

4. Flood: Starting Over

30 Things
to Read to Know
About Your BIBLE

Session 4 | Dr. Randy White | Genesis 6-9

- The flood was prophesied by Enoch hundreds of years in advance
 - The timing:
 - Enoch was 65 when he begat Methuselah, then he lived 300 years (Gen 5:21-22)
 - Methuseleh was 187 when he begat Lamech, then he lived 782 years (Genesis 5:25-27)
 - Lamech was 182 when he begat Noah, then he lived 595 years (Genesis 5:28-31)
 - 187+182 = 369 years from Methuseleh's birth to Noah's birth, 69 years after the death of Enoch.
 - The prophecy
 - Jude 1:14-15 speaks of Enoch as a prophet, and gives a prophecy of Enoch concerning the last days. This prophecy is a quote from the Book of Enoch 1:9.
 - He also named his son Methuselah, meaning, "Death sent," or "after him, death."
- The flood was warned by God 120 years in advance.
 - Genesis 6:1-7
 - These verses do not teach that 120 is the outer-limits of a man's age.
 - Verse 3 does teach that God was giving humanity 120 years before destruction
- The flood was the result of demonic activity which polluted the human race
 - Genesis 6:1-4 fills an "information gap" not included between Genesis 1:31 and 5:32.
 - The "daughters of men" were **fair** – literally "good." The Hebrew is טוב [tob], the same word used by God in Genesis 1 to describe His creation. It is also the word from which the modern name "Toby" or "Tobias" comes from.
 - Without the viewpoint that the **giants** are the foundational reason for the flood, verses 1-4 become nothing but a mere curiosity—and mere curiosities are fundamentally problematic if you believe in *verbal plenary* inspiration of Scripture.
- Those who say that the earth was destroyed in the flood *solely* because of the evil of man's heart and wickedness of his behavior (Genesis 6:21) have a conundrum when they come to Genesis 8:21. Did God fail and simply give up?
- Noah was chosen because he was the only flesh of integrity
 - Noah was a just man** – צַדִּיק [sadiq], from which the Greek term Sadducee came. (See Genesis 18:24 for the plural, *sadiqim*)
 - Noah was **perfect in his generations** –
 - טָמִים [tamim], translated **perfect**, is "unscathed, complete, intact." It is the word used to describe the kind of sacrifice that the Hebrew people were to bring to the altar.
 - Generations** is a reference to his DNA.
 - The point: Noah had an "unscathed DNA" and thus could carry on the unblemished line of the human race, in order that the Savior could be delivered by a woman, as promised in Genesis 3:15.
- The flood was worldwide in scope
 - Genesis 6:13, along with the entire scope of the story, present the flood as worldwide.
 - Scientific evidence presents the flood as worldwide.
 - Only agenda-driven interpretation would create a localized flood.
 - Pastors such as Tim Keller, theologians such as NT Wright, and organizations such as *Biologos* teach a *localized* not *global* flood.
 - The fossil record presents evidence of either millions of years of death and destruction, or one event of *catastrophic* proportions.
 - Logic only allows one or the other, because a global event of catastrophic proportions would destroy the millions of years of fossil records.
 - Because of this, several prominent theologians who hold to an "old earth" have said the flood was global.
 - What does a local flood do to God's promise that He would never destroy the earth again in a flood?
 - Is that a promise to do something He had never done?
 - Is that a promise not to do what He had just done (send a localized flood)...and He has broken His promise thousands of times?
 - What does the comparison of the judgment of the last days with Noah's flood to when you believe in a localized flood?
- The flood was the beginning of a new dispensation.
 - Noah was instructed to **be fruitful and multiply**, just as Adam and Eve had been instructed (Genesis 8:17).
 - But this time, any murder would immediately be punished with death (Genesis 9:6).

Verbal Plenary: God gave His revelation in *words* and all of those words are equally inspired.