



BAND of BROTHERS

FALL SERIES 2022 – WEEK 5

### Genesis 6:9-11:9: A Royal Reboot

*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.*

– Genesis 6:5 ESV

- **God begins again**

- Adam and Eve have been banished from Eden
  - But God has not abandoned them
  - The mandate is still in place

*“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” – Genesis 1:28 ESV*

- Adam and Eve start a family

*Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she **conceived** and **bore** Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord.” And again, she **bore** his brother Abel. – Genesis 4:1-2 ESV*

*“I have created a man just as the Lord did.” – Genesis 4:1 NET*

- Eve seems to be comparing herself to God
  - Like God, she made a man *ex nihilo*
  - She had the god-like capacity to create life
  - Eve is expressing pride over her life-giving power
- The grace to conceive and bear fruit

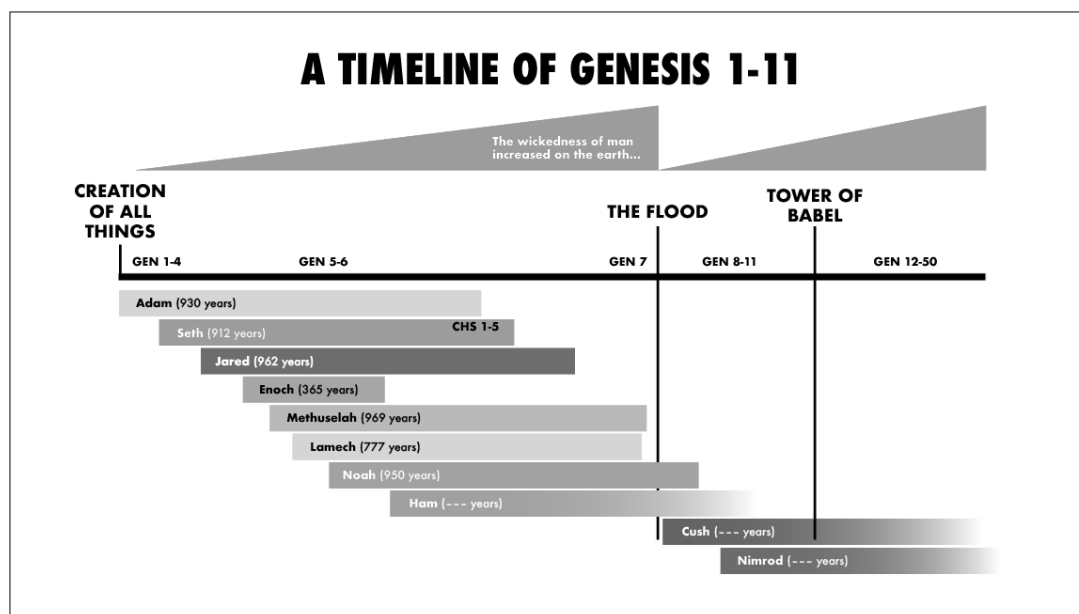
*Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she **conceived** and **bore** Cain... – Genesis 4:1 ESV*

*“I will surely multiply your pain in **childbearing**; in pain you shall bring forth children.” – Genesis 3:16 ESV*

**conceived** – *hārâ* – to conceive, become pregnant, to contrive

**childbearing** – *hērâyôn* – conception and pregnancy (from *hārâ*)

- This was both a **painful** and **fruitful** experience
- It featured both **joy** and **suffering**



- **A succinct summary**
  - Ch 4 – the first murder
    - Cain kills Abel
    - God graciously spares His life but curses him
    - He departs from God’s presence
    - And constructs a city and a godless legacy
  - Ch 5 – a loss of identity

*When God created man, **he made him in the likeness of God**. Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created. When Adam had lived 130 years, **he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image**, and named him Seth.* – Genesis 5:1-3 ESV

“Man, made ‘in the likeness of God,’ continued to make more of his own kind...But there is a subtle, yet significant change that takes place in verse 3 of chapter five. Adam ‘fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image.’ Seth mirrored his father’s image. He bore his father’s likeness. Mankind’s ability to bear God’s image had been damaged.” – Ken Miller, *Devotionalary™ on Genesis*

- Adam’s descendants are born but then die

- Death becomes a recurring theme

*Adam lived...and he died... – vs 5*

- This phrase occurs 8X in chapter 5
- But there's bright ray of hope

***Enoch walked with God** after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. **Enoch walked with God**, and he was not, for God took him. – Genesis 5:22-24 ESV*

- Enoch was spared the curse of death

*“‘Walked with God’ is metaphorical and indicates that Enoch had a lifestyle characterized by his devotion to God. The sense of ‘walk’ (halak) in its verbal stem indicates a communion or intimacy with God.” – Kenneth A. Mathews, *Genesis 1-11**

- He would establish a godly legacy
- Enoch was Noah's great-grandfather

*When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered **Methuselah**. – vs 21*

*When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he fathered **Lamech**. – vs 25*

*When Lamech had lived 182 years, he fathered a son and called his name **Noah**... – vs 28-29*

*“Out of the ground that the Lord has cursed, this one shall bring us relief from our work and from the painful toil of our hands.” – Genesis 5:29 ESV*

- Lamech was unknowingly issuing a prophecy
- God was going use “this one” to lift the curse

***“...cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life.”** – Genesis 3:17 ESV*

***“I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth.”** – Genesis 8:21 ESV*

- Ch 6 – an increase in wickedness
  - This chapter chronicles the corruption of mankind
  - Things are getting progressively worse

*...the **sons of God** saw that the **daughters of man** were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. – Genesis 6:2 ESV*

- My simple explanation

"The lines of Cain and Seth both expanded rapidly, creating a perfect storm. These two divergent branches of Adam's family tree would soon find themselves interacting with one another. The godly and the godless would inevitably end up crossing paths and even intermarrying with one another.

"... 'the sons of God' and 'daughters of men' are intended as references to the godly line of Seth and the ungodly line of Cain. These two branches of Adam's family tree had begun to merge through intermarriage, and the result was a further degradation of the spiritual seed of Seth. The appearance of men like Enoch became increasingly rarer." – Ken Miller, *Devotionary™ on Genesis*

- Increasing degradation

*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. And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. – Genesis 6:5-6 ESV*

*Now **the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence.** And God saw the earth, and behold, **it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.** – Genesis 6:11-12 ESV*

*But **Noah found favor** in the eyes of the Lord. – Genesis 6:8 ESV*

- Noah was a **righteous** man – vs 9
- Noah was **blameless** in his generation – vs 9
- Noah **walked with God** – vs 9

- Noah: A walking anomaly
  - He was one of a kind
  - And he was in rarefied company

***By faith Abel** offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. – Hebrews 11:4 ESV*

***By faith Enoch** was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. – Hebrews 11:5 ESV*

***By faith Noah**, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. – Genesis 11:7 ESV*

- The Noahic Covenant
  - This was a divine statement of promise
  - Despite man's wickedness, God would extend grace
  - He provided Noah ample motivation to obey

*"For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth **to destroy all flesh** in which is the breath of life under heaven. **Everything that is on the earth shall die.**" – Genesis 6:17 ESV*

- All Noah had to do was **believe** and **obey**
- His construction of the ark would be **an act of faith**
- He didn't earn his salvation through works
- His work was a demonstration of his faith in God

***It was by faith that Noah built a large boat** to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. **By his faith Noah condemned the rest of the world**, and he received the righteousness that comes by faith.* – Hebrews 11:7 ESV

*So Noah did everything exactly as God had commanded him.* – Genesis 6:22 NLT

"God had promised salvation, and Noah believed Him. And Noah proved his belief through faithful adherence to God's command. Despite the formidable nature of the assignment and the countless questions that must have filled his head, Noah did exactly what he was told to do. In doing so, he proved himself to be the right man for the task.

"At no point does he question God's wisdom, second-guess God's plan, or express doubt in his own ability to pull off such a strange and seemingly impossible task. Noah simply did as he was told." – Ken Miller, *Devotionary™ on Genesis*

- Noah labored **diligently** against insurmountable odds
- He obeyed **faithfully** even in the face of opposition
- He trusted **confidently** in the promise of God

- Ch 7-8 – the promise fulfilled
  - The ark was finished and the flood came

*In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights.* – Genesis 7:11-12 ESV

*Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping*

*things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. – Genesis 7:22-23 ESV*

- But God remembered Noah

*“Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and **be fruitful and multiply on the earth.**” – Genesis 8:16-17 ESV*

- God was starting over with Noah – a new Adam
- This was going to be a new beginning

- Ch 9 – the covenant confirmed
  - God extends the terms to Noah’s descendants
  - He commits Himself to keep His word

*“I hereby confirm my covenant with you and your descendants, and with all the animals that were on the boat with you—the birds, the livestock, and all the wild animals—every living creature on earth. Yes, I am confirming my covenant with you. Never again will floodwaters kill all living creatures; never again will a flood destroy the earth.” – Genesis 9:9-11 ESV*

- Ch 9 – the curse of Canaan
  - The story takes a sudden dark turn
  - Noah decides to settle down

*Noah began to be a man of the soil, and he planted a vineyard. – Genesis 9:20 ESV*

- Noah gets drunk
- Ham discovers his father lying naked in his tent
- *“and told his two brothers outside” – vs 22*

*“Literally, the ancient Hebrew says that Ham ‘told with delight’ what he saw in his father’s tent. He determined to mock his father and undermining his authority as a man of God.” – David Guzik, *Study Guide for Genesis 9**

- Ham shamed his father
- And Noah was not pleased – vs 25
- Noah curses his grandson and all his descendants
- Ham’s offspring would become enemies of Israel

- Ch 10 – the nations of the earth
  - Ham fathers Cush, who fathers Nimrod, who builds Babel
  - The Philistines are descendants of Ham

- Ham also fathers Canaan

*These are the clans of the sons of Noah, according to their genealogies, in their nations, and from these the nations spread abroad on the earth after the flood. – Genesis 10:32 ESV*

- Moses has explained the origin of the nations
- He has let them know the identities of their enemies
- The Canaanites were the ones who occupied the land of promise

*Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you. When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. But the Lord's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage. – Deuteronomy 32:7-9 ESV*

- Ch 11 – the audacity of autonomy
  - Moses reveals a little-known fact
  - At one point humanity shared a common language
  - Their unity gave them a sense of autonomy

*“Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.” – Genesis 11:4 ESV*

- They rejected God's will for their own
- They refused to fill the earth
- And they preferred fame over faithfulness
- So, God intervened

*So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. **Therefore its name was called Babel**, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth. – Genesis 11:4 ESV*

- **Discussion questions**

As you consider the events of these chapters, what jumps out at you and what lessons could you learn from them?

What lessons could the Israelites have taken away from these stories and how might they been convicted by them?

How does the story of Babel relate to mankind's ongoing obsession with autonomy and significance. Read Psalm 2:1-5 to get further insight.







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FALL SERIES 2022 – WEEK 6 HOMEWORK

**WEEK 6: Gen 11:10-15:21 – Back to Eden**

In this week's lesson, we will explore God's choice of Abram, a Chaldean who lived in the land of Ur. One of the significant points in this lesson is the movement back toward God. The fall ended with Adam and Eve cast out of the garden and mankind headed in an easterly direction, away from God. But with Abram's calling, God sends him west, back towards the "garden" and into a relationship with Him. In a sense, Abram represents the prodigal son returning to his Father's side. And Genesis 13:10 describes the land He was giving to Abram to be "like the garden of the Lord." Yet, the land of Canaan was far from a paradise. There were enemies and difficulties to be faced. There were challenges that test Abram's faith and confidence in God's power. And yet, this section also includes a covenant and a powerful promise from God.

- Set aside some time this week to read through Genesis 11:10-15:21. Take notes and jot down anything that impresses you from the stories in this text.
- Read pages 139-189 of Ken's Devotional™ on Genesis.
- Go back and re-read Genesis 11:10-32. What important points stand out in these somewhat lengthy and boring genealogies?
- Chapter 13 starts rather abruptly. Seemingly out of nowhere, God appears to Abram. What does God tell him to do?

What does God promise to do for Abram?

- Based on Abram's venture into Egypt, recorded in chapter 12, verses 10-20, what kind of insights do you learn about Abram's character?
- Look at chapter 13. How does Abram handle the conflict with his nephew Lot?

According to verse 10, what was motivating Lot?

But how does God reassure Abram in verses 15-18?

- Genesis 14 has another story involving Abram's nephew Lot. According to verses 11-12, what kind of a predicament had Lot gotten himself into?

How did Abram intervene and why do you think this is important?

Look at verses 22-24. What does Abram's refusal to accept a reward say about his trust in God?

- Write down the promises that God made to Abram in chapter 15. Then take some time to consider what Abram must have thought about these difficult-to-believe promises.