



THE BOOK OF
GENESIS

THE NEPHILIM

GENESIS 6:1-4

The first age of human history was brought to its climax and culmination in the days of Noah.

- In **Matthew 24**, Jesus not only verified the historicity of the great Flood, but also encouraged us to study closely the characteristics of the days before the Flood; for these would also characterize the days just before His return.

THIS IS ONE STRANGE PASSAGE

Moral and spiritual conditions in the antediluvian world had deteriorated beyond reclamation.

- Finally, in the days of Noah, a strange and terrible event took place, leading rapidly to such a tidal wave of violence and wickedness over the earth.
- The “***sons of God***” saw the “***daughters of men***” and took them as their wives, the children of such unions being “**giants in the earth.**”

THE NEPHILIM/GIANTS/FALLEN ONES

One's first reaction to this passage—and the standard interpretation of the liberal theologians—is to think of fairy tales.

- They dismiss the entire story as legend and superstition—legends of ogres and dragons, myths of the gods consorting with men.
- The interpretation of the passage turns on the meaning of the phrase “*sons of God*”—*bene elohim*.

THEY ARE FALLEN ANGELS

- The actual phrase *bene Elohim*, used three other times—all in the very ancient book of **Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7**—refers to angels.
- A very similar form, *bar Elohim*, is used in **Daniel 3:25** and also refers to an angel or to a theophany.
- “Sons of the mighty,” *bene elim*, is used in **Psalms 29:1** and also **Psalms 89:6**, and again refers to angels.

They were demonic—pure, unadulterated evil!

SATAN'S INFLUENCE

These particular Satanic angels compounded their original sin in following Satan in his rebellion against God by now leaving *“their own habitation”* and keeping not their *“first estate.”* **Jude**

- *“Going after strange flesh”* as later did the Sodomites *“in like manner.”*
- Today this is also a type of what you and I would call demonic possession.
- Satan is still at work today. **Eph. 6:12** and **Eph. 2:2**

GOD'S PATIENCE HAS LIMITS

Since the witness of God's Spirit to man's spirit had been rejected, there was no purpose to be served any longer in maintaining man's physical life and continued multiplication.

- God has always been long-suffering, even under such awful conditions as prevailed in the days of Noah. **1 Peter 3:20**

But that patience does have limits!

BIGGER, BUT NOT BETTER v. 4

One of the most amazing facts revealed by paleontology is that nearly all modern animals were once represented by larger ancestors.

- The “giants,” the mighty men of old, in the Hebrew is *nephilim* and comes from the Heb. verb *naphal*, “fall.”
- The name came also to mean “giants” and was applied later to the giants seen in Canaan by the Israelite spies. **Numbers 13:33**

OTHER GIANTS

There were giants “*also after that,*” in the days of the Canaanites (**Numbers 13:33**)—the Philistines of Gath.

- **Anakim** (Heb.) were a race of giants, descended from Anak. They lived in the southern part of the land of Canaan, near Hebron. **Gen. 23:2; Josh. 15:13**
- According to **Gen. 14:5-6**, they also inhabited Edom and Moab in the days of Abraham.
- The Philistine Goliath, whom David encountered (**2 Samuel 21:15-22**), was a descendant of the Anakim.

THESE STRANGE EVENTS in **Gen. 6** are also found in the New Testament. **2 Peter 2:4** and **Jude v. 6-7**

- The punishment which overtook the angels that sinned emphasizes the seriousness of apostasy.
- It is possible the “Sons of God” may have another run, perhaps as the supposed aliens SETI is searching the cosmos for.

***NO WORRIES IF YOU KNOW JESUS; WE WILL BE
IN HEAVEN WHEN THE NEPHILIM ROAM L.A.!***