

# **The Book of Beginnings**

## **God, the Gracious Judge** **Lesson 3** **Genesis 6-8**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*  
*September 17, 2017*

# Study Materials

- ▶ Coming to Grips with Genesis, Mortenson and Thane (editors)
- ▶ Pastor Will's sermons on Genesis 1-11
- ▶ Genesis 1-11

# Genesis 1-11

- ▶ The need for the work of salvation
  - Sovereign creation by the Triune God
  - Mankind – a unique creation among all flesh
  - The ruin of creation by sin
  - The curse of God on man and all creation
- ▶ The fallen creation
  - Hostility to God
  - Total depravity (Genesis 6:5 and 8:21)
  - The difficulty of living under the curse
  - Death (Genesis 5) - “and he died” (x8)

# Genesis 1-11

## ▶ God and His fallen creation

- Impersonal
  - Abel not addressed personally
  - Days of Enosh - “Men began to call upon the name of the LORD” (Gen 4:26)
  - Enoch “walked with God” (Gen 5:22)
  - Lamech named Noah (Gen 5:29)
  - Noah – God spoke 3 times and Noah obeyed
- Prosperity of the wicked
- Wrath of God dominates

## ▶ The shadows of salvation

- Genesis 3:15
- Noah found grace . . .
- God’s Covenant revealed – details yet to be revealed
- Preservation of the Seed (genealogies)

## ▶ An impossible dream

# Lamech's Hope (5:28-30)

- ▶ Noah – named in expectation of “comfort” (“rest” in 6:29)
- ▶ This family expected that God’s curse would be lifted
- ▶ Only prior statement is Genesis 3:15.
- ▶ Only other hint is the requirement to “do well” (Genesis 4:7)
- ▶ For 1656 years, sin and wrath dominated (Adam, Eve, Cain).

# God's Plan for Creation (6:1-5)

## ▶ The Nephilim

- Sons of God married the daughters of men
- “Sons of God” are angels in Job (Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7)
- 2 Peter 2:4-5 – angels cast into tartarus at time of flood
- Jude 6 – angels abandoned their proper abode and now kept in eternal bonds
- SLJ – May be attempt by Satan to counterfeit the incarnation and prevent it

## ▶ The godly seed – Seth's line

## ▶ Men of renown and mighty men

## ▶ “Every intent of the thoughts of the heart was only evil continually”

- A problem in the heart
- All men, including Noah and his family

# God's Plan for Creation (6:6-13)

- ▶ Blot out man, all flesh and the earth (6:7)
- ▶ Spirit will not strive – probably predicts the flood in 120 years (6:3)
- ▶ The LORD was sorry for creation of man . . . grieved in heart
- ▶ Destroy or corrupt = “ruin”
- ▶ Earth ruined by a ruined humanity, so God will ruin the earth
- ▶ No human solution in sight – and no desire for one.

# God's Plan for Creation (6:8-9, 18)

- ▶ A wonderful plan
- ▶ Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD
- ▶ The basis for God's grace
  - The promise of Genesis 3:15
  - "My Covenant" (6:18)
- ▶ The result of God's grace
  - Noah was a righteous man
  - Noah was blameless in his time
  - Noah walked with God
  - "You shall enter the ark . . ." (6:18)
- ▶ Justification by faith (Hebrews 11:6-7)
- ▶ God remembered Noah and the animals (8:1)



# God's Plan for Creation (6:14-17)

## ▶ The flood (6:17)

- Hebrew word for the flood only used in Genesis and Psalm 29:10
- Greek word for Noah's flood is "cataclysmic"
- Destroy all flesh and everything on the earth
- An act of God equated with creation and the coming wrath (2 Peter 3:3-7)

## ▶ The ark

- Unique word only used in Genesis 6-9 and in Exodus 2:3, 5 (Moses' basket)
- External dimensions 300 cubits x 50 cubits x 30 cubits (450ft x 75ft x 45ft)
- "Rooms" – literally "nests" (6:14)
- "Window" – literally "roof" (6:16)
- 3 "decks" – added as text only says "lower, second and third" (6:16)
- Noah to take his family, animals and food.

# The Flood (6:18-7:16)

- ▶ Four very similar descriptions of entering the ark
  - 6:18-22 – “You shall enter” + family and animals
  - 7:1-6 – “Enter the ark”+ family and animals
  - 7:7-12 – “Noah . . . entered the ark”+ family and animals
  - 7:13-16 – “Noah . . . entered the ark”+ family and animals
- ▶ Reasons given in first 2 accounts
  - My covenant (6:18)
  - Noah’s righteousness (7:1)
  - Ezekiel 14:14, 20 – limits the value of Noah’s righteousness
- ▶ Final 2 accounts
  - Noah entered with family
  - Animals went “to Noah” v. “bring” and “take with you” in first 2 accounts
  - Flood began

# The Flood (7:17-8:14)

- ▶ 40 days and nights
  - Fountains of the great deep; floodgates of the sky (7:11)
  - Flood prevailed upon the earth for 150 days
- ▶ Important dates:
  - Door closed: age of Noah = 600 years, 2<sup>nd</sup> month, 17<sup>th</sup> day (7:11)
  - Ark rested on Mt Ararat = 600 years, 7<sup>th</sup> month, 17<sup>th</sup> day (8:4)
  - Mountain tops visible = 600 years, 10<sup>th</sup> month, 1<sup>st</sup> day (8:5)
  - Water dried up = 601 years, 1<sup>st</sup> month, 1<sup>st</sup> day (8:13)
  - Noah left the ark on dry land = 601 years, 2<sup>nd</sup> month, 27<sup>th</sup> day (8:13-14)
- ▶ Waiting: 7 days before the flood; 57 days after the flood

# The End of the Flood (8:15-22)

- ▶ God remembered (8:1)
  - Sent a wind
  - Closed the fountains of the deep and the floodgates of the sky
  - Took another 7 months before it was safe to leave the ark
- ▶ God spoke to Noah (8:15-17)
- ▶ Noah obeyed (8:18-19)
- ▶ Noah built an altar and offered a burnt offering – sin offering
- ▶ God responded
  - Never again curse the ground because of man
  - Never again destroy every living thing as I have done
  - Preservation of the earth
- ▶ An unfinished message

# Lessons from the Flood

- ▶ Isaiah 54:9-10
  - The covenant of peace – everlasting lovingkindness
- ▶ Ezekiel 14:14, 20
  - The righteousness of a mere man will not suffice to satisfy God
- ▶ Matt 24:37-38; Luke 17:26
  - The days of Noah are a warning to unbelievers of certain wrath
- ▶ Hebrews 11:6-7
  - Noah became an heir of righteousness by faith
- ▶ 1 Peter 3:20
  - The deliverance by the ark is a figure of baptism – union with Christ
- ▶ 2 Peter 3:3-6
  - One of 3 Divine interventions – Creation, the Flood, the Day of the Lord