

September 3rd, 2017
Pinecrest Baptist Church
a.m.

Sermon Series: The Days of Noah
Sermon #2 Title: The Trouble with Yesterday
Sermon #2 Text: Genesis 6:1-3

I believe that every thinking Christian is looking forward to that blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. – If that is not a comforting thought, and thrilling hope to your heart, either you are so backslidden you couldn't see the light through a barbed wire fence, or you are just flat lost.

- Every Christian that knows the Lord, knows He's coming and is anxious to see Him.

1st John 3:3 – “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.” – What a joy it will be to see the man from Nazareth, the Lord Jesus Christ come to get us.

It is with that thought that we have been told to watch for His coming, and to work while we watch. Our Lord, however is so good, while He has not told us the when He is coming, He has told us what to Watch For, concerning His coming, and one of the key things that He told us in Luke 17:26 – “And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.”

- As we started last week, we are learning the history of the world, and looking to learn what we can about the Days of Noah.

As we look at Genesis 6:1-3, we see two overarching characteristics in the first 2 verses that speak to the conditions of those times that the Lord is making reference to. We also see one characteristic of God that we cannot overlook.

Characteristic #1 - Demonic Dominance

- vs 1-2 – *“And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.*

- “sons of God”

*Note – Without any question, one of the number one questions pertaining to Genesis 6 is in verse 2, identifying the “sons of God.” – Who is the Lord speaking of?

- There are two schools of thought, and either one of them is right, or both of them are wrong.

- Thought #1 – and the most popular thought among what I call “realist” theologians is that these people are the descendants of Seth. Out of Seth would eventually come Noah, out of Noah would come Shem, out of Shem would come Israel, and out of Israel would come Jesus, and so Seth has historically been called the “Godly Line”, and therefore these “sons of God” must refer to the godly line of Seth.

- Thought #2 – and most popular among what I might call the “fantasy science fiction” theologians is the thought that these are fallen angels/demonic spirits. That these were those rebels of heaven who the Lord banished from glory, who came an inhabited the earth in the form of demons, (or devils.)

*Note – Now in order to learn about our times, as Jesus said, we must look at these times, and learn to discern what the scriptures are speaking of.

- Now all of that being said, I want to tell you this morning, from the scripture why I believe we must see these sons of God, as the followers of Lucifer, the fallen angels.
(Now let me say this – we are not fantasy, science fiction theologians. – but there is no need to be, in order let the scripture speak for itself.)

Let me give you 3 reasons I believe, we must read these as “fallen angels.”

#1 – Other Scriptures Refer to the sons of God as Angels

- Job 1:6 – *“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.” (again Job 2:1)*
- Job 38:4-7 – *“Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”*

*Note – The phrase, “the sons of God” is never applied to any form of “godly line” of anyone in scripture until, After the cross of Christ. – “To as many as believe on Him, to them he gave the power to become the sons of God.” – John 1:12

- In scripture that phrase or title is never applied to anyone based upon their blood line. – The only time that concept or

phrase or thought is used apart from a saving relationship with the Lord, is in the book of Job.

#2 – Demons Do Indwell People who Can and Do Marry

*Note – The first, and foremost objection that people make to this is the fact that Jesus speaking of the angles said, “they neither marry or are given in marriage.” – Which is categorically true. That has nothing do with whether or not fallen angels indwell lost men, or take on human form, and hijack holy matrimony.

There is a clear distinction made in the scriptures between the state of Fallen Angels, and the State of the Faithful Angels.

- The Bible tells us that the Fallen Angels – “Kept not their first estate”

- Jude 1:6 – “And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.”

- In the Bible we see the Faithful Angels, always in the form of men.

- the angels that visited Abraham were like men...

- the angels that carried Lot out of Sodom were like men...

- the angels at the garden tomb of the Lord Jesus were like “young men”... according to the scriptures.

- Hebrews 13:2 – tells us to “Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unaware.”

- But in the Bible we see the “fallen angels” always masquerading, indwelling, and taking over some other

created form. – Having left their first estate, they attempt to hijack other living creatures – both men and animals.

- The Bible tells us that “Satan entered into Judas” – Now friend that is Fallen Angel taking over a Lost Man.
- Before that, Satan had entered into a serpent in the garden. – (There are two examples of an inhabiting angel, one in an animal, and one in a man.)

*Note – But now preacher, that’s the devil! – As the devil goes, so goes his angels. (Matthew 25:41 tells us that hell was prepared for “the devil and his angels.”

- the gospels are full of these demon spirits, fallen spirits, angel spirits, inhabiting the minds, wills, and bodies of people.

- the maniac at Gadara, the most famous
- the various exorcisms that dot the landscape of the scriptures.

- furthermore the Apostle Paul expressed to us how these fallen angels fill the hearts and minds of men and women who have rejected the gospel, but masquerade as Christian pastors and preachers . . .

“And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.” – 2 Corinthians 11:14-15

*Note – I said all of that to say it is no small thing for a fallen angel to inhabit fallen men, and control fallen men, and/or to take on the form of a man.

#3 – There is No Marriage in Heaven for Anyone – this doesn’t take place in heaven.

*Note – But preacher, even if it were fallen angels in Genesis 6, they don’t marry . . . Before you quote something they have to read it.

- *Matthew 22:30 – “For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.”*

*Note – Mind you, fallen angels aren’t in heaven, and fallen angels are not in their first estate, and fallen angels indwell human flesh.

- *Mark 12:25 – “For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven.”*

*Note – Now listen – There is no marriage in heaven, whether you’re speaking of angels or not! You won’t be married in heaven, but you are and can, and do ON earth!

*Note – Now I went through all of that, just to say this – Genesis chapter 6 is a picture of a Category 6 Demonic Invasion. The population of planet earth was saturated with sinful flesh, welcoming of Demonic activity!

*Note – Now notice two things about this before we move on. This demonic dominance was –

A. Welcomed by the World.

1.) Verse 3 – “My spirit shall not always strive with man.”

- The Lord God of heaven here, didn’t blame “the sons of God” for the conditions here, He blamed the sons of men, for state of this world.

- When you look at verse 1 of chapter 6 – “All things are as they were instructed to be.” – There is categorically nothing wrong in verse 1.

- Verse 1 is after the fall of Adam, and before the Flood, and this verse is sort of “picturesque”.

Humanity has grown, and learned, and developed, and society has been constructed, and life has some form of what God instructed about filling the earth.

When you study through chapter 4, you realize that:

- Agriculture had developed
- Metallurgy had developed
- Music had developed
- Construction and engineering had developed

(By the way, all of which came through the descendants of Cain.)

- You have a general thumbnail sketch of humanity prior to the flood.

- But then you come to verse 2, and these “sons of God” had been acclimated and welcomed into the norms and accepted practices of society.

- These demonic spirits and attitudes had become woven into the fabric of normal everyday life.

- What you have in verse 3, is not the Lord dressing down these sons of God – They have already been judged! The Lord now addresses the sons of men. –

- Those spirits that had orchestrated a defiant rebellion against God in heaven – had become a welcomed and warmed into the civilized society of sinners.

- What had been blasphemous to God, was treated like a blessing among men.

B. Ruled over Righteousness.

1.) Chapter 4:26 – The Bible says, “To Seth there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the Lord.”

*Note – the indictment against society wasn’t that they didn’t know better, the indictment against society was that they DID know better!

a.) When Enos was born, “Men began to call upon the name of Yahweh”

*Note – This is not Elohim, the creator God, this is Yahweh the Personal God. It was not that the Lord’s righteousness was Void in Society, it had Vanished from Society.

b.) In Chapter 4:26 – Men knew who to call upon – Yahweh (Yehovah)

c.) In Chapter 6:2 – The spirits of Satan were so normal and welcome in society.

Society was not Known by the Men who called upon the name of Jehovah, Society was Saturated with Satanic spirits possessing the people of a fallen world.

Characteristic #2 – Mutiny Marriages – “the daughters of men that were fair; and they took them wives of all of which they chose.”

*Note – It must be noticed that institution of Marriage is the central subject of Jesus admonition in Luke 17 pertaining to this time period. It must be noticed that among all of the other traits and characteristics of the pre-flood society, the first, primal issue that the Bible centers on, is the issue of Marriage!

(Now let me say this before we move on. – Marriage was a first, central issue with God that preceded the judgment of the flood. – Jesus said, just like the days of Noah, Marriage will be a first central issue with God that precedes the final judgment.)

A. Sinfully Sanctioned Ceremonies – In other words, in principle, these were marriages that God rejected, but society sanctified.

1.) The language Dr.’s tell us that this phrase, “took them wives” was the Hebraic expression for a legal marital transaction.

- In other words it was a legal and officially recognized matrimony.

(Now whatever else may be said about it, you have a marriage sanctioned by society, but is sickening to the Lord.)

- Verse 6 – “And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.”

When what society sanctions makes the Lord sickened, we are living like the days and years before the flood.

B. Prevailing Perverted Practices

1.) “they took them wives all of which they chose”

a.) Implies indiscriminate, or thoughtless marriage – in other words, marriage was not something sacred, or holy, it was something that was for mere pleasure, here today and gone tomorrow.

b.) Implies Open Marriages, or Polygamous Marriages.

- the term all – means, Any, All, and Every
(1.) 4:19 – The Bible tells us that Lamech introduced “polygamy” into the world – “And Lamech took two wives: the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other was Zillah.”

- the term for “wives” – means wife, but equally is translated woman, or female.

*Note – Whatever else may be said, it can be said that the Solid and Settled Practice of one man for one woman had all been but rejected by human society in the generation prior to the flood.

- The sanctity of Marriage is a central issue with Almighty God!

- I believe no generation since the generation of Noah has openly attacked, and blatantly denied, and defied that institution like the generation that we live in.

- God is so opposed to so-called open marriages, and polygamous matrimony that He allowed through Moses the writing of divorcement.

- In the generations before the flood and following the flood, in that male dominated society, men didn’t get divorced from their wife they just added to their harem. – That’s why Jesus told the Pharisees, that due to the hardness of the heart, Moses granted divorces.

- God hates divorce yes – But one of the key reasons that He destroyed the world was because they Mutinied by Marriage – perverting what God ordained.

- We are all aware that the nations and countries of the world have plummeted off the cliff in the last 3 years sanctioning same-sex marriage.

- In June of this year, the country of Columbia opened the door to polyamorous, or multiple people unions. 3 men were recognized as a legal married union by the country of Columbia.

- In Noah’s day – the mutiny of man that begins in the heart made its way to the sanctity of marriage and demanded to be the ones to define it, as they saw fit.

Characteristic #3 – Settled Sentence

Verse 3 – “And the Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh; yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.”

- the word for “strive” here means to “judge, or plead with”
- This idea of judgement is to rule over with discernment, and to plead with.

A. The End of the Patience of the Lord – “My spirit will not always strive with man.”

**Note – This is the Lord’s declaration that there will be an end to His patience with humanity. He will not always contend, plead, discern and oversee, all the workings of the human society.*

- Listen to me – His Mercy endures forever – but His patience will come to an end.

This is His declaration for all of the human race even after the flood. – Mankind.

B. The Immediate Punishment From the Lord – “his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.”

- The Lord set the timer for the generation of Noah, and he set it for 120 years. – It was not the Final generation, but it was a Fatal Generation.

**Note – That Generation was given the specific amount of time they had left, and it meant nothing to them.*

- They were not merely careless and clueless toward the Word, Will, and Ways of God, they were defiant and rebellious toward them, and there was no amount of warning, no amount of preaching, no amount of pleading with them, would change their Demon-possessed souls, and the Lord said, “I’m finished with this society.”

Conclusion – I will end like I began. Jesus said, “As it was in the days of Noah, eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage so shall it be in the days of the Son of man.”

- To wake up to the condition of our days, is to know the condition of their days, and realize that history is repeating itself.