

Genesis: From Creation to New Creation

Genesis 6:1-8

"Grieving God's Heart" – March 27, 2022



Introduction

In Genesis 4 and 5, we are introduced to two sons of Adam: Cain and his family line and Seth and his family line. They represented two different paths and two different destinations. Cain's line represented worldly success. They were very impressive in some regard, but they pushed God away in hopes of making a name for themselves. In direct contrast to the line of Cain, Seth's family line represented a godly remnant. They called upon the name of the Lord. They worshipped and trusted God. Even though they trusted God, their life was still hard, and they were weary. Lamech, the father of Noah, was trusting in a future rest. ([Genesis 5:29](#)) This means that the godly line of Seth would have to wait.

We don't like waiting. Waiting on God in a world filled with sin and death is difficult. When the ungodly seems to be getting ahead, and we are left behind, weary from the painful toil, waiting on God for relief, it is then that we need hope. Without hope, we are tempted to throw in the towel and go with the flow of the world. But we walk by faith not by sight. ([2 Corinthians 5:7](#)) Genesis 6 is God's word of warning and encouragement to us. This chapter calls us to walk by faith.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

1. Don't lean on your own understanding. Vs. 1-4
2. Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Vs. 5 - 8

Read & Discuss

1) Read 6:1-4

The population began to grow. The sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. Their decision to marry these women was based on what they saw - externals. They decided what was right and good for them. This compromise, left unchecked, will spiral to a deeper, darker depravity.

Verse 4 introduced the Nephilim who were impressive people. They wanted the praise of man. They had power. When we see people who are impressive like this, it can lead to fear, paralysis and compromise. Fear manifests itself in different ways: anger, indulgence, taking control. If we try to be God and put ourselves on the throne, fear is close behind, because you are not God. When you try to take on that burden, you will be overwhelmed, afraid and tempted to compromise like the sons of God in vs. 2.

How does fear manifest itself in you? Where are you tempted to compromise because of the fear of missing out?

Additional Reading: Numbers 13

2) Read 6:5-8

Take this way of life - walking by sight - and then populate the world with people who live by sight, and you have radical corruption. The world saw the accomplishments of the ungodly. That's not what the Lord saw. He was not impressed with their success, beauty, power, accomplishments. What God saw was that the wickedness of man was great. The rebellion of these people, made in His image, grieved His heart.

Let the words of verse 5 sink in. Does it describe us today? Radical corruption doesn't mean that we are as wicked as we could be. It means that sin affects every part of who you and I are: our body, mind, will, spirit. It leaves no part untouched. Left to ourselves, without God's grace, intervention, and help, verse 5 is true of us. If we don't feel the weight of that, the cross of Christ will not make sense.

The corruption of the world grieved God's heart. He is grieved, but He is not reactionary. His emotions never control him. He is not emotionally indifferent to His creation. When we sin, we grieve the heart of God. But God doesn't delight in demolishing the wicked. ([Ezekiel 33:11](#)) God wants to bless. He is good, and He is intent on giving good to His people.

The good news is that God speaks to us today. He warns and encourages us. In love, He is calling us to Himself. Obedience to God may feel like a threat to what we hold dear. Walking with God requires us to walk by faith. When God calls, He is not calling to harm you. He is calling to life!

Noah, whose name sounds like the Hebrew word for "relief," found favor (grace) in the eyes of the Lord. Noah trusted God to do for him what he couldn't do for himself. ([Hebrews 11:7](#)) We can trust Jesus who came to do what we couldn't do for ourselves. He came to rescue sinners like us. He is our ark of safety, and when He comes again, He will sit on His throne as King and judge the living and the dead. He will not wink His eye at sin. We will not be able to give an account based on our own merit but only by the work of Christ on the cross.

Why is it so hard to walk by faith and not by sight? Who will sit on the throne of your heart? Who will be God in your life? What are you building your life on?

Additional Reading: 1 Samuel 15; Proverbs 3:5-6

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to Matthew 9:9-13 "A Meal with Jesus"
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