



## "Grace Shines Through"

### Genesis 6:1-8

The account of man's moral decline raises debate over who the *"sons of God"* are. Genesis 6:1-4

#### Interpretation One: The *"sons of God"* are the godly line of Seth:

- Over time, the godly men of the line of Seth were enticed by sinful Cainite women.
- Many prominent men in church history adopted this view. (Augustine, Luther, Calvin)

#### Interpretation Two: The *"sons of God"* are fallen angels:

- New Testament passages link fallen angels to Noah's day. 1 Peter 3:19,20; 2 Peter 2:2-4
- Jude draws parallel between nature of sin committed by angels & men of Sodom. Jude 1:6,7
- The earliest Jewish scholars interpreted the *"sons of God"* to be fallen angels.
- The three other places *"sons of God"* appears refers to spirit beings. Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7

Sin & Satan, foes we still contend with, brought the human race to an all-time evil low. Gen. 6:5-7

- Apart from God's intervention, man's spiritual disposition is 100% sinful. Jeremiah 17:9; Rom. 3
- Any attempt to feel better about ourselves must be rooted in God's appraisal of us.
- The human race could only be saved by God's severe judgment. Genesis 6:7; Revelation 20:11-15

In the midst of great evil and impending judgment, God's grace shone through. Genesis 6:8

- God was the initiator of love and grace - Noah responded with child-like faith. Hebrews 11:7
- Your sin is not too great! God's grace is shining through the darkness on you.

#### Further Study and Pondering:

1. Can our sin ever be so great that God's grace won't shine through on us? Explain.
2. Compare the wickedness in our day with the evil present in Noah's day. Conclusions?
3. Why must any attempt to feel better about ourselves begin with God's truth/appraisal?
4. Further study: Man's depravity (our sinful condition) apart from God's intervention. (Psalm 14: 1-3; Jeremiah 17:9-13; John 5:39-47; 8:39-47; Romans 3:10-18; Galatians 5:16-21)
5. Further study: Connecting to God's grace and righteousness through faith. (Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 32:1-7; Rom. 1:15-17; 3:21-26; 5:12-21; 2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 2:8,9; Philippians 3:8-11; Titus 3:5-7)
6. Response: Thank God for His grace - Thank Him that Jesus made it possible to be declared righteous - Confess any known sin - Let God's healing wash over you - Share His grace!

**"God's grace shines on us in our darkest night."**