



## High Meadow Ranch Men's Bible Study | Creation Series

Lesson #5 (Genesis 6A – The Wickedness of Man) | Wednesday, October 30, 2024

The principal aim of this series is to explore what the Bible has to say about Creation and the early history of mankind up to the Tower of Babel. The first eleven chapters of Genesis define for us what God's Word has to say about the early days of man. For many people this portion of the Bible is nothing more than fables, while for others it is the inspired Word of God that clearly establishes the origin of man, civilization, and the universe. As Christians, it is important to know what we believe and be able to clearly communicate to others the basis of our beliefs. The world needs well-read, articulate Christians who are confident in their beliefs built on a strong, Biblical foundation.

Listed below is the basic outline for our Creation Series, along with the schedule for each lesson.

Topic	Location in Genesis	Planned Date
Introduction	N/A	August 22
Six days of Creation	Genesis 1 – 2	September 10
The Fall	Genesis 3	September 17
Cain and Abel	Genesis 4	October 1
Genealogy (Adam to Noah)	Genesis 5	October 15
<b>Wickedness of Man</b>	<b>Genesis 6:1-8</b>	<b>October 30</b>
Noah and the Flood	Genesis 6 – 8	November 5
God's Covenant with Noah / Sons of Noah	Genesis 9	November 19
Table of Nations	Genesis 10	December 3
Tower of Babel	Genesis 11:1-9	December 17

Most of us would have to admit that reading genealogies in the Bible is unlikely to be among our favorite passages. It is hard to understand why God included the names of people who “at-first-glance” have little impact on our lives and we will never know this side of Heaven. However, when we spend time looking at what God is telling us, I think we'll find genealogies of the Bible to be very significant. I would like you to consider three points.

One of the more controversial passages in the Bible concerns what we read in verse 4 regarding the Nephilim where it states that “the sons of God went to the daughters of humans and had children by them.” Provided below are three explanations commonly held among theologians regarding this passage of Scripture. The strongest argument among those presented in that the sons of God were fallen angels. The inter-marriage between angels and humans created a “super human” race of beings that were evil and contributed significantly to the wickedness of man. This wickedness resulted in God's flooding of the earth in the time of Noah.

**Lines of Seth View (i.e. they were godly descendants of Seth)**

One hypothesis is that the sons of God are the descendants of Seth, the pure line of Adam. The daughters of men are then seen as the descendants of Cain.

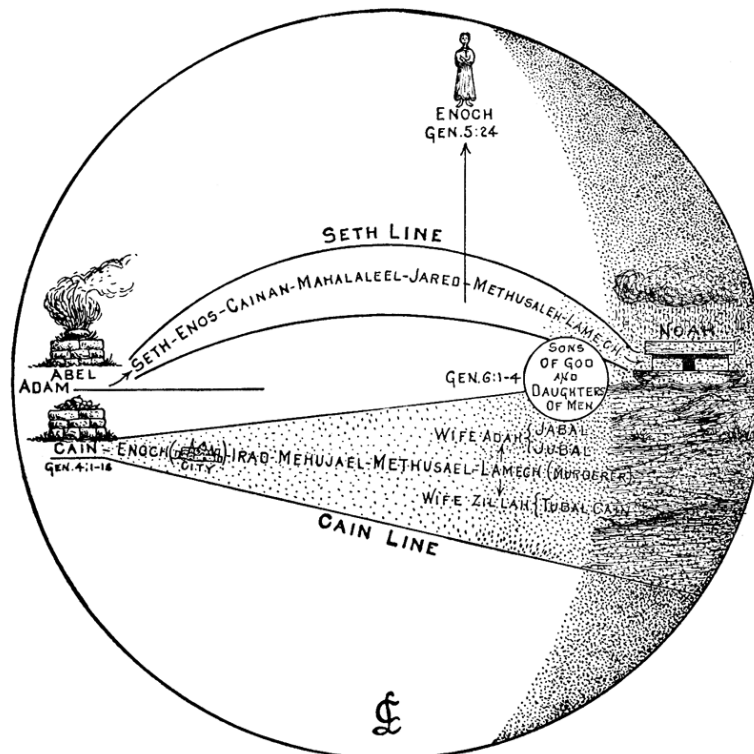
**Angelic View (i.e. they were fallen angels)**

A second hypothesis states that the "sons of God" are a category of fallen angel referred to as Watchers who came to earth and had children with the daughters of men. This union resulted in a race of half-angel, half-human beings known as the Nephilim.

**Gods and Cities (i.e. they were powerful human rulers)**

A third hypothesis relates the "sons of God" to the 70 sons of El and Athirat in the Canaanite tradition of Ugarit, from whose marriage with a race of titanesses (the daughters of man), the 70 nations of the earth were born. Each city or people thus had its own divinity, with whom they had a special covenant (i.e. Ba'al Be'rith = Lord of the Covenant). This marriage of the divinity with the city would seem to have Biblical parallels too with the stories of the link between Melkart and Tyre; Yahweh and Jerusalem; Chemosh and Moab; Tanit and Baal Hammon with Carthage, and may have been celebrated annually after the new year with a hieros gamos or sacred marriage, in which a Qadeshtu (Holy One) took the role of the God's consort, representing the city.

Reference (in part): [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sons\\_of\\_God](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sons_of_God)



**2. ANTEDILUVIAN DISPENSATION  
( CONSCIENCE )**

**Clarence Larkin's figure on the Antediluvian Dispensation (Larkin lived 1850-1924)  
(e.g. before the Flood)**

