

UNDERSTANDING THE “ONE STORY” OF SCRIPTURE

Week 8 – A Worldwide, Catastrophic Flood? WHY?

October 28, 2025

“Man is appointed to mortality and sorrow. The blessed God shall come down teaching. His death shall bring the despairing rest/comfort.” In the midst of judgment and death, God’s GRACE prevailed – and continues to prevail!

Knowing our Creator’s love for us and the great hope that is proclaimed in the middle of the judgment that is declared in Gen. 3:15 – and the hope found in “the woman and her Seed” (“the Seed of the woman”) – which is the resolution for sin... we come to the flood, the flood of judgment, in Genesis 6. WHY? What was the answer to the WHY question in Gen. 3:19-24? GOD’S GRACE!

We need to know that the flood was a unique global catastrophic flood, an act of divine judgment against a sinful world. WHY such a catastrophic flood...a flood destroying the earth that God had created? Such widespread judgment?

As we will always ask WHY? - let’s HOLD ON TO WHO GOD IS – IN ALL OF HIS GLORY! AND SO then, in KNOWING WHO GOD IS, we can REST in the truth! ...AND, once again, in the midst of judgment and death, God’s GRACE prevails!

Let’s consider God’s majesty and His love for His creation...(READ Job 38:1-7)

Have you ever wondered why God flooded the entire earth but rescued eight people and many animals? Are we realizing that it is for the sake of God’s name – His faithfulness to His promises - that it is God’s desire to continue the “one story” – to continue His plan for the world which includes REDEMPTION moving toward RESTORATION?

We need to know that there are many, including believers, who do not take the record of the global flood in Genesis seriously. They consign the account to a moral lesson without regarding the narrative as actual fact – as TRUTH!

We need to know that spiritualizing the texts in Scripture...reducing the text to lessons we can learn in our lives...is not understanding AUTHORIAL INTENT. Understanding Authorial intent is comprehending what God intended for the people at that time to understand...and for us to understand what God was doing at that time as we read Scripture. Spiritualizing is not understanding God’s word. What is a moral lesson to one person, I can assure you, is not a moral lesson to everyone else in the world that is reading a particular passage in Scripture! The reason that God the Holy Spirit inspired the written record of Scripture (II Tim. 3:16) teaches that His word NEEDS to be understood!!! Biblical Principle!

SO...THEREFORE...we NEED to read the worldwide flood account in Genesis 6-8 as a – WORLDWIDE FLOOD - against the backdrop of sin, a fallen world, the promise of the “Seed of the woman” Who will be born and destroy the adversary, and the two groups of people in the world– the wicked and the righteous.

Gen. 6:5-7 - 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. (Every aspect of man’s nature had been corrupted by sin!) ⁶ And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved (pained; hurt) in His heart. (God’s sorrow at man’s

condition and the grief in His heart is striking! Knowing this about God should spur us on to walk worthy and to please Him [II Cor. 5:9]). 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 (grieved) that I have made them.'*

Remember – God had already offered the promise of redemption! God is faithful to His word...to His promises!

AND so we read...

⁸ But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Noah's favor is not earned but GRANTED by GOD! This was God's plan – a definite link in the "one story"....

Gen. 6:8 – *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*

Gen. 6:9 - *Noah was a just man (a righteous man – in a right relationship with God), perfect (complete-from God's perspective) in his generations. Noah walked with God.*

Grace precedes and produces righteousness! The flow of Gen. 6:8 followed by Gen. 6:9 verifies that Noah's righteous, complete life flows from GOD granting His grace and GOD declaring Noah as righteous and complete. Biblical principle!

We see God's redemptive pattern in these first few chapters in Genesis. We are seeing God's grace, mercy, gift of salvation in the midst of divine judgment! Biblical principle!

Grace was given to Noah because God is to be glorified as we look forward to His RESTORED creation!

BUT - WHY was there GREAT wickedness? Why is there "Then" in Gen. 6:5? What happened prior to Gen. 6:5?!

Gen. 6:1-4 - *Now it came to pass, when men (the Hebrew word means humanity) 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 (plead) with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.'* (It appears that God is giving 120 years to man to respond to His Spirit and to turn from wickedness – to repent.) 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.*

We need to know... 1) ...that one third of the angels fell with Lucifer (Rev. 12:4); 2) ...that the "sons of God" are noted in other passages as angels (Job 1:6); 3)...that fallen angels, in order to procreate physically, possessed human male bodies!

- ...there was much demonic activity in Jesus' day with demons possessing human hosts.
- ...these particular "sons of God" in Gen. 6:2 saw and took women of the human race.

What does that mean?

- ...these angels and the daughters of men?? Unnatural union! (God's design for marriage: Gen. 2:24). This was Satan's attempt to corrupt humankind's DNA! WHY?

We are given more insight through two NT references:

II Pet. 2:4-5 – speaks of fallen angels in Noah's day – *For if God did not spare the angels (which 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; These angels are connected to the flood. These angels are now in chains. There are fallen angels who are not in chains – demons.

Jude vv. 6-7 - And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, (angels are spirit beings) but left their own abode (taking on human flesh; going after human flesh. It appears that these angels possessed a human host and procreated with human women), He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; (These fallen angels who possessed a male human host and procreated with human women are reserved in EVERLASTING CHAINS until the judgment of the great day! [Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20) ⁷ as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, (Jude is comparing Sodom and Gomorrah with the angel activity in Gen. 6) having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, (the **angels** of Jude v. 6, and the words ‘gone after strange flesh’ refer to their unnatural sexual union) are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Result of the unnatural union in Gen. 6:4 - Nephilim.

⁴ There were giants (nephilim; fallen ones; mighty ones) 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.

The giants refer to the unnatural offspring of the union between the sons of God and the daughters of men. These were unique because of the demonic element of their parentage. They were the mighty men of old, men of renown.

“Giants” - Heb. Nef-eel – *Nephilim* - giants; root – naw-fal - *fallen ones*.

The Septuagint (Hebrew Bible translated into Greek) translated *Nephilim* as “gigantes” which, in Latin, means “Titan” – part man/part god. *Those* (the children from the union of fallen angels and mankind) *were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.* If Gen. 6:1-4 is not speaking about intermarriage between fallen angels and humans, how are we to understand II Pet. 2:4-5 and Jude vv. 6-7?

WHY is this important for us to understand? Satan attempted to pollute the human bloodline globally! The attempt on Satan’s part was to cancel out the prophecy of Gen. 3:15 – to prevent the coming of the “Seed of the woman.” Could the Savior of the world be born to one whose genetic pool was so severely tainted?

How can we understand the flood in light of God’s plan, of the “one story”?

Consider the preponderance of evidence that we have in this world regarding the TRUTH of a massive catastrophic global flood. What does that PROCLAIM about God – Who He is – His promise of redemption and restoration – His desire to have a relationship with man? Rom. 5:20b - where sin abounded, grace abounded much more.

The ark that Noah constructed has been noted as a type of Jesus:

Gen. 6:14 – the ark was made watertight with pitch inside and out. “Pitch” in the Hebrew is *kaphar* which means to cover/purge/make atonement/make reconciliation (between parties [Biblically – between God and man]). *Kaphar* is used 70 times in the Bible to mean atonement as it relates to blood sacrifice. In Gen. 6 it means price of a life/ransom price. Jesus paid the penalty for our sin.

Gen. 6:16 - ...*set the door of the ark in its side*. There was only one way into the vessel of deliverance – the ark. The ark furnished one door. John 10:9 – *I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved....*

Gen. 7:16 – *So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.*

Gen. 8:3-4 – *And the waters receded continually from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters decreased. Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month*

Peter connects the ark with Jesus' resurrection (I Pet. 3:20-22). The 17th of the 7th month, when the ark rested on Ararat, is amazing! WHY? Stay tuned (maybe)!

QUESTIONS

What was new to you?

What impacted you?

What didn't you understand?

Are you going to share this with others? Who?

SUGGESTED HOMEWORK

Reread Week 8 with the Biblical references.

Note the Biblical principles. Are you keeping a journal?

Share this lesson with someone.

Read Week 9 when you receive it!