

# DESCENT

A STUDY OF GENESIS 4-11

Dark Days—Bright Light  
Genesis 6:5-22  
May 10, 2020

The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. - **Gen. 6:5**

But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. - **Gen. 6:8**

## I. WHAT GOD SAW

- The LORD (Yahweh) saw that humankind's wickedness was "every," "only," "continually." "Every intention of the thoughts of his heart," was "only evil," and it was "continual." We might say, "It was bad."
- Humankind (both the line of Cain and the line of Seth) had now, over time, grown perverse. Humans were creating ways to do evil ("intention" = "to form" or "invent" (cf. Gen. 2:7; Ps. 14:1-3; Eccl. 7:20; Rom. 3:9-18).

## II. WHAT GOD "FELT"

- God was "grieved" and he "repented" or "regretted" that he had made man on the earth (Vs. 6, 7b; 1 Sam. 15:11; 2 Sam. 24:16).
- There is no shadow of turning in our God (Num. 23:19; 1 Sam. 15:29; Mal. 3:6; Heb. 6:13-18; James 1:17).
- God is "being." He is not "becoming" (Ex. 3:13-15; Acts 17:23-28).

## III. WHAT GOD DID

- God determines to destroy humankind in a reversal of the creation days. He made it, and he will "destroy" it (Ps. 29:10).
- He covenanted with Noah (Vss. 18-21; Heb. 11:7; 2 Pet. 2:4-6).

## IV. THE GENERATIONS OF NOAH

- Noah was righteous, blameless in his generation. Like Enoch, he "walked with God" (Vs. 9).
- Noah and the remnant (Vs. 18; 1 Kings 19).

**KNOW:** Wickedness is real. It prevailed in Noah's day and continues into our own. Nevertheless, God always maintains a remnant of those who fear him. His plans cannot be thwarted.

**DO:** Remain faithful! Always find yourself among the remnant of God's people.

### Suggested Reading:

#### **For Children:**

\**Noah, The Rescue Plan* (BibleWise) by Carine MacKenzie

#### **For Adults:**

\**None Greater: The Undomesticated Attributes of God* by Matthew Barrett

\**All That is in God: Evangelical Theology and the Challenge of Classical Christian Theism* by James E. Dolezal

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### **Please Read Genesis 6:5-22**

1. What is the overall theme of this passage?
2. According to the passage, why is God going to destroy the earth?
3. Why is God "sorry" that he has made humankind? What does that mean?
4. What provisions does God make for Noah? How will this work?
5. What type of man was Noah? Why does God choose him, do you think?
6. What did you learn from this passage? What application will you apply from it?