

Bible Study # 8 & 9

Bible Study # 8
December 8, 1987
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Old Testament Series—Genesis 4—9 (Part 1)
(Chart at end)

This is a very crucial area. We **are going to spend a little time on this part because beginnings are crucial. This has to do with the foundation this world's society is based on.** There is a great deal of information packed in here. Genesis 4-6 summarizes one thousand six hundred fifty years in a matter of three chapters. Approximately one-quarter of human history occurred prior to the flood. Genesis 7-9 gives details surrounding the flood.

As we focus in on this section, here in Genesis, there are a number of things helpful for us to realize. In addition to the Biblical account, we have certain traditions and history. Josephus was a contemporary to the Apostle Paul. He lived during that time. One of the reasons his account is so important is that there were records preserved in the temple—historical documentation preserved through the priestly family—that were burned up during the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. The only account we have of this is through Josephus. What we gain from him is the understanding that the priests had of these accounts.

We have tradition, the stories preserved by other nations. All nations have in common the fact that they all derive from the family of Noah. All nations, all over the world, have a certain tradition of the flood.

During this period of time we are covering this evening, civilization was based primarily in Egypt. The history of the pre-flood world centers in Egypt. One of the things that we are going to find is that the world's civilization is primarily derived from Cain, and that shouldn't be a surprise. Who is the god of this world?

In Genesis 3:1-8, Adam and Eve had listened to Satan. They had performed an experiment. They checked it out and found out for themselves. While Adam knew better, he didn't do better. This society is good and evil. Man's civilization is a mixture. It is a poisonous mixture. It is a mixture of truth and error, and it is a fatal mixture. If everything about it were evil, then people could, perhaps, see through that more clearly. They chose to follow the best that man could come up with.

Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden, and God cut off access to the Garden. The Garden was destroyed in the flood. The Cherubim were there for about one-quarter of human history.

Genesis 4:1, "Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, 'I have gotten a man from the Lord.'" Commentators don't understand it. Eve had been told a short time earlier (3:15) that there would be the promised Seed of woman who would come forth as the Savior; the Redeemer. She thought her first-born son was that seed. Cain grew up with this attitude. This was how Cain viewed himself. The word "Cain" means "get"; that was his way. The way of Cain was the way of get.

Verses 2-5, "Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel [may indicate that they were twins]. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. [Notice what happened] Abel also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry and his countenance fell."

Verse 3, "In the process of time..." or "At the end of the days..."—The time of the harvest. At this time, Cain brought of the fruit of the ground—not the firstfruits. Abel brought of the firstlings of the flock. It shows a fundamental difference in attitude.

In Genesis 3:21, God took an animal and made garments from those animal skins. Undoubtedly, God explained certain things to them about that. How did they know about sacrifices? When He slaughtered those animals that would have been the occasion to explain that "without the shedding of blood there was no remission of sins" (Hebrews 9:22)?

That looked forward to the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. God introduced that concept to mankind. Abel brought a sin offering. He recognized that he was a sinner and had a right attitude. God was pleased with Abel's offering. Cain simply brought "something," and he didn't bring it in the right attitude.

Genesis 4:2, "...Cain was a tiller of the ground." Cain used improper farming methods. He forced the ground—probably the slash-and-burn method—with short-term gain and didn't worry about the long-term results. Cain didn't bring the best and didn't bring a sin offering. God was

pleased with Abel's offering, but He was not pleased with Cain's.

Verses 6-7, "So the Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.'"

He said, 'Why are you in a bad attitude? If you do well, don't you think that I would accept you? And if you don't do well, sin lies at the door. Cain, you have got to overcome. If you do what you are supposed to do, I will accept you the same as I accepted Abel. You have to recognize that sin lies at the door. If you don't overcome you are going to fall into something that will be very destructive to you.' Cain didn't take the instructions.

Verse 8, "Now Cain talked with Abel his brother and it came to pass when they were in the field that Cain rose against Abel his brother and killed him." He probably told him, 'You got me in trouble. You made me look bad.' We see our problems as what someone else did. 'I wouldn't have looked so bad if you hadn't looked so good.' He must not have been corrected very much. Spoiled! One who could do no wrong—Cain viewed himself this way. He wanted his own way and, undoubtedly, had gotten his way far too much. He murdered Abel.

Verse 9, "Then the Lord said to Cain, 'Where is Abel your brother?' And he said, 'I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?'" God simply asked to see what Cain would say. He wants to know how we will respond. Ever call your kids in? You already know, but you want to hear their response. Cain was going to try and bluff his way through.

Verse 10, "And He said, 'What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground.'"

Verses 11-13, "'So now you are cursed from the earth which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you [I am going to put you out of the farming business]. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth.' And Cain said to the Lord, 'My punishment is greater than I can bear!'"

'Woe is me!' Cain, when confronted, denied knowing anything about it. Then he immediately began to feel sorry for himself. 'Poor me! You are picking on me. My punishment is greater than I can bear.' Notice, his whole approach was of concern for self. 'You are being too hard on me.' No sorrow for what he had done.

Verse 14, "'Surely you have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth and it will happen that everyone who finds me will kill me.'"

—"...everyone who finds me will kill me." It would only take one.

Verse 15, "And the Eternal said to him, 'Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.' And the Lord set a *mark* on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him." —A marker.

The origin of the races has nothing to do with the mark of Cain. God is the author of different races. God originated the races. Some have been cursed or blessed for their actions. They have gotten results, whether blessings or curses, for their actions. The whole human race fell in line with the way of Cain, and as a result, violence filled the earth.

Deuteronomy 32:7-9, "'Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations. Ask your father, and he will show you; your elders, and they will tell you: when the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the boundaries of the peoples according to the number of the children of Israel. For the Lord's portion is His people, Jacob is the place of His inheritance.'"

—"...when He separated the sons of Adam..."

The races go all the way back to Adam. Your particular ethnic origin is the result of what your parents were. What about Adam and Eve? They didn't have parents or grandparents. Each egg in the girl contains the blueprint of her character; every man, in the sperm. In Eve, God made every egg cell that she was going to have—the blueprints. Every one of the races was what God wanted—all the various branches of the human family. Adam and Eve's children were different races. Their children did not have the same heredity. God purposed those races.

Verse 8, "'He set the boundaries of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.'"

There will be twelve gates in New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:12), one for each of the tribes of Israel. Jacob had twelve sons because God had purposed an organizational structure that was to be in the New Jerusalem. God knew where He was going before He started. That is why He will be satisfied when He gets there. God had a plan and a purpose. God is going to have a family, and that family will consist of literally billions of sons. It will be highly structured. The various

racers were designed into that. You talk about genetic engineering! God designed and invented genetics. He designed certain characteristics and things that were to be there. We find races derived from Adam and Eve.

Let us come back to *the mark of Cain* (Genesis 4: 15). It does not have to do with the origin of the races. It was a boundary mark between the land of human habitation and the land of Nod or the land of wandering (v. 16).

Here was a boundary line that was set up. It is very likely that a replica of this boundary marker came to be worn by Cain and his descendants as a good-luck charm. The cross dates back to all kinds of pagan antiquity. It did not originate with Christianity. We find this came to be established as the mark that would save his life. The church of Cain has the mark, worn every-which-way.

God could have executed Cain and chose not to do so for a specific reason. God wanted the lesson of experience written. God wanted man to learn what the results of that way produced. What was the result of Cain being left alive? He reproduced and had kids who reflected his own values—people ready to resort to violence.

Abel was righteous, and then others of Adam and Eve's children fell in between. Which one expanded? Did the way of Seth and Abel encompass the earth? No, the way of Cain did.

I Corinthians 5:6, "... 'a little leaven leavens the whole lump?'" Sin spreads; sin contaminates. If you allow certain things that we should not in a society, it will spread until it contaminates everybody. You cannot tolerate sin because sin spreads and contaminates. Contamination tends to spread in a way that righteousness does not. Sin has to be purged out.

God wanted a record to be written. He wanted man to realize that when sin is allowed to exist, it will contaminate. God said, 'You have chosen to know good and evil, and I am going to let you see, that when you mix good and evil, the evil drowns out the good.' You have to purge out the evil or it will ultimately destroy the good.

God exiled Cain. Josephus mentions several things about Cain. Cain invented a system of weights and measures. Cain was the first to set boundaries about land. Ability and character are two totally different things. His problem was not a lack of ability but lack of character. He was self-centered to the point that he was willing to do anything to get his way. He established a city and was the author of civilization in that way.

It is interesting when we go to Egyptian history (what is termed as the Old Kingdom of Egypt was pre-flood)—if you were to look at a listing

of the gods they worshipped and what they said about each one. They started out with two: Osiris and Isis. Osiris was the god of the earth, and Isis was his wife. The Egyptians derived from these first two parents. The firstborn son was Osiris, the founder of the Egyptian kingdom. He was the author of agriculture and the inventor of civilization. What does the Scripture tell us? Cain was the first one to contrive to plow the ground and was the inventor of sets and measures. They venerated him as a god. They worshiped Osiris as the inventor of agriculture and the giver of civilization. They attributed to Osiris what the Bible attributes to Cain.

The Old Kingdom of Egypt is the history of the conflict between what is termed as the Osiris kings and the Set kings, and there was conflict between them. Osiris's brother was Set. The conflict of the Old Kingdom of Egypt was between the adherents of Set and the adherents of Osiris. "Saturn" is the name Cain called himself.

Genesis 4:14 (KJV), "... 'shall I be hid...'" is "Saturn" (in the Hebrew) who is viewed as the giver of agriculture and the inventor of civilization. From Saturn derived Jupiter. Ultimately, Cain's family grew.

Genesis 4:17, "And Cain knew his wife and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son—Enoch." We see that Cain had Enoch and built this city. "Enoch" means "initiate." City life was initiated.

As the family of Cain progressed, we find Lamech, a very significant figure.

Verses 18-24 focus on Lamech. God clearly intended man to have one wife. That went along for a period of time. Then we come to one who took him two wives.

Verse 19, "Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah." The names of "Adah" and "Zillah" mean "dawn" and "dusk"—light and dark. He was the one who, evidently, took Cain's place.

Verses 20-22, "And Adah bore Jabal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother's name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute. And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron. And the sister of Tubal-Cain was Naamah."

Let's focus on Tubal-Cain. In mythology, Vulcan gave his name to volcanoes. Vulcan is pictured as being black. Tubal-Cain was a

worker of metal—making metal weapons of warfare.

Verses 23-24, “Then Lamech said to his wives: ‘Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; O wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me. If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-seven fold.’”

What did he mean by ‘I have slain a man...a young man who hurt me?’ Perhaps he is referring to two different individuals. According to tradition, Lamech was responsible for killing Cain. Isn’t that the logical outgrowth of a family that thrives on violence? One who would come along and view Cain as being the only thing that stood in his way. The other may refer to Enoch. (Genesis 5:24). If Enoch was preaching righteousness, you can bet Lamech didn’t want to hear it. Everyone outlived Enoch by hundreds of years.

We see that from the family of Cain derived things that had to do with civilization. Mankind’s civilization became decadent from the beginning. Man headed off in the wrong direction. Metals and metalworking were invented. This is the kind of civilization that began to derive—civilization based on “get.” Civilization in the pre-flood world derived from Cain, and his way permeated this world’s civilization.

Genesis 4:25-26, “And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, ‘For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.’ And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the Lord.” From Seth derived the family of Noah.

Genesis 5:4, “After he begot Seth, the days of Adam were eight hundred years and he begot sons and daughters.” Adam and Eve had many children.

Genesis 3:20, all human beings derive from Mother Eve. Abraham married his half sister (20:12); but by the time of Moses, there was prohibition against it. What happens when livestock interbreeds too closely? Close inter-marriage would result in rapid degeneration. There was no degeneracy at the beginning, no problems to inherit. But as generations progressed for a while, things would come along that would lead to degeneration of the human race. At the beginning, there was no one else to marry.

Let us note in Genesis 4:26, “And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh...”

In Isaiah 8:1, “Moreover the Lord said to me, ‘Take a large scroll and write on it with a man’s pen concerning...’” Have you ever wondered where writing came from? The normal word for “man” is “ish.”

Isaiah 8:1, “...‘a man’s [enosh] pen...’” The word in Hebrew is “enosh”—the same name as the word for the son of Seth. Around three hundred years after creation, possibly, writing was introduced through the family of Enosh. It is considered that the sacred calendar that we recognize was developed and came to be understood at this time.

Genesis 6:2, “that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.”

Verse 1, “Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them.” —A group of wicked men who called themselves the sons of God and provoked God’s wrath by their actions that resulted in the destruction of the flood. Civilization, as we began to know it, was developed. As Cain developed his city, he developed false religion to go along with it.

The “sons of God” can refer to angels. Job 38:7 refers to angels as the sons of God.

Genesis 4:26, “...Then men began to call on the name of the Lord.” or “Then began men to call themselves the sons of God.”

This may tie in with Genesis 6:2, “...the sons of God...”

Questions

1. What is the proper translation of Genesis 4:1? Eve thought that he was the promised Seed. “I have gotten a man, the Eternal.”

2. What is the meaning of the name “Cain”? What is its significance? “Cain” means “get” and that was his way, the way of get. The way of Cain encompassed the earth.

3. Prove that meat was eaten prior to the flood. Genesis 4:2, “Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep but Cain was a tiller of the ground.” What did he keep them for? He didn’t start out as a pig farmer.

4. Give a paraphrase of Genesis 4:7 that conveys the proper sense of the verse.

“If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”

‘Why are you in a bad attitude? If you do well, don’t you think that I would accept you? And if you don’t do well, sin lies at the door. Cain, you have to overcome. If you do what you are supposed to do, I will accept you the same as I accepted Abel. You have to recognize that sin lies at the door. If you don’t overcome, you are going to fall into something that will be very destructive to you. Sin’s desire will be to pull you down. You have to master it.’ He was being told that he had to overcome.

5. What was the curse that God put on Cain?

It was a marker. It was the boundary mark between the land of human habitation and the land of Nod or the land of wandering. Here was a boundary line that was set up. It is very likely that a replica of this boundary marker came to be worn by Cain and his descendants as a good-luck charm. He was forced to become a wanderer. He was put out in exile.

6. Explain the real meaning of Genesis 4:21.

His brother’s name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute. He was the first to profane the harp; he perverted music.

7. Give a couple of alternate translations of Genesis 4:26.

“And as for Seth, to him also a son was born and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the Lord.” “Then began men to call themselves the name of the Eternal.” “And then began men to preach in the name of the Eternal.”

8. Did Enoch die?

Yes. If Enoch had never died, that would put him one up on Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 11:5, “By faith Enoch was translated so that he did not see death, and was not found because God had translated him, for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.”

Verse 13, “These all died in faith, not having received the promises....” These all died. None of them received the promises. They all died in faith. God simply physically removed the body of Enoch. Our allegiance and our loyalty are transferred from the god of this earth to the God of heaven. We are ambassadors for Christ. He transferred his loyalty and his allegiance. The significance was simply that he died.

Deuteronomy 34:6, God buried Moses. It is a parallel.

Bible Study # 9

December 22, 1987

Mr. John Ogwyn

Old Testament Series—Genesis 4—9 (Part 2)

This is the second part on Genesis 4-9 on **the way this world’s civilization came to be, and recognizing that the origin of how it came to be goes back to Cain—realizing he was the originator of most of this world’s civilization.** Cain is identified in pagan mythology as Osiris, the giver of their civilization. The Romans and Greeks identified him with Saturn. The Greek name was *Kronos*. He was the teacher of agriculture and the giver of civilization. He is generally pictured as holding a scythe in his right hand. *Old Man Time*—holding a scythe and a serpent that bites its own tail. It is a part of the season we are in right now (winter/December).

In Genesis 4:14, “shall I be hid [Saturn]” was actually the name which Cain called himself.

We have the inauguration of city life and many things that are characteristic of this world’s civilization.

Verse 26, “And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh....”

In Isaiah 8:1, the pen or stylus is referred to as “...‘man’s [*enosh*] pen’...” or “*enosh pen*.” The sacred calendar traces its origin back to this time of Enosh.

Genesis 6:2-3, “...the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. And the Lord said, ‘My Spirit shall not strive with man forever....’” Some people think this was intermarrying with angels. Angels don’t marry. Certainly the term “sons of God” sometimes refers to angels (Job 38:7). The whole context is not angels, but men.

Notice the whole context in vv. 5-7, “Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the Lord said, ‘I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I

am sorry that I have made them.” It is the sin of man, the sin of human beings. Whoever these sons of God were, they were human beings. It is clear that angels are not being referred to here.

I John 3:2 (KJV), “...now are we the sons of God.”

Is it converted people it’s referring to in Genesis 6:2? No. God said, ‘I am not going to always put up with this.’ God was sorry that He had ever started things with human beings. These were self-willed people, doing what they wanted to do. Individuals who were sinners, their motivation in life was to do what they wanted to do, as long as they could get by with it.

You can tie in Genesis 4:26, “...then began men to call upon the name of the Lord” or “to call themselves by the name of the Lord” with “...the sons of God...” in Genesis 6:2.

Cain was called a god. His followers looked upon him as god in the flesh and his followers took the title, the “sons of god.” He began city life by gathering and forcing his descendants together at this fortress named Enoch (Genesis 4:17). He utilized false religion. He was Saturn or Osiris in mythology, the one who was the originator of man’s civilization. This is in much of Greek and Roman mythology. We find that the line of Cain took wives of whomsoever they chose—making a contrast of the line of Seth and the line of Cain.

Race is in no way a curse. Race had nothing to do with the mark of Cain. God designed and authored that and put different branches of the human family. God knew where He was going before He started His plan. He was to wind up with the highly structured family that He would use to administer the whole universe. Before God ever began His plan, He knew where He was going to wind up.

Revelation 21:1, “And I saw a new heaven and a new earth...” We know God is going to wind up with a new heaven and a new earth.

Verse 12, the New Jerusalem is going to have twelve gates. As I mentioned before, God didn’t look down and become impressed with Jacob’s family. It is not an accident that Jacob had twelve sons. It was God’s purpose to begin with (Deuteronomy 32:8). He programmed that Eve’s children would be different races. God built that diversity. They were to spread out; but inspired by Satan, they were going to do away with that.

Revelation 21:2, “Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.” In the New Jerusalem will dwell the firstfruits. The bride will be right there

with the Bridegroom. The bride and Bridegroom will increase the family. They will be inside; the others will dwell outside. They will come in and go out through those twelve gates.

Verse 24, “And the nations [Greek, “ethnos”] of those that are saved shall walk in light...” We don’t have to understand every detail. It is sufficient to understand what is given. When we get there, we will clearly understand.

Satan has resented every facet of God’s plan. Genesis 6:4, “There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.”

In Deuteronomy 2:11, “Giants” is a totally different word, “They were also regarded as giants, like the Anakim, but the Moabites call them Emim.”

The term used in Genesis 6:4 is a word that does not necessarily mean giant in stature. It could refer to individuals who bullied and oppressed others—men of great power. It is not the real translation.

Genesis 6:11-13, “The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, ‘The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.’”

God looked at the state of things. That which He had built in and designed was in the process of being lost, and violence was everywhere. God took note and said He would not let it get to this point.

Verse 18, “‘But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives with you.’” He would send His judgment and start it over again through Noah.

Verse 9, “...Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.” Noah was a righteous man, one who obeyed God and perfect in his generations. This word “perfect” is the word used throughout Leviticus and Deuteronomy to describe sacrifices—a term applied to animals. The first thing God noticed: Noah was righteous and just; he was “perfect in his generations.” His lineage had been preserved without mixture. God purposed to use these families and re-launched the human family after the flood.

If we go through Genesis 10, the European stock primarily comes from Shem, the African stock

comes from Ham and certain European stock comes from Japheth. Japheth undoubtedly was an Oriental. Ham's wife was Naamah, a descendant of Cain.

The thing to also understand is that the sins or character of an individual is not something that heredity plays a primary part in. It isn't that one line is righteous and the other wasn't. The family through which God worked came through the family of Shem. God has worked with others. But the bulk of Shem's descendants would not follow the true God. On the ark everyone agreed to what the truth was. But in time (after the flood), again the tendency of human beings was to follow self-will.

In Genesis 5:1-4, we read of the generations of Adam. The sons of Adam got their wives from their sisters.

Genesis 5:21-24, "Enoch lived sixty-five years and begot Methuselah. After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and begot sons and daughters. So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him."

Some have the idea that Enoch did not die. That is not true. That would contradict what the Bible says. Enoch did die, and it is very clearly stated in the scripture that he did die. To begin with, if Enoch did not die, that puts him one-up on Jesus Christ, one step ahead of Jesus Christ because Jesus Christ died.

In I Corinthians 15:20, we are told, "But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."

John 3:13, "No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven."

Genesis 5:23, "So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years."

Hebrews 11:5, "By faith Enoch was translated so that he did not see death, 'and was not found because God had translated him'; for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God."

Verse 4, "By faith Abel...."

Verse 5, "By faith Enoch...."

Verse 7, "By faith Noah...."

Verse 8, "By faith Abraham...."

Verse 11, "By faith Sarah...."

Verse 13, "These all died in faith, not having received the promises...." Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham and Sarah—these all died in faith. What does it mean that he did not see death?

Hebrews 9:27, "And as it is appointed for man to die once...."

I Corinthians 15:22, "As in Adam all die...." — Every human being; all die! Enoch was an individual who walked with God and served God. It was a time when God took him, as Elijah was physically removed, to a different place. When Moses died, God buried him where no one knew (Deuteronomy 34:5-6). Enoch was removed.

In Genesis 5:21-27, we come to Methusaleh. The meaning of his name is "when he dies it will be sent forth." Methusaleh died the year of the flood. His whole long life was a prophecy, and when he died, the flood was sent forth.

Genesis 5:29, "And he called his name Noah, saying, 'This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the Lord has cursed.'" Noah was to comfort them concerning the work.

II Peter 2:5, "...Noah, one of the eight people, was a preacher of righteousness...." Noah was the eighth. Enoch was the seventh (Jude 14). We have a line of preachers of righteousness that God worked with. Noah was the eighth; his great-grandfather, Enoch, was the seventh. By this time the whole line of Seth was pretty well turning away from the things that Seth himself had stood for. From what is described in Genesis 6, there was a loss of identity.

Satan has always tried to counterfeit God's plan: one world. Satan's world is Babylon—many sorts of paganism blended together and one world religion. God is going to have unity—one King, one government and one religion.

The human family is allocated separate inheritances. In the time of Joshua, He allocated the land to the different tribes (Joshua 13-17). It was divided out into the families. The whole purpose of the Jubilee was to return the land back to those it was given. When Christ returns and programs a Jubilee, the land will be allocated out. God works through families. That is why Satan hurts the family so much. He tries to attack, pervert and destroy it because it is the way God is going to structure the family throughout eternity. Satan tried to cause people to lose their family identity. Satan would like to wipe out family altogether. And that is what he is very successfully trying to do in our modern age today.

Genesis 6:11, "The earth also was corrupt before God and the earth was filled with violence." Every aspect of human society deteriorated. Everything became so totally corrupt, God looked at it and said, "There is no way this can last another four thousand four hundred years. If I wait and let it run its course, there will be such

an unrecognizable mess it will never be sorted out.' The flood set things back a ways, but they would have wiped themselves off the earth millenniums ago.

God described to Noah how to build the ark (Genesis 6:14-22). The capacity of the ark was eight freight trains of sixty-five cars each. The number of animals that were on board the ark, if you count every specific animal, not varieties—God did not create every single breed of cattle, some originated in recent years; on the ark, God did not have one hundred varieties of dogs—you come out with about thirty-five thousand species. That would have filled two and one-half freight trains. God could have transported all of those animals in two and one-half freight trains. You still would have five and one-half freight trains of sixty-five cars each that would have been empty. We are looking at a lot of space that people don't realize. Food was transported as well so there was space for food storage (v. 21).

Some people think the flood occurred in just a local area. There is no way that you can believe that. One is simple logic. The ark landed in Mount Ararat. Water seeks its own level and spreads out. Everything that is not taller than that mountain is going to be covered. Plus, God clearly says to build an ark. If we are looking at a local flood, why build the ark? Just climb the mountain and get on the other side. It makes no sense, logically.

Notice in vv. 17-21, “And behold, I Myself am bringing the flood of waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; and everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing of all flesh you shall bring two, of every sort into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive. And you shall take for yourself of all food that is eaten, and you shall gather it to yourself; and it shall be food for you and for them.”

Genesis 7:1-3, “Then the Lord said to Noah, ‘Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation. You shall take with you seven each of every clean animal, a male and his female; two each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female; also seven each of birds of the air, male and female, to keep the species

alive on the face of all the earth.’” The knowledge of clean and unclean was known before the flood. God designed certain animals to be eaten and others to have other functions.

Verse 7, “So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood.” When Noah entered the ark, it wasn't raining. Noah went in the ark in faith. He probably went in on the Sabbath; then seven days later, God would start it. Noah spent a week on the ark before the rain came (vv. 1, 4, 10).

He preached during this one hundred twenty-year period of time. The work of God was accomplished on faith. People did not believe the warning.

Verse 11, “...on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.” The fountains of the deep broke up and great geysers of water erupted. There would probably have been a lot of “takers” then. *This is a lesson for us!*

Isaiah 55:6, “Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.” About the time the Tribulation starts, there will be many who would wish they had listened to “Tomorrow's World,” but it will be too late, physically, then.

Hebrew 11:6, “Without faith it is impossible to please God...” God requires that. At some point, we must step out in faith. When the time came, God closed the door. ‘Alright, now is the time.’

Genesis 7:17, “Now the flood was on the earth forty days. The waters increased and lifted up the ark, and it rose high above the earth.”

Verse 19, “And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered.” —A universal flood.

Genesis 8:1-3, “Then God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the animals that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters subsided. The fountains of the deep and the windows of heaven were also stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained. And the waters receded continually from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters decreased.” The water was there for a time. Then it began to abate, and then another two and one-half months.

Verses 4-5, “Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountain of Ararat. And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month. In the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen.”

Verses 7-11, “Then he sent out a raven, which kept going to and fro until the waters had dried up from the earth. He also sent out from himself a dove, to see if the waters had abated from the face of the ground. But the dove found no resting place for the sole of her foot, and she returned into the ark to him, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her, and drew her into the ark to himself. And he waited yet another seven days, and again he sent the dove out from the ark. Then the dove came to him in the evening, and behold, a freshly plucked olive leaf was in her mouth; and Noah knew that the waters had abated from the earth.”

It was abated enough that some of the shoots were beginning to come forth. From this, Noah knew that the waters had abated. He was up on a mountain. He could not see, so he sent these birds out.

Verse 14, “And in the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry.” The flood was a total of one year and ten days. The flood started on the seventeenth day of the second month (7:11). Noah left the ark on the second month and the twenty-seventh day of the month (8:14) —one year and ten days. But they had been on the ark seven days before (7:1, 4, 10). So the time on the ark altogether was one year and seventeen days.

Genesis 9:1-2, “So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move on the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand.’” The animals were to have a distinctive fear of man.

Verse 3, “‘Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs.’” They had been eating grains, but they could begin eating flesh again.

Verse 6, “‘Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man.’” The intrinsic value of human life: man is made in the image of God. God did not execute Cain before the flood. It was to teach a lesson.

I Corinthians 5:6, “...a little leaven leavens the whole lump...” Sin spreads, and its corrupting influence will cover everything. What happens when you don’t have a lesson? God allowed that, and it only took a short period of time until things were in an abysmal mess. Then He said, ‘Things must not be allowed to get to that point. Violent crime must be dealt with.’

Genesis 6:11-13, “The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, ‘The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.’”

Genesis 9:9-17, “‘And as for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you: the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you, of all that go out of the ark, every beast of the earth. Thus I establish My covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.’ And God said: ‘This is the sign of the covenant which I make between Me and you, and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. It shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow shall be seen in the cloud; and I will remember My covenant which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. The rainbow shall be in the cloud, and I will look on it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.’ And God said to Noah, ‘This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth.’”

God pointed out the rainbow and said that this would be something that would represent that the rain would stop. It would be a reminder of God’s promise that He would not destroy the earth again by water.

Verses 18-25, “Now the sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And Ham was the father of Canaan. These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was populated. And Noah began to be a farmer, and he planted a vineyard. Then he drank of the wine and was drunk and became uncovered in his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father’s nakedness. So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him. Then he said:

‘Cursed be the Canaan; a servant of servants he shall be to his brethren.’”

Let us understand what this is talking about. Some have thought this was unfair because Canaan was being cursed because of Ham. It says “his younger son.” Does it refer to Ham? The answer is “no.” Ham was the middle son, not the younger son.

Genesis 10:1 says the birth order was Shem, Ham and Japheth.

Genesis 10:6, “The sons of Ham...” How does Canaan figure in all this?

Verse 6, “The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Put and Canaan.” Canaan was the younger son of Ham. He talks about Ham, the father of Canaan.

Genesis 9:24, “...he knew what his [Ham’s] younger son had done to him.” What had happened was an act of perversion committed by Canaan. And a curse was made. Curses come from disobedience; blessings, from obedience.

God knew that He would be able to work with the family of Abraham. God knew that Abraham would bring forth certain results that would have an impact on his children and grandchildren. The very basis of stability in a society and people is the family, the basic building block of society. It was very apparent that the family of Canaan was going to suffer because of the family deterioration and morality of Canaan himself. Don’t you think that children suffer from some of the environment they grow up in?

The major thing emphasized here is the deterioration of the family structure. When morality is not what it ought to be the family deteriorates and the society deteriorates. The result of Canaan’s sin was the consequences that he brought on his descendants. The problems were the result of the weakness of the family.

Verse 25, “...‘Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants he shall be to his brethren.’” He was to be a servant of servants. God said we must all become servants. Those whom Canaan ultimately came to serve must also learn to be servants. Canaan will ultimately learn to serve the Lord God that Shem was serving at that time.

Verse 27, “‘May God enlarge Japheth, and may he dwell....’” —The majority of the people on earth have sprung from Japheth—the vast multitudes of the Orient and others. God was going to preserve the knowledge of the truth through Shem.

Questions continued...

9. Explain the significance of Methuselah’s name.

It means “it will go forth.” He died in the year of the flood.

10. Explain Genesis 6:2. Who were the “sons of God”?

They deified their ancestors. Cain was deified by his followers. He was called a god. These “sons of God” were self-willed people, doing what they wanted to do.

11. What was the approximate size of the ark?

The approximate size is three hundred cubits by fifty cubits by thirty cubits, about four hundred fifty feet by seventy-five feet by forty-five feet. It would have been the minimum of eight freight trains of sixty-five cars each.

12. Was the flood of Noah a universal deluge?

Genesis 6:17, “‘And behold I Myself am bringing the flood of waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life, and everything that is on the earth shall die.’”

Genesis 7:19, “The waters prevailed fifteen cubits upward and the mountains were covered. It prevailed above all the mountains.”

13. Prove that God’s law of clean and unclean meat was known prior to Moses.

Clean and unclean was known prior to the flood. Genesis 7:2, “‘You shall take with you seven each of every clean animal, a male and his female, two each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female....’”

14. How long were Noah and his family in the ark?

One year and seventeen days.

15. Explain Genesis 9:3.

This is not doing away with the laws of clean and unclean. We are to eat them in the same way we eat the vegetables or herbs, but avoid the bad ones.

16. Explain Genesis 9:24-25.

“So Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his younger son had done to him.”

Verse 25, “Then he said: ‘Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants he shall be to his brethren.’” He knew what Ham’s younger son had done to him. What had happened was an act of perversion committed by Canaan, and a curse was made.

