

Creation:

- Very interested conversations this week regarding Creation and the (7 day controversy). And I have greatly enjoyed them. It's good to challenge, discuss, and humbly seek these things out together. That's part of the church's role within itself. Once again, my challenge is to teach the Bible, not the ideas of men. (dinosaur day created example)
- Two extremes we want to avoid.
 1. Breaking fellowship over this issue.
 2. Thinking that this issue isn't a big deal. All that counts is faith in Jesus.
- Such thinking is very wrong. Because it basically says that compromising God's word, disregarding God's word, changing God's word based on the world's thoughts is okay.
- The second you change God's word to fit man's ideas you start a dangerous pattern. (read again). (Baylor) Next in line is marriage, gender, ect, and eventually, the very resurrection of Christ. (Very often, people who are okay with homosexuality are also okay with an old earth). When you teach your child that Genesis 1 should be changed to fit man's teaching, you have set them up for following a pattern of changing the Bible to fit current thinking. You are turning them away from being a Biblical Christian, and making them an American Christian.
- So, as I said, this is not worth a break in fellowship, but neither is it unimportant. It's paramount. And as your brother I am going to challenge you to not compromise the Authority of God's word. THE PROBLEM IN THIS NATION IS SIMPLE: IT IS NO LONGER A NATION THAT BELIEVES IN THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S WORD. GOD'S WORD USED TO HAVE AUTHORITY IN THIS NATION. BUT NO LONGER.

Cain and Abel: This real story paints a real picture of the gospel. Two men, two choices, two responses to God. Two sacrifices. Just as with Adam and Eve, no blood sacrifice and a blood sacrifice. God reasons with Cain, but he chooses to harden his heart. Everyone in this world is either a Cain or an Abel.

Sons of God, Daughters of Men, Nephilim (Giants) Read Genesis 6:1-4

Sons of God-

- Job 1:6, 2:1, 38:7 (Angelic Beings)
- **Septuagint (VERY IMPORTANT POINT)**

Daughters of Men- obvious according to verse 1. They were human women.

Angels married women and their offspring were giants.

- Numbers 13:33 (Sons of Anak)
- Deut 1:28,
- Amos 2:9
- Goliath
- 1 Chronicles 20:4-8
- Deuteronomy 3:10-13
- Joshua 15:8
- The annihilation of the nations within the Promised Land. (Deut 20:10-18)

There are two theories on who the Nephilim were/are, of which, the prevailing modern theory is the absurd idea that they are the sons of Seth, while the doctrine among the early Church fathers—and taught in the Scriptures—is that of the Nephilim being the offspring of the fallen angels and women. I suspect that the former theory (the later one, by the way) arose due to the Church trying to hide what it deemed to be an embarrassing passage despite the truth contained in the Word of God that the Nephilim are indeed the root of demonic entities.

Jude quotes directly from the Book of Enoch (Jude 14&15), which we will get to later, but for now let's take a look at what the earliest Church fathers, such as Athenagorus, Justin Martyr and Irenaeus stated about the Nephilim:

Just as with men, who have freedom of choice as to both virtue and vice (for you would not either honour the good or punish the bad, unless vice and virtue were in their own power; and some are diligent in the matters entrusted to them by you, and others faithless), ***so is it among the angels. Some, free agents, you will observe, such as they were created by God, continued in those things for which God had made and over which He had ordained them; but some outraged both the constitution of their nature and the government entrusted to them: namely, this ruler of matter and its various forms, and others of those who were placed about this first firmament (you know that we say nothing without witnesses, but state the things which have been declared by the prophets); these fell into impure love of virgins, and were subjugated by the flesh, and he became negligent and wicked in the management of the things entrusted to him. Of these lovers of virgins, therefore, were begotten those who are called giants.*** -Athenagorus, A Plea for the Christians, Chapter XXIV; Roberts & Donaldson, Ante-Nicene Fathers Volume 2, Pg. 224

These angels, then, who have fallen from heaven, and haunt the air and the earth, and are no longer able to rise to heavenly things, and the souls of the giants, which are the demons who wander about the world, perform actions similar, the one (that is, the demons) to the natures they have received, the other (that is, the angels) to the appetites they have indulged. -Athenagorus, A Plea for the Christians, Chapter XXV; Roberts & Donaldson, Ante-Nicene Fathers Volume 2, Pg. 225

But the angels transgressed this appointment, and were captivated by love of women, and begat children who are those that are called demons; and besides, they afterwards subdued the human race to themselves, partly by magical writings, and partly by fears and the punishments they occasioned, and partly by teaching them to offer sacrifices, and incense, and libations, of which things they stood in need after they were enslaved by lustful passions; and among men they sowed murders, wars, adulteries, intemperate deeds, and all wickedness. -Second Apology of Justin Martyr, Chapter V; Roberts & Donaldson, Ante-Nicene Fathers Volume 1, Pg. 298

Since the Son of God is always one and the same, He gives to those who believe on Him a well of water [springing up] to eternal life, but He causes the unfruitful fig-tree immediately to dry up; and in the days of Noah He justly brought on the deluge for the purpose of extinguishing that most infamous race of men then existent, who could not bring forth fruit to God, since the angels that sinned had commingled with them, and [acted as He did] in order that He might put a check upon the sins of these men, but [that at the same time] He might preserve the archetype, the formation of Adam. -Irenaeus, Against Heresies Book IV, Chapter XXXVI; Roberts & Donaldson, Ante-Nicene Fathers Volume 1, Pgs. 865-866

In the Book of Enoch (which the earliest Church fathers and even the Holy Bible quotes from), translated from Professor Dillman's Ethiopic text by R.H. Charles (1893), there are ample references to the Nephilim. I shall quote from Chapter 6-7 for you (found on pages 62-65). The portion of the text from which I quote is of the oldest portion of Enoch, and dates to no earlier than 161 B.C.:

And it came to pass when the children of men had multiplied in those days that beautiful and comely daughters were born unto them. And the angels, the sons of heaven, saw and lusted after them, and spake to one another, "Come, now let us choose wives from among the children of men and beget children."

And Semjâzâ who was their leader spake unto them: "I fear you will not indeed agree to do this deed and then I alone shall have to pay the penalty of great sin."

Then answered they all unto him and spake: "Let us all swear an oath, and bind ourselves by mutual imprecations not to abandon this plan but to carry it into execution." Then sware they all together and bound themselves by mutual imprecations to its fulfillment; and they were in all two hundred.

And they descended in the days of Jared on the summit of Mount Hermon, and they called it Mount Hermon, because they had sworn and bound themselves by mutual imprecations upon it.

And these are the names of their leaders: Samjâzâ, their leader, Urâkîbarâmêel, Kôkabiêl, Tâmiêl, Râmuêl, Dânêl, Zaqlô, Sarâqujâl, Asâêl, Armârôs, Batraal, Anâni, Zaqêbê, Samsâvêel, Sartaêl, Turêl, Jomjâêl, Arâzjâl. These are their chiefs of ten, and all the others were with them.

And they took unto themselves wives, and each chose for himself one, and they began to go in unto them and they mixed with them, and taught them charms and enchantments, and made them acquainted with the cutting of roots and of woods.

And they became pregnant, and they bear great giants, whose height was three thousand ells. And these consumed all the acquisitions of men till men could no longer sustain them. Then the giants turned them against mankind in order to devour them. And they began to sin against birds, and beasts, and reptiles, and fish, and to devour one another's flesh, and drink the blood thereof. Then the earth complained of the unrighteous ones.

When Almighty God, to beautify the nature of the world, willed that that earth should be visited by angels, when they were sent down they despised His laws. Such was the beauty of women, that it turned them aside; so that, being contaminated, they could not return to heaven. Rebels from God, they uttered words against Him. Then the Highest uttered His judgment against them; and from their seed giants are said to have been born. By them arts were made known in the earth, and they taught the dyeing of wool, and everything which is done; and to them, when they died, men erected images. **But the Almighty, because they were of an evil seed, did not approve that, when dead, they should be brought back from death. Whence wandering they now subvert many bodies, and it is such as these especially that ye this day worship and pray to as gods.** (p. 435, vol. 4, The Ante-Nicene Fathers)

JUBILEES 5:1 And it came to pass when the children of men began to multiply on the face of the earth and daughters were born unto them, that the angels of God saw them on a certain year of this jubilee, that they were beautiful to look upon; and they took themselves wives of all whom they 2 chose, and they bare unto them sons and they were giants. And lawlessness increased on the earth and all flesh

corrupted its way, alike men and cattle and beasts and birds and everything that walks on the earth – all of them corrupted their ways and their orders, and they began to devour each other, and lawlessness increased on the earth and every imagination of the thoughts of all men 3 (was) thus evil continually . . . (From The Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha of the Old Testament, translated by R.H. Charles)

Ancient Testimonies from the nations: Just as much of the ancient world had a flood story, so also much of the ancient world had a story about heavenly beings taking wives and having children who were 'heroes of old, and men of renown'. Achilles, Hercules. The ancient Mayans had such legend.

There are secular, unsaved, archeologist who teach that aliens, back in ancient times came down and took wives and taught people great things. They get this from all of the hieroglyphs and such (describe picture of giant with eight planets going around the sun). They even quote Genesis 6 and say, "This is how the Hebrews interpreted such events."

Opposition: 2 things.

- First, Angels don't marry. Matthew 22:30
 - Why aren't angels married in heaven? Are there female angels?
 - Just because someone is forbidden to marry, doesn't disqualify them from being able to reproduce.
- Second, Angels supposedly can't mate with humans because like produces like. (Explain)
 - The assumption here is that Angels and Humans are very different.
 - Hebrews 13:2
 - Lot: Angels ate, talked, people wanted to violate them.
 - Perhaps angels and humans are more similar than we thought. (Horse and donkey)

What others views are there then?

- Sons of God are Seth's line (godly). Daughters of men are Cain's line (ungodly). Many problems... (didn't arise until 4th or 5th century)
- Sons of God were noblemen, and they took peasant women and their sons were heroes.
- Once again, just as with creation, if you have presumptions (earth is old, dinosaurs and men never lived together, or with the Nephilim, Humans and Angels can't reproduce, then you put the Bible in the box of your understanding. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

New Testament:

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; and spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;" -2 Peter 2:4-5

- Who are these angels?
- Tartarus (Greeks spoke about Tartarus, as did the Romans. Also in book of Enoch)

And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrhah,

and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. -Jude 1:6-7

- Who are these angels?
- 'in like manner'?

Why is this important?

- If it's in the Bible, it's important.
- It sheds light on a few things:
 - How things got so bad (a contribution)
 - How Giants, such as Goliath, came into being.
 - Sheds light on how little we understand concerning the heavens (recommend: The Unseen Realm, by Dr. Michael Heiser)
- Most importantly, it reveals whether or not we take God's word as the ultimate authority. I know people who will say, "There's no way I will believe that." (committed Christians)- leaning on own understanding. God's word isn't the ultimate authority.
 - Look at the events of Genesis 1-11. How many are believed by the world? Not one. They believe that there was once a king named David. They believe that there was a woman named Mary. But they reject each of these events.
 - What about the church and Genesis 1-11. Creation? Many say no. Adam and Eve, first people, Eve taken from Adam's side, talking serpent? Many, more and more, say no. Angels taking women and having giants? Ha. Many say no. Worldwide flood? Many say no. Tower of babel? Many say no.
 - Why is this a big deal? Well, there are other things recorded in Genesis 1-11: Gender. Marriage. Family. Identity. Purpose. **WHY SHOULD WE EXPECT THE CHURCH TO HOLD ON TO THESE THINGS WHEN THEY REJECT EVERYTHING CONTAINED AROUND THEM? WE FREAK OUT AND SAY, "THE CHURCH IS REJECTING GOD'S DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE." NO. THE CHURCH IS FOLLOWING THE PATTERN THAT ITS GREAT GRANDPARENTS BEGAN WHEN THEY CONFORMED GOD'S WORD TO FIT THE MODERN IDEAS OF MODERN PEOPLE. IF YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION, BREAK THE PATTERN. HAVE AN ATTITUDE THAT SAYS, 'GOD'S WORD, AND NOTHING ELSE, IS MY AUTHORITY, PERIOD.**

Homework: (Next week we will wrap up The Beginning with the flood and Babel and then move on.)

- Make sure you've memorized the list of events thus given.
- Watch the videos that I put online that you haven't watched. And then, watch them again.