




GENESIS									
	Creation	Fall	Flood	Nations		Abraham	Isaac	Jacob	Joseph
	CHAPTERS 1–2	CHAPTERS 3–5	CHAPTERS 6–9	CHAPTERS 10–11		CHAPTERS 12–25	CHAPTERS 26–27	CHAPTERS 28–36	CHAPTERS 37–50
Beginnings	Beginning of the human race					Beginning of the chosen race			
Result	Confusion and scattering					Bondage in Egypt			
History	Primeval history					Patriarchal history			
Chronology	Over 2,000 years					Approximately 300 years			
Emphasis	Four major events					Four important people			
Key Words and Phrases	“In the beginning” (1:1) “Generations” (5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; 11:27; 25:12; 25:19; 36:1; 37:2)								
Theme	God promises to redeem and bless His people.								
Key Verses	3:15; 12:3								
Christ in Genesis	Pictured in the seed of the woman (3:15); Melchizedek, the high priest (14:18); the humiliation and exaltation of Joseph (chapters 37–50)								

Copyright © 1978, 1996, 2009 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights reserved worldwide.

Copyright © 1978, 1996, 2009 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights reserved worldwide.

## Chapter 6

**Verse 1-** *Now it came about, when mankind began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them,*

Moses now writes from a wider spectrum. Instead of just focusing on the generational lines of Cain and Seth, he now focuses on humanity as a whole.

Procreation is seen as a sign of God's blessing and command, and now daughters (females) are discussed. Obviously, they are necessary for the multiplication of mankind.



## Chapter 6

**Verse 2-** *that the sons of God saw that the daughters of mankind were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.*

This is a highly discussed verse. Bible scholars have proposed three main views:

1. Fallen angels who took human wives and created a race of physical giants.
2. Human judges/rulers (aristocrats) who fathered heroes of old.
3. The righteous men of Seth's line who married the ungodly women of Cain's line (and other women) resulting in immensely wicked offspring.

*daughters of mankind were beautiful-* There are clues in the names of Lamech's (from the line of Cain) wives- Adah means "ornament," and Zillah means "cymbal- sweet voice." One spoke or sang beautifully, and the other looked beautiful. His focus was the physical, not the spiritual, which seemed to be a family trait. It could be a simple case of lust over love, something to which the Sethite men could have succumbed. Polygamy is now becoming common, but it is against the plan of God.

## Chapter 6

**Verse 3-** *Then the Lord said, "My Spirit will not remain with man forever, because he is also flesh; nevertheless his days shall be 120 years."*

This could mean that God will give ample time for mankind to repent (120 years) before He enacts judgment on their total wickedness. He always warns before He judges.

Another view is that God is the Giver and Sustainer of life. Because of the sinfulness of man and their actions (inter-marriage between the godly and ungodly), God shortens the lifespan of men because of the wicked lives they are living. After the Flood, men lived about one-tenth of the time they did before in the antediluvian period.



## Chapter 6

**Verse 4-** *The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of mankind, and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.*

*The Nephilim-* (*nephal* = to fall) These men were not a result of “the sons of God marrying the daughters of men.” They existed during the same time as the Sons of God were on the earth.

*sons of God-* Some believe these are the angels now demons who fell from heaven after Lucifer’s rebellion. They later inhabited human bodies to cohabit with human women resulting in the birth of a race of half-human giants (Nephilim). If they took over the earth completely, there wouldn’t be a godly line left to produce the Messiah.

Others suppose that the godly men of the Sethite line (sons of God) fell into sin as they cohabited with women from the wicked line of Cain, resulting in men who acted against the will of God, just as the men in the Cainite line were known to do. There were Nephilim after the flood (Numbers 13:33), suggesting these were not fallen demons.

## Chapter 6

**Verse 4-** *The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of mankind, and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.*

*mighty men-* The *gibborim* (*gibbor* = strong) These men were known leaders who were wicked, much like the Nephilim.



## Chapter 6

**Verse 5-** *Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of mankind was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually.*

This is the beginning of a tragic end. In Chapter 1:31, the earth and all of God's creation were perfect:

*"God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day."*

In studying the ten generations before the Flood, it is clear that mankind had an almost unbroken eyewitness account of man since Adam, yet they began rejecting God and His will for them. All they thought about was doing evil. Before God will destroy the world again, we will return to this type of behavior. Matthew 24:37-39:

*For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

## Chapter 6

**Verse 6-** *So the Lord was sorry that He had made mankind on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.*

*was sorry-* God knew man would rebel against Him even before He created the world. Even though God knew He would be sorry and grieved, He still created mankind and watched as they grew more wicked with each passing generation.

Some Bible versions translate the word for "sorry" (way·yin·nā·ḥe) as "repented" (KJV, ASV). God cannot sin, so He did no wrong in creating mankind, but He regretted the decision humans made to live outside of His will.

*grieved in His heart-* This is to further explain God's sorrow. We learn from Paul's writing that even today, it is possible to grieve God:

*Ephesians 4:30- Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*



## Chapter 6

**Verse 7-** *Then the Lord said, "I will wipe out mankind whom I have created from the face of the land; mankind, and animals as well, and crawling things, and the birds of the sky. For I am sorry that I have made them."*

This is the second time we read that God was sorry. His solution to mankind's continual wickedness was based on wrath and mercy. Wrath is the response to continual sin, but later we see mercy in God sparing Noah and his family.

Our sin never affects just us. There is always lost opportunities for relationship, doing good, obeying God, etc., when we sin, others suffer too.

Man was given dominion (authority) over all the animals of the earth. Since they were under his control, they suffered his fate too. The entire universe was changed by the fall of Adam and Eve, but God only destroyed mankind and the animals, crawling things, and birds. He will spare the universe until Revelation 21, when He will create "a new heaven and a new earth," another act of his wrath and mercy.

## Chapter 6

**Verse 8-** *But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.*

Because of God's mercy, humanity and animal life will continue.

Who else found favor (*hen* = grace) in the eyes of the Lord?

Abraham	Genesis 18:3-5
Lot	Genesis 19:19
Laban	Genesis 30:27
Jacob	Genesis 32:5
Shechem	Genesis 34:11
Joseph	Genesis 39:4-5
Sons of Israel	Exodus 12:35-36
Moses	Exodus 33:17
Daniel	Daniel 1:9
Any believer!	Proverbs 8:35- <i>For one who finds me finds life and obtains favor from the Lord.</i>



## Chapter 6

**Verse 9-** *These are the records of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God.*

*records of the generations of Noah-* This section is similar to chapter 5, which involves the “generations of Adam.”

*righteous-* This is the first occurrence of the word “righteous” (ṣaddîq) in Scripture. It is used again in 7:1- “*Then the Lord said to Noah, ‘Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this generation.’*” It characterizes his right relationship with God, unlike the wicked people of the earth.

*blameless- (tāmîm)* This is also later used for animals sacrificed to God in the temple. Noah is in right relationship with God and will be spared from death in the Flood.

*walked with God-* Again, this is a description of Noah that reminds us of his ancestor Enoch who walked with God in this godly line.

## Chapter 6

**Verse 10-** *And Noah fathered three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.*

*Shem, Ham, and Japheth-* It could be that Noah didn’t have any other sons and daughters other than Shem (“name”), Ham (“hot” or “black”), and Japheth (“God will enlarge”) so he would be spared the sorrow of seeing them drown. Not much is known of these three sons or their wives before the Flood.



## Chapter 6

**Verse 11-** *Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence.*

There is a repetition of God's reason for sending the Flood. Moses, in verse 5, lets us know that mankind thought of evil only. Every single thought every day was sinful, and in this verse, we learn that they acted on their evil thoughts in violent acts.

*violence- (hamas)* Mankind in the antediluvian world were disobedient to God, they are harsh and abusive to each other.

## Chapter 6

**Verse 12-** *And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for humanity had corrupted its way upon the earth.*

This verse is shocking. Of the possible billions of people on the earth (imagine the population of the earth today), EVERYONE was corrupt EVERYWHERE. Not one person thought of good. It only took 1656 years from Adam for the world to become COMPLETELY bad.

The godly line of Seth, mankind's only hope, had collapsed as their men intermarried with the Cainite women. Only the last eight people in Seth's line were not corrupt.

Unless God intervened, not even those last eight people would be left, and the entire world would be evil.



## Chapter 6

**Verse 13-** *Then God said to Noah, “The end of humanity has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence because of people; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.*

God finally tells Noah the result of man’s complete wickedness and violence. He will soon destroy mankind on the earth with the earth. He will use one part of His creation to destroy the other part. The world will be the instrument of man’s destruction.

Noah must have been grieved and frightened. Would Noah be the only one saved? God doesn’t mention sparing Noah’s family until later when He instructs him on how to build the ark (verse 18).

**Next week...**

**Chapter 7-**

**“The Flood”**

