

THE GENESIS CLASS

THE PRE-FLOOD WORLD

The Genesis Record

- Creation Week
 - Chapter One – the seven days
 - Chapter Two – Adam’s account
- The Fall and the Curse
 - Chapter Three
 - Deception
 - Rebellion
 - Judgment
 - Expulsion
- Growing Rebellion
 - Chapter Four
 - Cain and Abel
 - Lamech’s song
 - Chapter Five
 - Adam’s family tree
 - Enoch’s testimony
 - Noah’s name
 - Chapter Six
 - The “Sons of God”
 - God’s decision and direction for the Ark

The Results of Rebellion

- A world population without restraint.
 - No God means no rules but mine!
 - No God means “survival of the fittest.”
 - No God means “might makes right.”
- An evil world without restraint only grows more evil.
 - Violence as the solution to problems.
 - Vengeance as the “right” of everyone.

Time Perspective

- Adam – Creation to 930 years after the creation
 - All of Cain’s line – through Lamech and children
 - All of Seth’s line – through Lamech (Noah’s father)
- Cain – First year or two after creation until 800+ years after the creation.
 - Lived through the birth of Lamech (maybe through Tubal-Cain)
- Seth – 130 years after creation until 1042 years after the creation
 - Lived until 14 years before the birth of Noah

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- Enoch – born in year 622 after the creation
 - Raptured in year 987
- Methuselah – born in year 687 after the creation
 - Lived until 1656—a total of 969 years—the year of the Flood
- Lamech (Noah’s father) – born in year 874 after the creation
 - Lived until 1651 (Noah born in 1056)

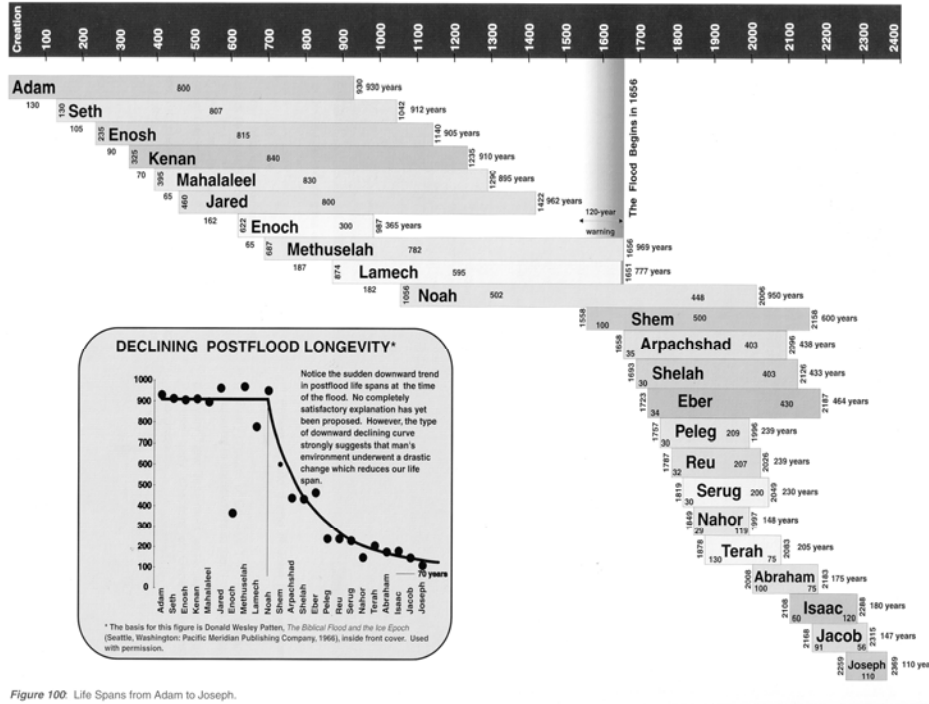


Figure 100: Life Spans from Adam to Joseph.

Genesis Chapter Four

- Verses 1-2 – Very few years after the expulsion from the Garden
- Verses 2-15 – Probably 125 years and later
 - 4:25 – Seth; 5:3 – Adam, 130 years old
- Verses 16-18 – From year 125 to 7th generation - +400 years (?)
- Verses 19-24 – World conditions of the 7th generation

Cain and Abel

- Biblical information
 - They were adults
 - Seth was born 130 years after the creation (5:3)
 - The murder probably took place the year before.
 - There was plenty of time for population growth.

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- Family matters
 - General living conditions
 - Adam & Eve would have taught the boys about God.
 - They had knowledge of sacrifice (covering of skins, etc.)
 - The sheep were not kept for food (contrast 2:16 & 9:3).
 - Cain provided food; Abel provided clothing and sacrifice.

The “Regular” Offering

- The events of Genesis 3 suggest this.
 - Animal sacrifice; “covering” of skins “atonement”
 - The gracious promise of redemption
- The language of Genesis 4:3 suggests this.
 - “At the end of the days” – a specified time period
 - “Brought” = “came with” – go to...a specified place
 - Probably the door of the garden – 3:22-24
- “Offering” – used consistently of voluntary tributes to God
 - Exodus 30:9-10
 - “The firstlings of his flock...and of the fat...”
 - Used by Moses – Leviticus 9:3-10

Cain’s Rebellion

- Cain offered in Disobedience
 - He knew what was expected of him.
 - Cain had certainly offered before with the family.
 - Adam/Eve given information
 - “Process of Time” = “end of the days”
- Abel as God’s “Messenger”?
 - Abel’s role of priest/preacher(?) – Hebrews 11:4
 - Abel ... “continues to speak”
- Cain began to resent and become arrogant.
 - Jealous; pride – Lucifer’s influence
 - 1 John 3:12 – of the wicked one

Rebellion’s Result

- The plan to “get even”
 - Hatred of Abel (1 John 3:11-12)
 - Desire to still the voice of righteousness
- The awful action of murder
 - “Talking in the field...rose up...and killed”

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God's Response

- God's "respect" ("gaze") was to Abel.
 - He refused to "look on" Cain's offering
 - Cain brought his own labor to God
- "Why are you angry?"
 - Effort to expose hard heart and jealousy
- "Why is your (glance) fallen?"
 - Effort to bring conviction of sinful results
- If you "do well..." – obey and enjoy!
 - If not, "sin (1st mention) crouches at the door.
 - He desires you, but you should rule over it. (Romans 6)

God's Love

- God's attempts to reclaim
 - God went to Cain
 - God always comes first
- Cain answers in flippant arrogance & denial
 - Am I my brothers' keeper?
 - Lie: "I did nothing"
- God attempts to gain confession.
 - No answer from Cain
 - Cain hardened his heart
 - Refused to admit sin
- God then exposes
 - Your brothers' blood cries out...!
 - Numbers 32:23 – "be sure your sin will find you out."
- God must now punish
 - Loss of occupation – Vagabond in the earth (4:12)
 - Banishment – Went out from the presence of the Lord (4:16)
 - Fear of retribution – "Everyone...shall kill me" (4:13-14)
 - God still shows mercy and pity

Cain's Wife

- Population Issues
 - Married sister or niece (no genetic problem)
 - Adam & Eve had many children (5:4)
 - By end of 1st Century ~ 10,000 alive
 - By Flood time ~ Billions
 - Cain's City – Enoch

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Population Considerations

- Adam and Eve had many children (Genesis 5:4)
 - Assume: Each family had 10 children (5 boys and 5 girls)
 - Marry at age 25 .. had all their children by age 50
 - No death until Abel
- After 125 years (5 Generations), there would be approximately 7,800 people alive
- 8 children = 6,300; 6 children = 4,700; 4 children = 1,250; 12 = 9,500
 - More than enough for Cain to find a wife, build a city, be afraid of avengers
 - Start with two people
 - Increase at 2% per year (present population growth)
 - Would become 3.5 billion people in only 1075 years.
- World wide population growth over time is much less – .33% to 1.1%
 - Prior to the Flood – probably much higher
 - Long life – many children
 - Environment suitable to life
- Start with eight people right after the great Flood.
 - Ussher chronology dates the Flood about 2350 B.C.
 - Possible gaps in the genealogies of Genesis 11
- Population to have grown from 8 people to 3.5 billion (1975 population) people in 4350 years.
 - Average annual increase of only 0.44%
 - Average doubling time of 152 years
- www.icr.org/article/67/

The Pre-flood World

- Advanced Civilization
 - Cities – Genesis 4:17
 - Agriculture – 4:20
 - Animal Husbandry – 4:20
 - Musical Instruments – 4:21
 - Read and Write – 5:1
 - Growing Wickedness – Genesis 6:1-12
 - Preoccupation with physical appetites Luke 17:27,28
 - Compared to Sodom
 - Worldwide violence – 6:11, 13

Lamech and Enoch

- Lamech (of Cain) and Enoch (of Seth)
 - Are in the same generation (7th)
 - Live from late 600s to 1200s after creation

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- Are cited as “typical” of the contrast.
 - Lamech
 - Boastful; rebellious
 - Polygamous; murderous
 - Three famous sons
 - Enoch
 - Humble, obedient
 - Preacher of righteousness
 - One famous son

Lamech – The Boastful Sinner

- “The Conquer” – perhaps showed unusual dominance
 - Brash and Bold – two wives, chosen for beauty and to build large family.
 - Adah – means “ornament:
 - Zillah – means “shade”
 - Direct defiance of God’s law for marriage
- Proud and Forceful – two famous sons
 - Jugal – invented the harp and organ
 - Tubalcain – teacher of metallurgy
 - Naamah – was the sister of Tubalcain
- Lamech lived his faith
 - He believed in himself
 - He bragged about it
 - He believed he could do anything he pleased – did so.
 - He believed in personal revenge – took it.
 - He believed that he was more important than God – said so.
 - He was wrong, and had chosen foolishly, but was no hypocrite.

Enoch – The Brave Preacher

- Walked with God – lifestyle matched his statements (Hebrews 11:5)
 - Preached against sin (Jude 14-15)
- Faced an ungodly world – not concerned for his own life or safety
 - He “walked with God” and “pleased God.”
 - He believed in the all-powerful, Creator God
 - He believed in the promised of eternal life
 - He believed that God had a right to demand his obedience
 - He believed that all who disobeyed would come under judgment

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Who were the “Sons of God”?

- Godly children of Seth?
 - The “sin” was intermarriage with “bad” people.
 - Questions:
 - What is so unusual?
 - How could normal marriage produce “Giants?”
 - Why change the normal meaning of the term “Sons of God?”
 - Why was God so angry?
- Half-breed angels?
 - The “sin” was sexual union of angels & men.
 - Questions:
 - How could this happen genetically?
 - Angels are different “kind”
 - 1 Corinthians 15:39-40; Hebrews 1:4-7
 - Angels do not “marry” (Mark 12:25)
 - Could angels cross the created boundaries set by God?

The NEPHILIM

NOTE: The Hebrew term “NEPHALIM” is translated “giants” in the KJV, but transliterated “Nephalim” in most other versions. The term essentially means “fallen ones.”

- “Sons of God” – Hebrew: BENE ELOHIM
 - Always used of Angels
 - Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7
 - Psalm 89:6
 - Daniel 3:25
 - Some angels did sin.
 - Jude 6, 14
 - 1 Peter 3:19
 - 2 Peter 2:4-6
 - Were especially punished for “special” sin.
- The NEPHILIM “Giants”
 - Produced from the sexual union of “sons of God” and “daughters of Seth”
 - Must have been “human”
 - Must have been “unusual”
 - Were awfully wicked
 - Dominated others
 - Spiritually possessed men could answer all the issues.
 - Biblical evidence for it
 - Supernatural knowledge
 - Fits pattern of history

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The Result of this Awful Climax of Rebellion – Destruction

Genesis 6:11-13

Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. Then God said to Noah, “The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.”

Genesis 6:17; 7:4

“I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish...every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.”

Genesis 7:21-23

Every living thing that moved on the earth perished; birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; men and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.