

Sunday School, 8/20/23

Lesson 41: “Faith that’s Godly: How Faith Behaves” Part Two

Text: Hebrews 11:7

KJV, *By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith*

ESV, *By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.*

I. AN OBSERVATION OF THESE PARTICULARS

A. Background: Genesis 5

1. Enoch’s ungodly era, **Heb 11:6; Gen 5:21-24; Jude 14-15**
2. Methuselah lived 969 years, **Gen 5:27**
 - a. מְתוּשֶׁלַח (*m’too-SHE-lach*), “his death brings” or “his death sends”
 - b. he dies the same year the floods came
 - c. Methuselah 669 years old when Enoch taken
3. Lamech lived 777 years, **Gen 5:31**
 - a. לֵמֶךְ (*LE-mekh*), unknown
 - b. Enoch 252 years old when Lamech born
 - c. Lamech 113 years old when Enoch taken
 - d. Lamech dies 5 years before the flood
4. Noah lived 950 years, **Gen 9:28**
 - a. נֹחַ (*NŌ-ach*), “rest,” “relief” (**Gen 5:29**), “comfort” (KJV)
 - i. נַחַם (*na-CHAM*), “ease, comfort, repentance”
 - b. Noah born 69 years after Enoch taken

B. Background: Genesis 6

1. the corruptions of ungodliness upon the earth
 - a. who were “*the sons of God*” **Gen 6:2, 4**
 - b. בְּנֵי הָאֱלֹהִים (*v’NAY ha-el-o-HEEYM*)
 - c. *angels when they sinned*, **Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7; 2 Pet 2:4**
 - i. prob. 1: **Gen 6:2**, *they took as their wives...* נָשִׂים (*na-SHEEYM*); **Matt 22:29-30**
 - ii. prob. 2: **Gen 6:4**, *on the earth in those days, and also afterward ...* הַנְּפֹלִים (*ha-n’-fi-LEEYM*) “fallen ones” “fellers” “slayers” translated “*giants*” (KJV) from Gk. Septuagint γίγαντες; yet these “giants” or “fallen ones” were there before and after “*the sons of God*”

came into the daughters of men” afterward: **Num 13:33; Deut 2:11, 20; 3:11, 13;**

- iii. prob. 3: suggesting a super-human race as offspring violates the natural creation by command of God, producing after “*his kind*” viz., plants (**Gen 1:11-12**), birds (**Gen 1:21**), beasts (**Gen 1:24-25**).
- iv. prob. 4: implies that man’s corruption & God’s subsequent judgments come as a result of an outside influence rather than a depravity inherited from Adam’s fall.
- v. proponents: Flavius Josephus; Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian; Cyprian; Ambrose; C. I. Scofield; Chuck Missler; David Guzik
- d. men are referred to as sons of God
 - i. Jesus called men sons of God, **John 10:30-36** (quoting **Psa 82:6**)
 - ii. saints sons of God, NT: **John 1:12; Acts 17:28; Rom 8:14-17, 19; Gal 3:26; Phil 2:15; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 10; 5:2**
 - iii. men called sons of God, OT: **Ex 4:22; Deut 14:1; Hos 1:10**
- e. godly men strayed unto corruption & ultimate judgment through ungodly women
 - i. God commands Israel not to intermarry with idolatrous women of the nations, **Ex 23:32-33; 34:13-16; Deut 7:1-6**
 - ii. Israel with the daughters of Moab, **Num 25:1-18**
 - iii. Solomon’s heart was turned by idolatrous wives, **1 Ki 11:1-8**
 - iv. God’s Word to us as His son (**Prov 5:1-2**) warns us to avoid strange, forbidden women (**Prov 5:3-8**)
 - v. Christ, through Paul warns us against sexual immorality, **1 Cor 10:8**, citing **Num 25:1-8**
 - vi. proponents: Shimon ben Yochai (Rashbi); Shlomo Yitzchaki (Rashi); Moses ben Nachman (Ramban); Augustine; John Chrisostom; John Calvin; John Bunyan; John Gill; John MacArthur; Don Stewart

C. Bold Faith & Fear of Noah

v7a Noah’s faith, **Gen 6:8**

a. 5 traits of Noah’s faith

b. **Gen 6:9; Heb 11:7; Gen 1:6-7, 9-10; 2:5-6; 2 Pet 2:5; Gen 6:3**

v7b Noah’s reverent fear, εὐλαβέομαι (*yoo-la-BE-o-my*)

a. 3 traits of godly fear from Noah’s life

v7c Noah’s faith & godly fear result & reward