

Genesis 6-8 demonstrates God's response to human sin:

Judgment

2 Peter 3:3-7

[3] In the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, [4] and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation." [5] For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, [6] through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. [7] But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

Four Examples of God's Judgment

- The Fall (Genesis 3)
- The Flood (Genesis 6-8)
- The Tower of Babel (Genesis 11)
- Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 18-19)

What does God consider worthy of judgment in Genesis 6-8?

- The "sons of God" passage (6:1-4)
- Man's wicked heart (6:5)
- Violence (6:11-13)

Genesis 6:1-4: Who are the “sons of God”? What is the offense?

-View 1: “sons of God” = angels

Offense: Mixing of angelic beings with human women.

-View 2: “sons of God” = godly men

Offense: Mixing of godly men with ungodly women.

Questions about View 2: (“sons of God” = godly men)

-Was Seth’s line a godly line?

-Was marriage between Seth’s line and Cain’s line forbidden?

-What about Adam and Eve’s other children?

-How would the marriage of godly men to ungodly women produce giants?

Support for View 1: (“sons of God” = angels)

-An argument from context (Genesis 6:1-2)

-An argument from cross-references.

Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7

“sons of God” = angels

1 Peter 3:18-20

[18] For Christ also died for sins, once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; [19] in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, [20] who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

2 Peter 2:4-10

[4] For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment; [5] and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; [6] and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter; [7] and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men [8] (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds), [9] then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment, [10] and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires and despise authority.

Jude 6-7

[6] And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day, [7] just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

Questions about View 1: (“sons of God” = angels)

- How would angelic beings reproduce?
- Why would God judge men for the sin of angels?

God's Patience Has an End

Genesis 6:3

[3] Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

Genesis 15:13-16

[13] God said to Abram, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years. . . .

[16] Then in the fourth generation they will return here, for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet complete."

Exodus 20:5-6

[5] You shall not worship them [idols] or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, [6] but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Does God Change His Mind?

Genesis 6:6-7

[6] The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. [7] The LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them."

Numbers 23:19

[19] God is not a man that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and He will not make good?

1 Samuel 15

[11] "I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following Me and has not carried out My commands."

[35] The LORD regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.

[29] Also the Glory of Israel will not lie or change His mind; for He is not a man that He should change His mind.