

Flood

Genesis 5:25-27 And Methuselah lived an hundred eighty and seven years, and begat Lamech: 26 And Methuselah lived after he begat Lamech seven hundred eighty and two years, and begat sons and daughters: 27 And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died.

Transmission of the Genesis story - Methuselah lived 969 years Gen. 5:25-27, his life over-lapped Adam's by 243 years, Noah's by 600 years and Shem's by 98 years, thus dying the year of the flood. Methuselah thus forms a connecting link between the Garden of Eden and the post flood world. Shem then lived till 75 years after Abraham entered the Promised Land.

Date of Creation of Adam - Ussher's Chronological Order using the probably corrupted MT or Masoretic text places date of creation of Adam at 4004 BC, The Septuagint (Greek O.T.) some 1,500 years earlier. The Hebrew Bible shows some 1,656 years between Creation & Flood. When was the Flood? Early Christians used the Septuagint and it dates the flood at 5,554 BC less 1,656 years or 3,898 BC.

Every reliable literary source before 100 AD uses the longer Septuagint or LXX chronology and not the shorter Masoretic Text. Both Philo and Josephus were using the extant Hebrew manuscript of their day which followed the longer Septuagint (LXX) chronology. They were not using the Greek Septuagint used in Synagogues as their source, but the Hebrew text used in the Jerusalem Temple. The Dead Sea Scrolls prove the Jews changed the O.T. for anti-Christian reasons after the destruction of the Temple in 70AD.

The earliest chronologies date back to the earliest civilizations of Early Dynastic Period in Egypt, Mesopotamia & Sumerians which emerged independently of each other from roughly 3500 B.C

Genesis 6:1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

The posterity of Cain was children of a fallen nature: degenerate sons and daughters of an apostate degenerate father.

Genesis 6:2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

Warrior

The problem that immediately confronts us here regards the identity of the "sons of God." All efforts to identify these with angels or other supernatural creatures should be rejected. Coffman's Commentary has 7 scriptural reasons to reject this view. (See Links & Resources on this website, then scroll down to Coffman's Commentary)

The children of Seth saw the daughters of Cain and intermarried with Godless women. We have the scriptural warning today:

II Corinthians 6:14-18 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Genesis 6:3 And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

First, the prelude to the disaster about to be related is given in Genesis 6:1-4, where the progressive worsening of wickedness results in the withdrawal of God's Spirit (Genesis 6:3), with the consequent hardening of mankind. Divine judgment is announced as the consequence of the hopeless condition brought upon themselves through their total rejection of God.

Here God promises the earth 120 years respite to repent and if not; they should all perish in the coming flood or the previous long life span of men is to be reduced in the near future to 120 years.

Giants or *Nephilim*:

Genesis 6:4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

"There were giants (*Nephilim*) in the earth in those days ..." This is a citation of the time when the unlawful marriages proliferated and represents those marriages as "an event that followed the appearance of the *Nephilim*. The Hebrew can be translated "mighty men". Although it is likely that the men in view were men of great physical stature, the thought in these appears to pertain more to their exploits of daring and violent deeds.

There were giants in the earth, Hebrew: *nephilim* from *naphal* which means "he fell". The *nephilim* were the descendants of Cain, plus all those who had intermarried with Godless women and apostatized or fell from the true religion of God. The Septuagint or ancient Greek translation of the Old Testament translates the original word as "earth born" and the KJV giants without having any reference to persons of enormous stature ... even though they may have been muscle bound freakish brawlers and thumpers. Thus the word when

it is properly understood makes a distinction between the sons of men or sons of Cain who were the *nephilim* the fallen earth born men with animal and devilish minds ... versus ... the sons of God or the sons of Seth who we might say were born again so to speak by trusting in the promise of God cf: Genesis 3:15 to send the deliverer, Messiah or Christ to save them. Thus we have the beginning of the concept of saints and sinners in the Old Testament.

The same became mighty men, men of renown Hebrew: *gibborim* (gib-BOR-ihm) which we render mighty men means conquerors or heroes from *gabar* (GAH-bar) he prevailed or was victorious and *anshey hashshem* (an-SHAY HAH-shem) men of the name. The Septuagint renders men of renown as *renominati*, twice named. Having one name which they derived from their fathers and another which they acquired by their daring exploits and enterprises.

Thus the KJV translators have rendered seven different Hebrew words by one term giants. *Nephilim*, *gibborim*, *enachim*, (en-ACK-ihm) *rephaim*, (RE-fame) *emim* (EHM-ihm) and *zamzummim* (zahm-ZUHM-ihm) which probably means in general persons of great knowledge, courage, wickedness and long lifespan.

Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

What did God see? He saw wicked violent people who said cf:

Job 22:12-16 Is not God in the height of heaven? and behold the height of the stars, how high they are! 13 And thou sayest, How doth God know? can he judge through the dark cloud? 14 Thick clouds are a covering to him, that he seeth not; and he walketh in the circuit of heaven. 15 Hast thou marked the old way which wicked men have

trodden? 16 Which were cut down out of time, whose foundation was overflowed with a flood:

Genesis 6:5-8 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man [was] great in the earth, and [that] every imagination of the thoughts of his heart [was] only evil continually. 6 And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. 7 And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Building Of The Ark

Genesis 6:9-15 These [are] the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man [and] perfect in his generations, [and] Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. 11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. 13 And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

The universality of the destruction is apparent in the words "end of all flesh." The labors of skeptics to make some local event flood out of the destruction announced here are frustrated by the appearance of a great and universal flood in the mythologies of all nations, even those of American Indians. If there was no universal flood, how could such a fact be accounted for? Besides that, the appearance of marine fossils upon all continents at elevations of very great height cannot be explained apart from what is written here.

"With the earth ..." Not only life, but the physical environment of the earth itself would be involved according to this. What is meant is that a catastrophic disturbance of the whole planet would precipitate detrimental changes in the earth itself. Man's speculation about the past is founded upon his foolish belief that, "All things continue as they were from the creation of the world." We know that this is untrue, as attested by the apostle Peter (2 Peter 3:4).

Mastodon - arctic

Francis Schaeffer mentions in detail the example of prehistoric mammals of great size having been uncovered in the perma-frost frozen wastes of Siberia, an area supposed to have been uniformly cold for thousands of years; and yet, whenever those tropical creatures froze, it took place so quickly that the plants found in their mouths, neither spit out nor swallowed, were still in the process of being eaten! As Schaeffer said, "Nobody can explain this ... nobody!"

Genesis 6:14-15 Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. 15 *And this [is the fashion]* which thou shalt make it [*of*]: The length of the ark [*shall be*] three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.

Noah's Ark - approximately 450 feet long x 75 feet wide x 45 feet tall = 1,518,750 cubic feet; which is the storage capacity of 1,000 train box cars - an enormous ship. There is nothing impossible about the Bible's description of Noah's Ark, it is scientifically Reasonable.

Research shows that these dimensions are perfectly proportional for ocean stability with waves up to 30 meters which is almost 90 feet.

Thus the ark was just a little smaller than the Battleship Texas. The Ringling Brothers Circus came to Dallas in 56 box cars. Reasonable!

The Bible mentions a “former cubit” II Chronicles 3:3 & Ezekiel 43:13 which corresponds to the Egyptian long cubit of 22 inches ... if the long cubit is intended in describing the Ark it would be 502 feet long.

The Epic of Gil-ga-mesh the 5th Priest-King of Ur-uk the Babylonian Noah is un-reasonable, impossible and is obviously a hand me down camp-fire myth with a seed of historical memory of a long past flood ... he himself says it was 5 generations since the flood that he wrote.

Gilgamesh boxboat

“On the fifth day I laid the framework. One whole acre (43,560 sq. ft.) was the floor space, ten dozen cubits the height of each of its walls (180 feet) ten dozen cubits each edge of the square deck (180 feet) ...

“the launching was very difficult, so they had to shift the floor planks above and below, until two-thirds of the structure had gone into the water.” 180 X 180 = 32,400 sq. ft. the Gil-ga-mesh math is not an acre 43,560 ... how could you “launch” a 180 foot high box? Compare to the Bible’s inspired account this is **UTTERLY IMPOSSIBLE FOOLISHNESS.**

Genesis 6:16-22 A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; [*with*] lower, second, and third [*stories*] shalt thou make it. 17 And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein [*is*] the breath of life, from under heaven; [*and*] every thing that [*is*] in the earth shall die. 18 But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

Crucifixion

The necessity for this covenant comes from the fact that the promise of deliverance through Christ God had made to Eve (Genesis 3:15) was apparently about to be abrogated and canceled through the

death of all mankind. What about the Seed (singular or one child) who would crush the head of the Serpent? This covenant was God's arrangement with Noah, whereby the Seed would be delivered through him and his posterity. "Noah need not be afraid ... he would survive this judgment. And as Noah's part of the covenant, he was required to believe and obey God's word, build the ark according to God's instructions, and then enter it with his family. In that way only would he be saved.

Right here is the very first mention of covenant in the entire Bible; and within it is the revelation of the way that God's New Covenant should be understood. Although the parties of such a covenant are by no means equal, yet there is a part for each to play. Noah fulfilled his part of it in the manner described in Genesis 6:22, below. In short, he DID what God commanded him to do. That is the manner in which he "by faith" became the heir righteousness that is "according to faith."

Sacrifice cut in half

Genesis 6:19 And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every [*sort*] shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep [*them*] alive with thee; they shall be male and female. 20 Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every [*sort*] shall come unto thee, to keep [*them*] alive. 21 And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather [*it*] to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them. 22 Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

Occupying The Ark It is a quality of both the O.T. and the N.T. in descriptions of some important events, whether of the creation of Adam and Eve or of the conversions Cornelius the first Gentile or the conversion of the apostle Paul, that they are described more than once. The total picture always including supplemental information

from the multiple texts. There are no less than eleven instances of this phenomenon,

Genesis 7:1-3 And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation. 2 Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that [are] not clean by two, the male and his female. 3 Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth.

Pics of animals

Right here is where the critics start screaming contradiction! They assert that this is from a different source, and that another source to which they ascribe Genesis 6:20 mentions only "two of every sort." The very next verse (Genesis 6:21), however, stressed that "food of every sort" was also to be taken into the ark. Animal flesh had been a source of food long prior to the flood, then the multiple pairs of clean beasts and fowl were inherently included previously in God's revelation that ample food supplies were to be taken aboard. So where is the contradiction?

Genesis 7:4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

Unger pointed out that "forty" appears in both O.T. and N.T. as "the sacred number of trial and patience," there being many examples of it: Jesus' fasting for forty days, Moses on the mountain 40 days, the children of Israel wandering in the wilderness for forty years, etc.

Destruction of everything was necessary in order to preserve the ecological balance on the earth. At a time when the human family was being reduced so drastically in numbers, the unlimited

proliferation of the lower creation would have become a threat to the lives of men.

Genesis 7:5-9 And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him. 6 And Noah [*was*] six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth. 7 And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood. 8 Of clean beasts, and of beasts that [*are*] not clean, and of fowls, and of every thing that creepeth upon the earth, 9 There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.

the animals "were taken in by God... by implanted instinct." Noah did not have to round up the animals and corral them and drive them into the ark they "went in unto Noah."

Genesis 7:10 And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth. 11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. 12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights. 13 In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark;

I Peter 3:20-21 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. 21 The like figure whereunto [*even*] baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

Genesis 7:14-16 They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon

the earth after his kind, and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort. 15 And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein [is] the breath of life. 16 And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in.

There may have been some of those souls to whom he preached so long and so faithfully for whom Noah still had hope that they would enter and be spared; and he would have found it difficult indeed to close the door in their face. If so God spared him that act of sorrow by himself sealing the gate of life. The day of grace was then over.

Genesis 7:17-20 And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth. 18 And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters. 19 And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that [were] under the whole heaven, were covered. 20 Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

Seashells on mountain

The scientific community has no explanation whatever of how marine fossils are found at elevations above the snowline in the Cordilleras and the Himalayas are not at all convincing in their shouted denials that what is recorded here is a record of what really happened. However, it should be noted that faith in the Bible is confidently affirmed by some of the greatest scientists. It is only those who are drunk upon a little learning who brashly deny the Bible!

Genesis 7:21-24 And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man: 22 All in whose nostrils [was] the breath of life, of all that [was] in the dry [land], died. 23 And

every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained [*alive*], and they that [*were*] with him in the ark. 24 And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days.

Genesis 8: 1-4 And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that [*was*] with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assayed; 2 The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained; 3 And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated. 4 And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.

Men/animals drowning

The great point of this entire narrative is that humanity deserved destruction. This Flood is a type and symbol of that ultimate sentence of death that shall yet be executed upon all men for the rebellion against the Creator.

Departure From The Ark

Genesis 8:5-20 And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth [*month*], on the first [*day*] of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen. 6 And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made: 7 And he sent forth a raven, which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth. 8 Also he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground; 9 But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters [*were*] on the face of the whole earth: then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled

her in unto him into the ark. 10 And he stayed yet other seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark; 11 And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth [*was*] an olive leaf pluckt off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth. 12 And he stayed yet other seven days; and sent forth the dove; which returned not again unto him any more. 13 And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first [*month*], the first [*day*] of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry. 14 And in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was the earth dried. 15 And God spake unto Noah, saying, 16 Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. 17 Bring forth with thee every living thing that [*is*] with thee, of all flesh, [*both*] of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth. 18 And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him: 19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, [*and*] whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark. 20 And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

Crucifixion

The Hebrew word for God here is not [*~'Elohiym*] but [*~Yahweh*], as frequently used in connection with God's covenant actions and in exhibitions of His grace. Here is another example of the impassable gulf that exists between mythical and Biblical accounts. God's smelling the "sweet savor" of Noah's magnificent sacrifice is merely a figure of speech to describe God's acceptance and approval of it.

Babylonian sacrifice

On the other hand, the vulgar Babylonian myth represents "the gods" as being "gathered like flies above the offerer of sacrifice," as if they were hungry and even starving because they had not been fed by sacrifice in such a long time! Even the most casual glance at the various mythical stories with accounts of a great flood reveals them as distorted and perverted accounts of the event accurately recorded in Genesis.

Genesis 8:21 And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart [is] evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more everything living, as I have done.

From the Epic of Gil-ga-mesh

“Seven cult vessels I sat up ... the gods smelled the savor, the gods smelled the sweet savor, the gods crowded like flies about the sacrifice.”

Genesis 8:21 And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart [is] evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more everything living, as I have done.

For that the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth ..."

What is really meant by it is that Noah and his descendants will not be any better than were the posterity of Adam. Despite such a fact, God would nevertheless go forward with his Operation Mankind.

This is a unmistakable prophecy of the continuing wickedness of humanity was to the effect that Noah's behavior soon provided "a striking example" of mankind's depravity.

Genesis 8:22 While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Earth Tilted

"While the earth remaineth ..." This is not a promise that the established order will continue eternally, but that "as long as the earth itself exists," that order will continue. The Scriptures make it explicit that there is still another event that shall annihilate the whole world in the fires of the eternal judgment (2 Peter 3).

"Seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night..." Josephus described the necessity for the promises in these verses as follows:

"But as for Noah, he was afraid, since God had determined to destroy mankind, lest he should drown the earth every year. So he offered God burnt offerings and besought God that nature might hereafter go its further orderly course. He also prayed God to accept his sacrifice, and to grant that the earth might never again undergo the like effects of his wrath."

If this reasonable opinion should be accepted, then the event of the rainbow covenant mentioned in the next chapter would appear to be, at least partially, the result of Noah's fearful petitions.

2nd Coming

This stupendous event was pointed out by Christ himself as a "foreshadowing of the final judgment that shall at last summons all men before that solemn tribunal where every man shall receive the appointment of his eternal destiny (Matthew 24:37-39). "Extinction is what we deserve ..."

Matthew 24:34-39 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. 35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. 36 But of that day and hour knoweth no [man], no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. 37 But as the days of Noe [were], so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

I Peter 3:20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

II Peter 3:5-6 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Covenant With Noah

Genesis 9: 1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

From the Epic of Gil-ga-mesh

“When at length as En-lil (god) arrived, and saw the ship, En-lil was wroth, he was filled with wrath ... ‘has some living soul escaped?’ No man was to survive the destruction.”

But the Babylonian Epic myth does have some parallels to the Bible

The flood was divinely planned

The hero is warned to build a ship, pitched within & without

The hero & his family are saved

Animals to be saved are placed on the ark

Everyone not on the ship are destroyed

The ship lands on a mountain

Birds are sent out to see if the water is receded

Sacrifice is offered

Genesis 9: 1-6 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. 2 And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth [*upon*] the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered. 3 Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. 4 But flesh with the life thereof, [*which is*] the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. 5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. 6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

This whole passage may be viewed as God's precautionary action taken against the possibility of the recurrence of the universal physical violence that preceded the Flood. It is significant to note that this represents a change in the action of God Himself when He spared Cain, following the murder of his brother Abel. Cain's fear that someone would kill him (Genesis 4:14) shows that even he realized that his crime deserved death, hence, the fear that gripped his evil heart. But with the establishment of this law, God had seen enough of such leniency. Henceforth, the murderer would receive the retribution

that his crime deserved. Capital punishment for murderers is a law here instituted by God Himself. The just application of such a law would necessitate the creation of a judiciary with power to exonerate those who were inadvertently guilty in a technical sense, but whose lives should be spared, as later formalized in the law of Moses in the establishment of the cities of refuge. The germ of government is here also found.

"By man shall his blood be shed ..." "This is not merely a permission legalizing, but a command enjoining capital punishment." Only God has the right to take life, but in this commandment, it is clear that, "When God commands man to execute murderers, He delegates this task to him, and it becomes his God-given responsibility to do it.

Genesis 9:7-17 And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein. 8 And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, 9 And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; 10 And with every living creature that [*is*] with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. 11 And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. 12 And God said, This [*is*] the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that [*is*] with you, for perpetual generations: 13 I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. 14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: 15 And I will remember my covenant, which [*is*] between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember

the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that [is] upon the earth. 17 And God said unto Noah, This [is] the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that [is] upon the earth.

"Covenant ..." This word "occurs some two hundred times in the O.T." There was a series of covenants with Abraham; two were revealed to Noah, and many were made with Israel.

"By the waters of a flood ..." This is the prime qualifier of this covenant. The promise was not that "never again would the earth be destroyed," but that it would not be done a second time by means of a flood. The N.T. is explicit, as also the Minor Prophets, that another total destruction of the earth will yet occur, by means of fire, at or near the time of the Coming again of Jesus.. (See 2 Peter 3; Zechariah 12:9).

"I do set my bow in the cloud ..." This would mean that rain had not fallen upon the earth until the times of the flood, which some see as a fact in the light of Genesis 2:6. The great problem of making the rainbow a pre-existing "sign" is that: "If it was, it was a lying sign, because the Flood came in spite of it

I Peter 3: 19-21 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; 20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. 21 The like figure whereunto [*even*] baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

II Peter 2:4-5 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast [*them*] down to hell, and delivered [*them*] into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; 5 And spared not the old world, but saved

Noah the eighth [*person*], a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

Genesis 9:18-25 And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and Ham [*is*] the father of Canaan. 19 These [*are*] the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread. 20 And Noah began [*to be*] an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: 21 And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent. 22 And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without. 23 And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid [*it*] upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces [*were*] backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness. 24 And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. 25 And he said, Cursed [*be*] Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren. 26 And he said, Blessed [*be*] the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. 27 God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant 28 And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years. 29 And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years: and he died.

"Cursed be Canaan ..." What Cain was to the antediluvian world, Canaan was to the world after the flood. He was the ancestor of the Canaanites who preceded Israel in the land of Palestine, and the preoccupation of that entire Canaanite culture with their vulgar sex gods, which they worshiped with the most abominable rites, indicates clearly that they partook of the nature of their infamous ancestor. This also lends strong presumptive proof that the nature of Canaan's sin was sexual by the phrase "did to him". Significantly, it was precisely that evil culture which later overwhelmed Ephraim and the

whole northern kingdom of Israel, through which, in turn, the southern kingdom also fell and was carried away by Babylon.

"Blessed be Jehovah, the God of Shem ..." This means, that in a particular sense, God would be identified as "the God of Shem," through whom the Messiah would come for human redemption. This is the prophetic designation of Shem as the patriarch through whom Jesus would be born.

"Enlarge Japheth ..." This prophesied the multiplication of his posterity, which was remarkably fulfilled in the proliferation of the populations of Europe and other places where so-called Western Civilization prevailed.

"... he shall dwell in the tents of Shem" Japheth (the European Gentiles) shall worship the Lord the God Shem,' another reference to the spiritual blessings upon the Church through the Messianic line.

The Sources that have been quoted freely and paraphrased: KJV Bible, Strong's, Burton Coffman & Clark's Commentary, Hailey's Bible Handbook, Wikipedia, Bible Chronology & The Seed Lesson