

**Building on Biblical Foundations
Genesis 4:25 - 6**

“As It Was in the Days of Noah”

Karin Paparelli Peters

Genesis 4:25-26

“²⁵ Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth; made love to his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

²⁶ And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.” KJV

Meanwhile on the other side of town. . . Last week we talked about the Seed of Cain and what happens when you surrender to sin.

Let’s look at what happened after Cain left Adam and Eve. They bring forth after their kind – Seth. And from Seth comes Enos.

And the men begin to call upon the name of the Lord ... this is what the King James Bible says and using only the English words some have come to interpret this as worshipping God once again. BUT

If we read the words in Hebrew as they were written we get a different account. . .

“Then began men”. . .

Hebrew: Chalal: meaning to bore, pierce

More accurately: *defile, break, defile*

A primitive root (compare [chalah](#)); properly, to bore, i.e. (by implication) *to wound, to dissolve*; figuratively, *to profane* (a person, place or thing), to break (one's word), to begin (as if by an "opening wedge"); denom. (from [chaliyl](#)) to play (the flute) -- begin (X men began), defile, X break,

defile, X eat (as common things), X first, X gather the grape thereof, X take inheritance, pipe, player on instruments, pollute, (cast as) profane (self), prostitute, slay (slain), sorrow, stain, wound.

So men began to defile, profane, break open a wedge, prostitute, slay, stain, wound the name of the LORD.

What??? They did what?

This is how the Jewish Torah reads also:

Taken from: *The Targums of Onkelos and Jonathan Ben Uzziel On the Pentateuch With The Fragments of the Jerusalem Targum From the Chaldee* by J. W. Etheridge, M.A. First Published 1862

Genesis 4:25-26 reads:

“And Adam knew his wife again, at the end of a hundred and thirty years after Habel had been slain; and she bare a son, and called his name Sheth; for she said, The Lord hath given me another son instead of Habel whom Kain slew. And to Sheth also was born a son, and he called his name Enosh.

That was the generation in whose days they began to err, and to make themselves idols, and surnamed their idols by the name of the Word of the Lord.”

Remember we are to study the Word of God in context. . . so knowing what we are about to encounter I will say that the second translation is more accurate.

The entire chapter of 5 is the chapter of Begats. . . Seth begat Enosh and so on and so on until we come to Noah and his three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

You can read this on your own. . .moving on to Chapter 6.

Genesis 6:1-2

“And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair'; and they took them wives of all which they chose."

Okay – let's slow down. Who did what?

Here it is again from The Targums of Onkelos and Jonathan Ben Uzziel

VI. "And it was when the sons of men began to multiply upon the face of the earth, and fair daughters were born to them;

and the sons of the great saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and painted, and curled, walking with revelation of the flesh, and with imaginations of wickedness; that they took them wives of all who pleased them."

Daughters of men needs no explanation but who are the sons of God. . . or the sons of the great?

This is what the Greek Septuagint translated into English [Brenton 1851] says:

"And it came to pass when men began to be numerous upon the earth, and daughters were born to them,

that the angels of God having seen the daughters of men that they were beautiful, took to themselves wives of all whom they chose.

Now the giants [*gigantes*] were upon the earth in those days; and after that when the angels of God were wont to go in unto the daughters of men, they bore children to them, those were the giants of old, the men of renown." Genesis 6:1-2,4

The Greek Septuagint is the earliest extant Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible from the original Hebrew.

I've done my best to research and bring you what scholars say. . . now it is up to you. Spend some time with the Lord and ask Him to show you.

Why does this matter? Or does it matter? I say yes – it matters – because we will run into these ideas again soon.

What we know for certain is whatever it is – whether Seth’s descendants intermarrying with Cain’s women or something entirely different **the result** is something that so offends the Lord that he decides he must destroy the inhabitants of the earth and start again.

Genesis 6:3 *“And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.”*

This actually means – that the Lord was extending to mankind another 120 year to repent before bringing the flood.

From Gils Exposition of the Entire Bible:

“yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years: meaning not the term of man's life, reduced to this from the length of time he lived before the flood; **but this designs the space that God would give for repentance, before he proceeded to execute his vengeance on him;** this is that "longsuffering of God" the apostle speaks of in the afore mentioned place, "that waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was preparing"..."

Genesis 6: 4

“There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.” KJV

Genesis 6: 5

“And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.” KJV

Genesis 6: 6-7

6 And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. KJV

We have come a long way from the day when the Lord uttered “it was very good.” At this point the Lord is so grieved that he wants to destroy everything he made.

7 And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

Repenteth in Hebrew is **nacham: to be sorry, console oneself**

In verses 8-22 we have the account of Noah.

⁸But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

²These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God. ¹⁰And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.” KJV

At first glance this seems redundant... but each “generation” actually means something slightly different in Hebrew:

The first occurrence of the word generation – comes from the Hebrew word:

Toledoth: Meaning: descent, family, history

The second occurrence of the word generations in Hebrew is:

Dor: period, generation, dwelling

Full meaning: a revolution of time, an age, generation, a dwelling

So let’s insert these words:

²These are the **descendants** of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his **age (time)**, and Noah walked with God (**Elohim - The supreme God**).

Genesis 6:10

¹⁰And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹¹The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

¹²And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

Corrupt: **Hebrew: shachath: perhaps to go to ruin, decaying, being ruined**

His Way: **Hebrew: Derek Meaning: a road, a course of life, mode of action**

Genesis 6:13

¹³And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

By the time we get to Chapter 6 Genesis, 1,600 years have passed since the creation of Adam and Eve. In this time people have greatly multiplied upon the earth and so has evil. So much so, that the Lord is grieved with mankind.

In the days of Noah . . . the days leading up to the great flood, the earth was full of corruption, violence, decay.

As it was in the days of Noah... ring a bell? It should, as it was spoken by Jesus.

Jesus shared these words when discussing what would precipitate his return. In the Olivet discourse He told his disciples what to watch for.

Let's take a look at that:

Matthew 24:36-39

³⁶ “But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son,^[1] but only the Father.

³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark;

³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

When we examine something someone has said it is important to consider a few important factors:

1. Who is being addressed? The Disciples.

Jesus is not addressing the crowds. He is not speaking to the Pharisees. He is speaking privately with his disciples. This was not meant as a universal warning applied to everyone, but rather it was meant for those who were in his inner circle.

2. Why is this being shared? To prepare them (us).

Jesus was speaking a hard truth to help prepare those he loved, those in relationship with him, for what is coming.

Imagine if you will, sitting in a circle around Jesus – leaning in to hear him because he is speaking quietly. He is pulling you into his confidence, sharing with you information that only heaven knows.

Why? To calm your fears, to reassure you that there is a plan. This may happen in a moment, and appear suddenly but we are not to be taken by surprise. We are to expect it. Just like Noah knew it was coming. God gave him instructions and helped him be prepared.

The days in the time of Noah were full of evil.

Jesus said the days toward the end of this age would also be full of evil. He has given us instruction too. He has helped us be prepared.

If we back up in that chapter to verse 4 . . . He tells us how to recognize evil in our day:

⁴ Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you.

We can expect Deception: *Lies, distortion, falsehoods, twisting facts, omitting the truth.*

⁵ For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many.

We can expect claims of false saviors, religious deceptions, increase in sects, cults and factions.

⁶ You will hear of wars and rumors of wars,

We can expect an increase in the number and intensity of wars which bring also: threats of wars, violence, death, destruction, terror.

⁷ Nation will rise against nation,

We can expect unrest between countries (nations), governments (including states and federal, between earthly rulers.

and kingdom against kingdom.

We can expect to see an increase in the war between The kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness, with clashes between principalities, dominions, spiritual powers. As the world becomes more bent toward satan and the workers of iniquity, we will also see an increase in God’s supernatural glory revealed upon the earth.

There will be famines and earthquakes in various places.

We can expect the earth itself to suffer because of the ways of humanity, resulting in famines, floods, earthquakes, natural disasters, wild fires, Tsunamis, Tornadoes.

The US Geological Survey (answers.usgs.gov) a department of the US Dept. of the Interior who “monitors and reports on earthquakes, assesses earthquake impacts and hazards, and conducts targeted research on the causes and effects of earthquakes. We undertake these activities as part of the larger National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP), a four-agency partnership established by Congress.”

- *In 1925 there were 65 significant earthquakes recorded.*
- *In 2023 there were 155.*
- *In 2024 (that's January and February of this year) there are already 25!*

“Data captured between 1900 and 2019 by the Institute for Economics and Peace reveal an increase [in natural disasters] from 39 incidents in 1960 to 396 in 2019.”

What does Jesus says of all this? These are just the **beginning** of Birth Pains. Verse 8. There is yet more to come. . .

⁹“Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me.

Remember who he is speaking to. . . his followers.

Believers will be persecuted because of their faith in Him.

It is easy for us in the US to think this is light years away... right? Not so.

“More Christians have died for their faith in this current century than all other centuries of church history combined.” Christianity.com Dan Wooding April 28, 2010

What was that? More Christians have been martyred for their faith in modern times than in all of the other centuries combined. All of the other centuries combined!!

Forbes magazine article from Jan 13, 2021:

“The newly published data reveals that, during the reporting period between October 2019 and September 2020, more than 340 million Christians were living in countries where they might suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination because of their faith. Among this number, 309 million Christians were living in countries where they might suffer very high or extreme levels of persecution. As Open Doors

emphasizes “That’s one in 8 worldwide, 1 in 6 in Africa, 2 out of 5 in Asia, and 1 in 12 in Latin America.”

¹⁰ At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other,

The people who call themselves Christians will turn away from the faith. . .they will no longer adhere to the teachings of Jesus. What they cling to will be just a shadow of truth. People who have an appearance of godliness but deny the power thereof.

They will depart so greatly that they will actually hate and not love – remember how Jesus said the world would know we belong to him by our love . . .well those who call themselves Christians yet are full of seething hate... deny the faith and show their true identity. . . you will judge the tree by its fruit.

¹¹ and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.

False prophets will speak lies and deceit to draw many away from following Jesus.

¹² Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold

How do we know if we are in the days of Noah again? The increase of wickedness will cause many to stop loving. Loving who? Loving everyone. . . their children, their parents, their spouses, their neighbors and even themselves.

We don't need to belabor this. . .turn on the news and in five minutes you will witness the horror of parents killing children, children murdering parents, neighbors attacking each other, husband and wives committing atrocities against one another. We cannot escape these facts. Truth is we have grown so accustomed to it that we accept this as our modern age. We don't dare utter the phrase – what's next? For fear that we will actually see worse.

Why do I share this?

Just like Jesus my only aim is to warn you and help you prepare. We are living in the days of Noah.

Next week we will read about how the Lord dealt with the evil in those days. He will also bring an end to the evil in our days. It is not an “if” it is truly a “when.” When the Lord has had enough of this, He will send his angels and declare the end. Jesus will descend to finish this.

What must we do in the mean time?

If you read a little further in Matthew you will quickly encounter the parable of the 10 virgins in the next chapter and the parable of the Talents . . . we are be about our Father’s business. Be aware, alert, ready to receive him when he comes. We are to be good stewards of our time, our health, our dollars, our opportunities.

Serve the poor, feed the hungry, shelter the orphans, look after the widows, comfort those who mourn, heal the sick, set the captives free.

Be Jesus to the world around us. Shine our light, be the city on a hill, put your lamp on its stand. As darkness covers the earth, His light shines brighter.