condescending reach of חָנַן. Synonyms of חֵן (*beyn*) include favor, grace, charm, elegance, style, beauty, and mercy.

[xiv] The Hebrew תָּמִים הָיָה בְּדֹרֹתָיו means "Uncorrupted in his generations." Noah's blood line had not been corrupted by the unions described earlier between the "sons of God" and human women (Gen 6:1–4). This view appears in early Jewish literature, especially the Book of Enoch, which describes angels who abandoned their proper place and corrupted humanity. The Book of Jude, verses 6 and 7, refers to angels who did not keep their proper domain but left their dwelling and became involved in sexual immorality. The word "uncorrupted" emphasizes the purity of his blood line in contrast to the widespread corruption of humanity described in the surrounding passage. Interpretations that imply that Noah was morally perfect should be approached cautiously, since Scripture consistently teaches that all humans, even God's true children, are sinners and that only Jesus Christ lived a truly sinless life.

[xv] The Hebrew דּוֹר (*dor*) usually means "generations" or "posterity." In Genesis 6:9 Noah is described as "righteous" (צַדִּיק, *tsahd-deek*) and "blameless" (תָּמִים, *taw-meem*) in his lineage. The word תָּמִים (*taw-meem*) often means "without blemish" and is used elsewhere for sacrificial animals that must be physically unblemished (Leviticus 1:3, 22:21). The same root דּוֹר (*dor*) appears again in Genesis 7:1, where God says, "I have seen that you are righteous (pure human DNA) before Me in this lineage." The repetition of "righteous" and "lineage" links the two verses. What the narrator states in Genesis 6:9, God confirms in Genesis 7:1. This emphasizes that Noah's family line rather than a time period. In the context of the corruption described in Genesis 6, Noah is singled out as righteous (pure human DNA) within his lineage. This interpretation is consistent with the understanding reflected in the Book of Enoch and echoed in Jude 6–7, 1 Pet 3:19-20; and 2 Pet 2:4-5, which describe fallen angels corrupting humanity through unions with human women. In that interpretive tradition, Noah and his family represent an uncorrupted human lineage preserved through the Flood.

[xvi] The Hebrew הִתְהַלֶּךְ describes a continual pattern of life or conduct. In the Hebrew Scriptures, "walking with God" is an idiom for living in faithful fellowship, obedience, and loyalty to Him. The same expression describes the life of Enoch (Gen 5:22-24). Later biblical language frequently speaks of "walking" in God's ways as the proper response to His covenant. Noah lived in faithful obedience and fellowship with God within a covenant relationship.

[xvii] The Hebrew is אֵת־הָאֱלֹהִים. A maqqeph joins the **Aleph-Tav** with the word "the God." Reasonable options are "Jesus, the God" or "Yeshua, who is God." See the article "The **Aleph-Tav**" especially as it discusses Strong's reference H854.

[xviii] The Hebrew תֵּבָה means a box. "Ark" comes from the Latin, which is a chest or coffer. It is not an ark in the sense of a boat. A "barge" is a better description.

[xix] The Hebrew גֹּפֶר (*go-fehr*) appears only here in the entire Bible and remains undefined. The KJV wisely preserves the mystery by transliterating the word. Recognizing this, the best English translations wisely preserve the transliteration. The ancient Greek Septuagint and Latin Vulgate do not translate it as a specific tree, suggesting even early translators were unsure. Attempts to assign a definite species — like cypress — are speculative and go beyond the evidence. No reliable translator should do this.

[xx] Literally "pitch it with pitch." The first "pitch" is the Hebrew כָּפַר (*kaw-fahr*). In 71 places in the KJV, it is "atonement." This is the only place where the KJV uses "pitch." I think God is deliberately using a play on words here. This Ark is a type or picture of atonement!

[xxi] Literally "pitch it with pitch." The second "pitch" is the Hebrew כָּפַר (*kaw-fahr*), means to cover, atone, or reconcile. *Kaw-fahr* refers to a ransom, substitute, or payment made to avert punishment or secure release. It can denote a price of atonement, such as a sum paid for a life (Exodus 21:30) or a half-shekel offering for the atonement of one's soul (Exodus 30:12). The term reflects the theological principle that sin or guilt demands satisfaction — but that a substitute payment may "cover" the offense. *Kaw-fahr* thus emphasizes the idea of redemption through substitution, foundational to Israel's sacrificial system and pointing forward to the deeper spiritual truths Jesus′ death on the cross.

[xxii] If a cubit is 18 inches, the volume of the Ark would be around 1.4 million cubic feet.

[xxiii] This is the first occurrence of אֶת־בְּרִיתִי ("Yeshua's, **My** Covenant"). First, these two words occur 369 times in 132 verses. Second, the **Aleph-Tav** is joined to "covenant" by the *maqqeph*. It clearly points to Jesus (See footnote to Rev 1:8). Third, the noun is a feminine singular, absolute with the 1cs suffix, meaning "**My** covenant." Since Elohim is the speaker from verse 13, it means "**Elohim's** covenant." Fourth, this emphasizes the theological depth of revelatory insight: Elohim is Yahveh; Yahveh is Elohim. A word-for-word translation of this construct is impossible. Reasonable options include "Yeshua's and Elohim's Covenant," "Yeshua is Elohim. His covenant is. . . ." or "Yeshua's covenant is Elohim's Covenant." See the article "The **Aleph-Tav**."

[xxiv] The Hebrew בְּרִית (*b^{e}-reet*) refers to a solemn, binding agreement, often initiated by God. First, this is the first occurrence of the word in the Bible. By the Principle of First Mention, all subsequent uses must reflect and relate to this verse. In this verse, God Himself establishes the covenant with Noah, demonstrating that the covenant relationship originates with God rather than human initiative. The covenant ensures Noah's preservation through the coming flood. This concept of covenant becomes a central theme throughout the Bible, shaping God's later covenants with His people.

Second, *b^{e}-reet* recalls the ancient covenant ceremonies where animals were cut as a sign of the seriousness of the commitment. *B^{e}-reet* forms the covenantal foundation of the biblical relationship between God and humanity. "The core of the biblical teaching about the relationship between God and humans and among humans rests on *b^{e}-reet*, the covenantal foundation, and *cheh-sehd*, the dynamic that makes God's new covenant work. . . . To prevent *b^{e}-reet* from becoming a mere legal contract, *cheh-sehd* — God's loyal love — acts as the moral force that sustains and enlivens it." (Daniel J. Elazar, "HaBrit V'HaHesed: Foundations of the Jewish System," Jerusalem Center of Public Affairs; http://www.jcpa.org/dje/articles2/britvhesed.htm.)

[xxv] This is the first occurrence of the **Aleph**-**Tav**-Kaph. Here, it represents God bending toward humans in establishing a binding covenant of justice and love. See the article "The **Aleph**-**Tav**."

[xxvi] The Hebrew בְּאֹת is a Bet-**Aleph**-**Tav**. This word by itself has no red underline because it is not the 2-letter **Aleph**-**Tav**. This word shows that they will enter into the presence of the **Aleph**-**Tav** and his covenant protection. See the article "The **Aleph**-**Tav**."

[xxvii] What an understatement! It took Noah 120 years to finish the task.