



THE BEGINNINGS!

The Book of Genesis

Finding Grace in a Fallen World!

Genesis 6:1-22

Message #7 of 50 – S904

Sermon given on July 19, 2020

@ Hawk Ranch, Murrieta, CA



Sunday Morning Service

Pastor Rick Lancaster

Finding Grace in a Fallen World!

Genesis 6:1-22

Opening Comments

- Good morning – turn to **Genesis 6**
- Today we continue our journey through **Genesis: THE BEGINNINGS!**
- What if God asked you to do something big? Would you do it?
- What if He asked you to dedicate a huge part of your life to something? Would you? Could you?
- What if God wanted to use you to change the world? Would you let Him?
- And if He does, how do you discover what it is that God wants to do through you?
- That's what I am hoping we discover this morning
- Because it is in that discovery that we begin to live the life that deep down in the God-indwelt part of our heart we are yearning for
- Let's pray and ask the Spirit to open our hearts wide this morning
- **Pray**

Teaching

- **Finding Grace in a Fallen World!**
- We start our study this morning with one of the stranger things in Genesis
- **Genesis 6:1-4**
- The Bible teaches that there is a being of immense power that deceives the world into rebellion against God - Its name is Satan
- When Satan rebelled, he took a third of the angels with him
- We refer to them as fallen angels or demons – they are the 'sons of God'
- At some point, some of these demons started having sexual relations with human women
- Their offspring were something that wasn't fully human, nor was it angelic – they were the Nephilim – probably the origin of the giants, like Goliath

- Refers to them as ‘men of renown’ = men of violence, warriors
- They were unnatural, unholy creatures
- And God dealt with those fallen angels **Jude 6**
And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day...

- At the time Moses is writing this there are giants in Canaan and hundreds of years later David kills Goliath with a sling and stone
- Demons and giants are not the only thing wrong with the world
- **Genesis 6:5**
- It is only ten generations since Adam and Eve walked with God in the cool of the day
- Sin has completely corrupted the human race
- Then God’s heart is revealed in the next verse
- **Genesis 6:6**
- God felt sorrow that His greatest creation had been corrupted by sin
- ‘grieved in His heart’ – that is a result of God’s love
- Even though the ‘wickedness of man was very great’ – God’s love for man was greater **John 3:16**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

- God’s love covers all of humanity – it grieves His heart when they don’t love Him back
- It bothers Him when they are living lives of wickedness and evil – not loving Him or each other – hurting one another
- Not because it costs Him something – He is complete
- But because of what it costs them – they were created for more, for better
- Things are so bad, God is left with only one thing to do
- **Genesis 6:7**
- One of the attributes of God that we love is mercy
- Mercy is not getting what we deserve
- God would be in His right to punish anyone who sins, the moment they sin – He doesn’t do that – He is merciful, waiting patiently for the sinner to repent

- God is amazingly merciful, but there is a line where mercy makes way for wrath.
 - To despise God's mercy is to invite His wrath.
 - But it is not all wickedness and evil
 - **Genesis 6:8-10**
 - There was something about Noah that resulted in him experiencing God's grace
 - Grace = the unmerited or undeserved favor of God
 - In all the darkness of fallen mankind's sin, wickedness, and exceeding evil, Noah stood out like a beacon
 - He was a just man – another way of saying he was righteous – he was right with God **Hebrews 11:7**
- By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.**
- Noah believed God – righteousness
 - 'perfect in his generations' = blameless – pointing to his moral conduct
 - Noah, living in a godless, evil society, was not led astray by the countless temptations around him and no one in his culture could accuse him of sin.
 - Jesus said the time right before He comes back will be just like the times of Noah
 - It is not hard to look around our world and see verse 5
 - It is possible to be righteous and blameless in a sin-wrecked world
 - Then God does something unusual
 - **Genesis 6:11-21**
 - God tells Noah to build a boat – a really big boat
 - A cubit is about 18 inches - Approximately 450 feet long x 75 feet wide x 45 feet high.
 - And he had to build it all by hand – find, cut, and haul the lumber
 - And as far as we can tell, it was just Noah and his three sons building it – took them 100 years
 - I've got several unfinished projects on our property – feels like it is going to take me 100 years to finish

- The ark was a visual representation of both judgment and salvation – God’s wrath and His mercy
- During the 100 years that Noah built the ark, people asked him what he was doing – and he would tell them
- And the word would spread far and wide
- Anyone who looked upon the ark for that 100 years knew that it represented Noah’s belief in God – and in His Word
- Judgment was coming but anyone inside the ark would be saved
- Jesus is our ‘ark’ – judgment is coming to this world – everyday it is more “The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.”
- Someday God’s patience will run out, and all that will be left is wrath
- Jesus talked about that day **Luke 21:34-36**

But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.

- In Noah’s day, you had to be in the ark to be saved
- Today someone must in Christ to be saved
- There was only one door in the ark – only one way in – also a picture of Christ **John 10:7-10**

Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

- And then in John 14 Jesus said He was the way, the truth, and the life
- The world is going the way of Cain – self-willed rebellion against God
- Noah built an ark as a witness to the people of the world around him – of judgment and mercy
- What are we building? God told Noah to build a big boat – what is He telling you to do?
- **Genesis 6:22**
- Noah believed God and did what he believed God had told him to do
- Noah found grace in the darkness of a fallen, wicked, perverse world
- He found it by believing God and walking with Him in righteousness

- God told Noah to build a boat, which he then dedicated 100 years of his life and led his family to walk with him in faithful obedience to God
- What is God asking you to build?
- For me – God has asked me to be the human instrument He uses to build this church
- I am not alone – Kelly is with me – Randy and Debbie – the Board and their wives – and many others
- We are building an ark – a place where people can experience God’s forgiveness, grace, mercy, hope, joy, peace, and love
- And if we are faithful to God – a place where the lost can see the judgment that is coming and find hope in salvation by faith in Jesus
- Maybe you haven’t heard God tell you to build a big boat
- If you haven’t, then do what Noah did, what Enoch did – they walked with God
- God told Noah what to do as Noah walked with God
- God has given you everything you need to walk with Him **R. Kent Hughes**

The righteous person rests everything on the bare word of God and obeys it.

- You are righteous based on faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross
- Do what you know – be faithful to what God has already revealed to you
- And then grow in what you know – get to know God better through His Word, through prayer, through service, through communion with His people
- And share what you know – You don’t have to be a Bible scholar to tell others about what you believe
- Walking with God may not be easy in this fallen world, but we can, we must – the world is lost in the darkness and they need a beacon to draw them out of the darkness
- Do what you know
- Grow in what you know
- Share what you know
- And you also, just like Noah, will find grace in God’s eyes

- And you will build a life that is a life-saving ark for the lost
- Walk with Jesus today
- **Pray!**