



10-14-17

Bereisheet-In the Beginning

Genesis 1:1-6:8

Isaiah 42:5-43:10

Galatians 5:16-17

Introduction

The world does not exist merely to please us. While human beings may be the pinnacle of God's creation, the world and the cosmos remain God's creation, not our own. The standards of value therefore come not from us, but from God.

Genesis 6:1-7

¹ When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, ² the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. ³ Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years." ⁴ The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown. ⁵ The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶ And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷ So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them." (ESV)

Who were the sons of God who married the daughters of man? Is it possible they were fallen angels? We are told that angels do not marry, so can they procreate? It is obvious from the beginning that God's Spirit would not abide in man forever. The reason – man was flesh and he was mortal and would one-day die. God also determined that the life span of man would be 120 years of age. It did take a while for man to come down to this age because man needed a longer life span in the beginning to be able to populate the earth. Then we come to a race called the Nephilim, whose definition is giant. Did the Nephilim survive the flood? I doubt it because we are told they were on the earth in the early days, and they would be there again later. I believe this had to be talking about the flood. Once again, we see that the Sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they had children. They were called the mighty men of old, the men of renown, and we see some of David's men described this way.

Immediately following this is the comment that God saw the wickedness of man and that all they wanted to do was evil. This might have been because their fathers were the Nephilim, possibly fallen angels who had rebelled against God, chose to follow Satan, and were cast out of heaven and down to the earth. The evil they had committed was cast out with them, and most likely contaminated the earth and all it touched. Because of the evil nature of man, God regretted creating man and decided He would blot mankind out and the animal kingdom. Man may have also contaminated the animal population as well.

<04229a> מַחַח *machah* (562a)

Meaning: *to wipe, wipe out*

Origin: a prim. root

Usage: blot(12), blotted(11), destroys(1), utterly blot(1), wash off(1), wipe(1), wipe...away(1), wiped(1), wipes(3), wiping(1).

To blot something or someone out is the act of removing them from a page of text by blotting out the words you want to remove. This is a permanent action, and this is not the first time God refers to this being done. God expected more from His creation, and they let Him down. Blotting also means to wipe away, and that was about to happen with the flood God would send upon the earth literally immersing the entire earth in water in order to cleanse it and cause it to emerge a new creation just as we are called to be a new creation when we accept Messiah and are immersed.

Numbers 13:32 So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying, "The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height. ³³ And there we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak, who come from the Nephilim), and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them." (ESV)

We move from Genesis to Numbers, and once again we see mention of the Nephilim represented as Anak, their descendants now living in the land God promised to Israel. It was because of them ten of the twelve spies gave a bad report. Fear had entered them because of the giants. Had they placed their trust in God, all would have been fine, but they turned to sin by cowering in fear and wanting to go back to Egypt. First, they cry out to God for redemption from slavery, and He gives it to them. Then He brings them to the Promised Land, and once again they turn away in fear despite God's promises. He made Israel His covenant people, but the giants were there once again as they were before the flood waiting to bring man down.

Deuteronomy 7:1 "When the LORD your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than you, ² and when the LORD your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them, then you must devote them to complete destruction. You shall make no covenant with them and show no mercy to them. ³ You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their

daughters for your sons, ⁴ for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. (ESV)

The Israelites are instructed once they enter the land, they were to destroy the seven nations, even though they were mightier than Israel. They were also told not to make a covenant with them nor intermarry with them. What did Esau do that offended his parents? He married two of the women of the land. God knew if Israel intermarried with the nations in the land, they would turn away from serving the one true God and serve the false gods, perhaps even believing the Nephilim and their descendants were gods. Men choose to believe the craziest things, and there is no shortage of that in the Bible.

1 Kings 11:1 Now King Solomon loved many foreign women, along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, ² from the nations concerning which the LORD had said to the people of Israel, "You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. (ESV)

Solomon's sin is that he loved many foreign women. That was to be his downfall. He married some of the women who had been left in the land when Joshua was unable to conquer all the Promised Land. They were from the nations God told Israel not to marry because they would turn away from God and follow the gods of the nations. Solomon did exactly the opposite of what God has instructed, and his heart was turned away from the Almighty who decreed that the kingdom would be divided into two parts: ten tribes to go north under Jeroboam and two tribes in the south under Rehoboam, Solomon's son. When you make a poor bargain, it will come back and haunt you in the end, and it did in Solomon's case and eventually in Israel and Judah's.

Isaiah 42:5-9

5 Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ "I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. ⁹ Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them." (ESV)

The Lord, the Creator of all, called His people in righteousness to walk a path He would show them. He gave them His Spirit to guide them and help them to keep His covenant of Torah. He gave them His Son Yeshua to bring them salvation and to teach them the proper walk of Torah. His people were to be a light to the nations to show the way to Messiah and Torah. He sent the Messiah Yeshua to bring His people into the light and out of the darkness. This was His plan from the beginning when He created light to shine in the darkness. The darkness was inhabited by Satan and those who serve him, while

the light is Messiah, who needs no army but has the heavenly host at His call as well as those from mankind who belong to Him given to Him by His Father. The day is coming when that which had come before will fade away and new things would come, as the Lord has spoken about them through the prophets, and the greatest of these was His Son Yeshua, the chosen Messiah, the Son of the Living God.

Galatians 5:16-17

16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. (ESV)

In order to walk according to Torah, one needs the *Ruach HaKodesh*-the Holy Spirit to show them the way and to reveal to them the secrets found in Torah to help them walk in the Spirit instead of the flesh. The flesh and the spirit are opposed to one another. We must call on the power of God as given to us through Yeshua to help us overcome the flesh and to walk in the spirit. The flesh is weak and will eventually pass away. The spirit is eternal, and we need to learn to let it have control so we will walk in the ways of the Lord.

2 Thessalonians 2:7 For already this separating from *Torah* is at work secretly, but it will be secretly only until he who is restraining is out of the way. ⁸ Then the one who embodies separation from *Torah* will be revealed, the one whom the Lord Yeshua will slay with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the glory of his coming. ⁹ When this man who avoids *Torah* comes, the Adversary will give him the power to work all kinds of false miracles, signs and wonders. ¹⁰ He will enable him to deceive, in all kinds of wicked ways, those who are headed for destruction because they would not receive the love of the truth that could have saved them. ¹¹ This is why God is causing them to go astray, so that they will believe the Lie. ¹² The result will be that all who have not believed the truth, but have taken their pleasure in wickedness, will be condemned. (CJB)

The Apostle Paul is talking about the anti-messiah who will be empowered by the Adversary, also known as Satan. He will be able to deceive those who could not walk the way Messiah Yeshua laid out for us. They are headed for destruction because they could not see the truth that was placed right in front of them. If they would have grabbed hold of the truth, the Messiah would have redeemed them, but they went “*off the rails*” and took pleasure in wickedness and will face condemnation in the Day of Judgment. Are you walking the path Messiah is on waiting for us at the end? He already made the journey and laid the path out for us. It is one guided by faith and Torah. The two go hand in hand, and we walk with Him forever.

I will close with this:

Torah Man says, “Behavior is the mirror in which everyone shows his image.”

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver
Rabbi, Etz Chayim-Tree of Life Messianic Congregation

TORAH: LEARN IT, LOVE IT, LIVE IT AS YESHUA DID! PSALM 119. If you are not learning Torah, we invite you to attend Judaic Studies Institute, a Distance Learning Institute for Yeshua based Judaic Studies. Drop us a line at student.support@jsi-edu.org for more information. You can earn a certificate or diploma and take courses to help you grow in your understanding.



