



SUPERNATURAL SIN AND GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

GENESIS 6:1-4

GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

Our approach to interpretation:

1. **Literal** = truthful/factual as written
2. **Grammatical** = syntactical and lexical exegesis
3. **Historical** = real people; true events and depictions

What does this text mean by what it says?

Our goal: Authorial intent, or the **meaning the human author** assigned to the text when he wrote it. Ultimately, what does God mean by what He wrote?

I. The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)

God gives them over: the end of restraining grace (Gen. 6:1-2)

*“For just as the days of Noah were, so the coming of the Son of Man will be. For in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and **they did not understand** until the flood came and **took them all away...**”*

People have given themselves over to gross wickedness, so God has given them over to that wickedness.

I. The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)

God gives them over: the end of restraining grace (Gen. 6:1-2)

Verses 1 and 2 employ the same wording and grammar to emphasize **mankind**:

- *“when men [**mankind/humanity**] began to multiply on the face of the land...”*
- *“the daughters of men [**mankind/humanity**]...”*

The *daughters of men* [**mankind**] would include **both** Seth’s and Cain’s lineages. *Daughters of men* is being used as a general term for mankind and not as a specific reference limited only to Cain’s line.

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2 Peter 2:4-10a

- *“God did not spare [these] **angels who sinned**, but cast them into the pit and delivered them to chains of darkness, being kept for judgment...”*

Jude 6-7

- Sodom and Gomorrah indulged **in the same way as these** [fallen angels], in gross sexual immorality.

Came in to the daughters of men is a crass Hebrew expression characterizing **God's view** of the vile nature of these acts.

I. **The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)**

God gives them over: the end of restraining grace (Gen. 6:1-2)

God gives them time: the end of God's patience (Gen. 6:3-4)

I. The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)

God gives them time: the end of God's patience (Gen. 6:3-4)

This isn't a lifespan decree; it's a **declaration of mercy** and a **warning of impending judgment** if that mercy is refused.

I. The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)

God gives them time: the end of God's patience (Gen. 6:3-4)

“The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward.... Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.”

I. The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)

God gives them time: the end of God's patience (Gen. 6:3-4)

*“The **Nephilim** were on the earth in those days, and also afterward.... Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.”*

- This is a **negative** reference to the extreme fallenness of mankind.
- **Nephilim** (literal translation) = **fallen ones**
- **Naphal** (related Hebrew word) = **fall**
- *Nephilim* can also refer to those who fall upon others

I. The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)

God gives them time: the end of God's patience (Gen. 6:3-4)

*“The Nephilim were on the earth **in those days**, and also afterward.... Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.”*

- ***In those days*** refers to the time of this angelic sin just **before** Noah began to build the ark.
- ***And also afterward*** likely refers to the time **after** Noah was working on the ark, and not to a time after the flood.

I. The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)

God gives them time: the end of God's patience (Gen. 6:3-4)

*“The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward.... Those were the **mighty men** who were of old, men of renown.”*

- **Mighty men** is also pejorative or disparaging. It refers to being mighty in their rebellion against God; they were men of renown in that they were infamous, known for this wicked, rebellious way of life.

I. The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)

God gives them time: the end of God's patience (Gen. 6:3-4)

Taken together, these verses paint a terrifying picture of **unprecedented** evil, of prideful, rampant, selfish ambition **without restraint**.

It is a time of unparalleled, widespread wickedness **at every level of society**.

I. The Sinfulness of Society (Gen. 6:1-4)

The **flood** tells us that Satan came very close to his intended goal of corrupting humanity beyond saving.

But the **ark** tells us that God's sovereignty in salvation is much greater than Satan's schemes to enslave.

A person is silhouetted against a night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The person is standing on a small rock or mound of earth in the foreground. The sky is dark with a dense field of stars, and the Milky Way is visible as a bright, colorful band of light stretching across the sky. The text "GRACE CHURCH" and "WILLIAMSBURG" is overlaid on the sky in a white, serif font.

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