

Genesis 6:1-12  
Introduction to the Flood

- 1) The end of the record of Adam—6:1-8 (end of 2<sup>nd</sup> *toledoth* that began in 5:1)
  - a) What people were seeing—6:1-4
    - i) Fulfilling the command and promise to increase—6:1 (cf. 1:22, 28; 3:16)
    - ii) Intermarriage between two distinct groups—6:2
      - (1) What happened? They saw good/beautiful women and married them
      - (2) Identifying the two groups
        - (a) Some see this as fallen angels intermarrying with human women
        - (b) Some see this as kings/nobles intermarrying with common people
        - (c) Some see this as Seth's godly line intermarrying with Cain's ungodly line
        - (d) Some see this as the normal intermarrying of men and women
    - iii) Yahweh responds with a warning—6:3
      - (1) Grant a period of time for repentance, i.e. 120 years until the Flood
      - (2) Begin to shorten the lifespan of mankind to 120 years maximum
    - iv) The celebrities of the day—6:4
      - (1) Society was aware of certain unique men—giants (LXX)/Nephilim (Hebrew)—cf. Numbers 13:30-33
      - (2) Children born to these marriages were well-known warriors
  - b) What Yahweh was seeing—6:5-8
    - i) Yahweh's response—6:5-7
      - (1) The Sovereign's *omniscience* demonstrated—6:5
        - External and internal sin, sinning exclusively and persistently
      - (2) The Creator's *grief* demonstrated—6:6 (cf. 3:16-17)
        - Compare 3 words with 5:29: sorry/comfort, made/work, and grieved/toil
      - (3) The Sovereign's *will* demonstrated—6:7
        - To judge all living creatures, to prevent violent wickedness from completely destroying mankind
    - ii) The gracious contrast revealed—6:8
      - God expresses His favor toward Noah
- 2) The beginning of the record of Noah—6:9-12 (the 3<sup>rd</sup> *toledoth*; going through 9:29)
  - a) God's moral description of Noah specifically—6:9
    - These three traits are the results of grace, not the cause of grace
  - i) Vertical: *just*—conforming to God's standard (cf. Ezekiel 14:14, 20)
  - ii) Horizontal: *perfect*—blameless among his contemporaries
  - iii) Vertical: *walked with God*—in harmony with and obedient to God (cf. 5:22, 24)
- b) Noah's sons—6:10
  - In order of spiritual significance, not birth (cf. 9:24; 10:2)
- c) God's moral description of living creatures in general—6:11-12
  - i) Corrupted/ruined God's original purpose for them
  - ii) Filled with violence toward God's other creatures
  - iii) All creatures morally accountable to God