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
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
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\(^{nd}\) month, 17\(^{th}\) day (7:11)
  - Ark rested on Mt Ararat = 600 years, 7\(^{th}\) month, 17\(^{th}\) day (8:4)
  - Mountain tops visible = 600 years, 10\(^{th}\) month, 1\(^{st}\) day (8:5)
  - Water dried up = 601 years, 1\(^{st}\) month, 1\(^{st}\) day (8:13)
  - Noah left the ark on dry land = 601 years, 2\(^{nd}\) month, 27\(^{th}\) 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 or 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