

Beginnings: Study and Discussion Questions

Lesson Seven: The Beginning of the End of the Ancient World – Genesis 6:1-22

Overview: Read Genesis 6:1-22 carefully.

- 1) Define depravity.

- 2) Read Genesis 6:5, together with Job 15:14-16, Jeremiah 17:9, Mark 7:21-23 and Romans 3:9-18. Has the condition of men and women's hearts changed through time?

- 3) List the words and phrases that speak of Noah's character. From this information and your consideration of the first two questions, how will you pray for your country, community, church, and family?

From Genesis 6:1-8:

- 4) What do we learn about the circumstances of the world that set the stage for God's decree of judgment (Bible scholars have suggested a number of ideas about the identities of the "sons of God" and "daughters of men")? See also 6:11.

- 5) Compare God's attitude toward this generation (verse 3) with the reputation the Nephilim had among men (verse 4).

- 6) Genesis 6:6 is surely one of the most amazing verses in Scripture.
 - a) What emotion is attributed to God? (See also 1 Samuel 15:11, 35; 2 Samuel 24:16; Isaiah 63:10; and Ephesians 4:30.)
 - b) Read Nehemiah 8:10 (end of the verse) with Galatians 5:22-23. What opposite emotion is also part of God's nature?
 - c) How does the knowledge that God understands your deepest sorrows and your greatest joys comfort or encourage you? Does it help with a current circumstance? If so, explain.

From Genesis 6:8-18:

- 7) Genesis 6:8 says that Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.
- a) List the three specific statements made about Noah's character in verse 9.
 - b) Read Philippians 2:14-16a and record what the apostle Paul had to say about the importance of having a blameless reputation in one's generation.
 - c) According to Isaiah 64:6; Romans 1:17; Romans 5:17,19; and Romans 6:16, how does a person become "righteous"?
 - d) What does the phrase "walk with God" imply? If you can, share Scripture verses to support your answer.
- 8) The concept of a remnant of people preserved by God to attest to His faithfulness and to live in fellowship with Him is found throughout Scripture. Look up the following passages and list all the information given about the remnant of the Lord: 2 Kings 19:30-31, Ezra 9:15, Nehemiah 1:2-3, Matthew 7:13-14, Luke 13:22-25, Romans 11:5, and 1 Peter 3:20.
- 9) Do you have assurance or concerns about your place among the "remnant of the Lord"? Explain.

Reread Genesis 6:9-17.

- 10) Genesis 6:9-10 introduces "the account of Noah and his family" by describing Noah's character and naming his three sons. What was Noah's father's name (see 5:28)? Who shared Noah's father's name and, like Noah, also had three sons (compare Genesis 6:10 to Genesis 4:19-22)? Is this the same man? Give reasons.

11) Look again at Genesis 6:15-22.

a) Describe Noah's assignment.

b) Which verse indicates one way in which God made Noah's assignment easier?

12) Do you currently have an "assignment" from the Lord that seems overwhelming? What was Noah's response to his assignment (include verse number) and how does it encourage you?

From Genesis 6:18-22:

13) Genesis 6:18 foretells the covenant God established with Noah in Genesis 9. Give a definition of the term "covenant" and a few modern day examples.

14) Imagine Noah building the Ark.

a) Keeping in mind what Genesis 6:9 and 2 Peter 2:5 tell us, what kind of a reputation do you think Noah had among his neighbors?

b) What do the following passages tell us about Christ's reputation among His contemporaries: Isaiah 53:3; Matthew 12:14, 27:28-31; and John 1:10-11?

15) Have you recently been mocked or despised, while resolving to remain blameless? If so, will you share about it with your group so they can pray for you?