

D. Mercy, Covenant, and Peace Again (8:20-22)

- i. The first thing we see out of the ark is worship!
- ii. The condition of man's heart hasn't changed a lick!  
Man's wickedness is the backdrop against which God's mercy shines!
- iii. Vs22 God promises unending order on His end.
- iv. Mercy has triumphed through judgment!

### LIVE THE STORY

*The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community.  
The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups  
as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

- Can you think of ways in which the flood provides a pattern for how God works in salvation through judgment? Use examples.
- How does Genesis 6-9 teach us to answer these questions: Does God ever intervene in life? Does God ever make moral judgments about what we do?
- How do you think our culture teaches us to answer these two questions?
- In what ways do you see the condition of man as described before the flood manifest in the world today? In what ways is our world better?
- Why are peace and order important? How did the flood disrupt an orderly world? (Compare Genesis 1:9-10.) What does God promise that gives us a foundation of order in our lives?
- How does the sign of the rainbow symbolize a reconciliation between God and man, between heaven and earth?
- Did this message adjust your perspective of God? ... of the account of Noah and the ark?

## Genesis: Truth for Understanding Our World (9)

Jerry Cisar — November 22, 2015

Text: Genesis 6:1—9:17

### Mercy Triumphs Through Judgment

**David Wells:** *“Should we think of [God] ...as a landlord who keeps the building in repair but does not interfere in the lives of those who live there? Should we think of him more as a cheerleader who shouts encouragement from the sidelines but is not himself in the game? ...Should we think of God as being nonjudgmental, one who keeps his moral thoughts to himself? This is the direction in which our culture is pushing us: God does not interfere. He is a God of love and he is not judgmental.”*

### I. Corruption and Chaos (Genesis 6:1-5)

#### A. Man and His Corruption

- i. To understand what this text is saying **about God**, we must do so in light of what it says about mankind (6:5)
- ii. Man's Corruption Summarized (Gen 6:11-12)
  - a) *Corruption and violence*
  - b) *A common theme*
    - Psalm 58:2
    - Ezekiel 7:23; Habakkuk 2:17
    - Amos 3:10
    - Amos 6:3 “a reign of terror”

### iii. Man's Corruption Detailed (6:1-4)

a) Who are the *sons of God*? And what does it mean that they (ESV) *took as their wives any they chose*?

- Angelic beings that married women and populated the world with giants (Nephilim).
- The line of Seth and the sin of polygamy.
- *Despotic rulers* often referred to as the **offspring of their god(s)**. And the right of the first night.

b) Nephilim were *renown warrior heroes*.

### B. Man and His Mortality (120 years)

## II. Mercy in Judgment (6:6–18)

A. Did God regret making man?

i. Anthropomorphism?

ii. Walton paraphrases 6:6-7 is: *“The LORD audited the accounts because he had made humankind in the earth and his heart tormented him (i.e., he was distressed) over it. So the LORD said, ‘I will wipe humankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth ... because I have audited the accounts since I have made them.’”*

### B. Noah and His Deliverance

i. Note the sequence of mercy in the midst of judgment:

a) vv13-14

b) vv 17-18

ii. It is as if God can't finish the thought about destruction without establishing the truth about mercy.

iii. Just as God takes note of wickedness, he also takes note of righteousness.

## III. Re-Creation and Covenant (6:19–9:17)

A. The creation has come a long way from *“God saw everything he had made and it was very good.”* Now the Lord sees the the wickedness of man, that the earth is corrupt, and filled with violence.

i. The earth will be returned to the same state it was in when Genesis 1:2 where darkness covered the face of the deep. In 8:1 God will send a wind, His Spirit, over the surface of the waters again.

ii. *“God said and it was so,”* 6:13, 17; 7:1, 5

B. Noah and his wife, his 3 sons and their 3 wives, or the animals being brought by two, male and female.

C. God turns the chaos of sin at the beginning of 6 into the chaos of judgment and then in the midst of the chaos of judgment he begins to set things back in order (peace) again! (8:1)