

Four great events are recorded in Genesis 1–11: the creation of the universe, the fall of man, the Flood, and the attempted construction of the Tower of Babel. These chapters reveal that where mankind disobeys God, the Lord judges sin, and then in His grace makes a new beginning. We've covered the first two, today we'll complete the final two great events.

The First Gospel (Review)

A CHART COMPARING AND CONTRASTING THE RESPONSES TO GOD'S TRUE WORD*

What God actually said Genesis 2:16 - 17 (NASB)	What Eve/Adam misquoted Genesis 3:2 - 3 (NASB)	What the devil said Genesis 3:4 - 5 (NASB)
¹⁶ The LORD God commanded the man, saying (<i>Jehovah</i>)	[They omitted " God commanded "]	⁵ “For God knows...
From any tree of the garden you may eat freely	² The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat;	⁵ ...that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened,
¹⁷ but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat,	³ but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden,	...and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”
...for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.”	God (Elohim) has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it , or you will die.’”	⁴ The serpent said to the woman, “You surely will not die!

HISTORY:

1. Eve misquoted God's Word. Compare 3:2-3 with 2:16-17
2. Eve omitted that God “commanded” them to obey.
3. She spoke of “God” (Elohim) and not “the Lord [Jehovah] God,” the God of the covenant.
4. Finally, she said “lest you die”—a possibility—instead of “You shall surely die”—an actuality. (KJV)

APPLICATION:

Deuteronomy 4:2 (NASB) ²“You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

Deuteronomy 12:32 (NASB) ³²“Whatever I command you, you shall be careful to do; you shall not add to nor take away from it.

2 Corinthians 11:3 *But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.*

Ephesians 4:27 (NASB) ²⁷and do not give the devil an opportunity.

Genesis 3:15 (NASB) ¹⁵ And I will put enmity, Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

- God’s words to Satan (v. 15) are called **the protevangelium, “the first Gospel”**

I = God, our Heavenly Father

Enmity = ill will on one side or on both; hatred; especially mutual antagonism (Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary). But this enmity is good thing. This antagonism gave humanity the capacity to hate both Satan and sin.

Enmity A: Between Satan and Eve - Satan hated Eve from the moment of her creation, even when he was pretending to be her friend and confidant in tempting her to eat of the forbidden tree. The new thing was to be Eve’s (and Adam’s and all their true offspring’s) hatred of Satan as one aspect of God’s gracious preservation of and provision for the race. What a blessing that was!

Enmity B: Between future Godly vs. ungodly descendants

The godly descendants of the man and woman, influenced by God himself, and the ungodly descendants of the man and woman, influenced by Satan. This enmity tells us that God has not abandoned us, that he has established a beneficial enmity between those who desire good and those who desire evil.

Enmity C: Between Satan vs. Jesus Christ (un-fair fight!)

This last enmity assures us, not only of hope, but also of victory. It is the antagonism between Jesus, as the specific and climactic seed of the woman, and Satan himself. It was to result in the bruising of Jesus but also in the crushing of Satan and his power.

Seed = The offspring (“seed”) of the serpent and of the woman represent Satan’s family and God’s family. In the Parable of the Tares (Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43), Jesus states clearly that Satan has “children,” people who profess to be true believers but who are actually counterfeits. The parable reveals that wherever God “plants” a true child of the kingdom, Satan comes along and plants a counterfeit. The two grow together and won’t be separated until the harvest at the end of the age.

He = This He is referring to the Lord Jesus Christ

Bruise (your head) = Jesus will crush and permanently destroy Satan forever.

Romans 16:20 (NASB) ²⁰The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you. **Hebrews 2:14 (KJV)** ¹⁴Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Bruise (his heal) = By God’s design Satan will only delay Jesus temporarily

Isaiah 53:5 (KJV) ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

NOTE: While God did curse the serpent and the ground (Gen. 3:17), **He never cursed Adam and Eve.**

Genesis 3:15 (NASB) And I will put enmity (Our Lord God will put adversity and hatred...)

Between you and the woman, (Between Satan and mankind...)

And between your seed and her seed; (And...between all future saints and sinners)

He shall bruise you on the head, (Jesus, our Lord God and Savior will destroy Satan permanently)

And you shall bruise him on the heel.” (Jesus voluntarily suffers on the cross during crucifixion)

The First Murder

Genesis 4:2 - 8 (NASB)

²Again, she gave birth to his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of flocks, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

³So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the LORD of the fruit of the ground.

⁴Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering;

⁵but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell.

⁶Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?"

⁷"If you do well, will not *your countenance* be lifted up? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it."

⁸Cain told Abel his brother. And it came about when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

HISTORY:

- Cain murdering Abel wasn't motivated by sudden passion; it was carefully premeditated. Cain murdered his own brother out of envy and hatred. Furthermore, Cain did it after being at the altar to worship God and in spite of God's warning and promise. Finally, Cain took it all very lightly and tried to lie his way out of it. (Jude 11)
- Apparently, true and proper worship was taught by God to man: Gen. 3:21
God accepted Abel and his sacrifice indicated by consuming the animals with fire from Heaven. (Lev. 9:24)
God rejected Cain and his sacrifice. Cain wasn't rejected because of his offering (Lev.2), but his offering was rejected because of Cain: his heart wasn't right with God. " (1 Sam. 15:22)
It was "by faith" that Abel offered a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain (Heb. 11:4), which means that he had faith in God and was right with God.

APPLICATION:

Ephesians 4:31 - 32 (NASB)

³¹Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

³²Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

- The fact that people attend religious meetings and participate in church activities is no proof that they're true believers. It's possible to have "a form of godliness" but never experience its saving power (2 Tim. 3:5).
- "These people come near to Me with their mouth and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me" (Isa. 29:13; Matt. 15:8). The most costly sacrifices apart from the submission of the heart can never make the worshiper right before God (Ps. 51:16-17). "The way of Cain" is the way of self-will and unbelief.

The First Worldwide Judgement

Genesis 6:5 – 15; 17-18; 22 (NASB)

⁵Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

⁶The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

⁷The LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them."

⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

⁹These are *the records* of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.

¹⁰Noah became the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹¹Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence.

¹²God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth.

¹³Then God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.

¹⁴"Make for yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make the ark with rooms, and shall cover it inside and out with pitch.

¹⁵"This is how you shall make it: the length of the ark three hundred £cubits, its breadth fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits.

¹⁷"Behold, I, even I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth, to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life, from under heaven; everything that is on the earth shall perish.

¹⁸"But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife, and your sons' wives with you.

²²Thus Noah did; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did.

HISTORY:

1. **Noah was a believing man (Gen. 6:9-13)**

He walked with God and Noah is mentioned 50 times in 9 different books of the Bible.

2. **Noah was a righteous man (Gen. 6:9; 7:1)**

This is the first time the word "righteous" is used in the Bible. Noah's righteousness didn't come from his good works; his good works came because of his righteousness. Like Abraham, his righteousness was God's gift in response to his personal faith. Both Abraham and Noah believed God's Word "and it was counted to [them] for righteousness" (Gen. 15:6; see Heb. 11:7; Rom. 4:9; Gal. 3:1).

3. **Noah was a blameless man (Gen. 6:9)**

"Blameless" doesn't mean "sinless," because nobody but Jesus Christ ever lived a sinless life on this earth (1 Peter 2:21-22). The word means "having integrity, whole, unblemished." It was used to describe the animals acceptable to God for sacrifice (Ex. 12:5; Lev. 1:3, 10). Noah's conduct was such that his neighbors couldn't find fault with him (Phil. 2:12-16).

4. **Noah was an obedient man (Gen. 6:22; 7:5, 16)**

One of the major messages in Scripture is that we must not only hear God's Word but we must also obey it (James 1:22-25). The rest of the population was disobeying God and rebelling against His will.

5. **Noah was a faithful man who worked for God (Gen. 6:14-22)**

"The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him; and He will show them His covenant" (Ps. 25:15). When you walk with God, He speaks to you through His Word and tells you what you need to know and to do. (John 15:14-15).

APPLICATION:

- The only righteousness God will accept is the righteousness of Jesus Christ, His Son (2 Cor. 5:21); and the only way people can receive that righteousness is by admitting their sins and trusting Jesus Christ to save them (Rom. 3:19-30; Gal. 2:16).
- The person who is right before God through faith in Christ ought to lead a life that is right before people, for “faith without works is dead” (James 2:14ff). Paul warned about “unruly and vain talkers and deceivers ... who profess that they know God, but in works they deny Him” (Titus 1:10, 16). Noah wasn’t that kind of person.
- The life of faith and obedience is compared to a “walk” because this life begins with one step: trusting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. This step of faith leads to a daily walk, a step at a time, as the Lord directs us. He commands us to “walk in love” (Eph. 5:2), “walk as children of light” (v. 8), “walk in the Spirit” (Gal. 5:16, 25), and “walk circumspectly [carefully]” (Eph. 5:15). A step at a time, a day at a time, we walk with the Lord; and He guides us into His will and blesses us with His wisdom and strength.
- Most people know that Noah built an ark. What they may not know is that he also built a godly character and a godly family.

The Flood was worldwide, not *just* a local flood

Genesis 7:6 - 24 (NASB) ⁶Now Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of water came upon the earth.

¹⁰It came about after the seven days, that the water of the flood came upon the earth.

¹¹In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened.

¹²The rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights.

¹³On the very same day Noah and Shem and Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark,

¹⁴they and every beast after its kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, all sorts of birds.

¹⁵So they went into the ark to Noah, by twos of all flesh in which was the breath of life.

¹⁶Those that entered, male and female of all flesh, entered as God had commanded him; and the LORD closed *it* behind him.

¹⁷Then the flood came upon the earth for forty days, and the water increased and lifted up the ark, so that it rose above the earth.

¹⁸The water prevailed and increased greatly upon the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water.

¹⁹The water prevailed more and more upon the earth, so that all the high mountains everywhere under the heavens were covered.

²⁰The water prevailed fifteen cubits higher, and the mountains were covered.

²¹All flesh that moved on the earth perished, birds and cattle and beasts and every swarming thing that swarms upon the earth, and all mankind;

²²of all that was on the dry land, all in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, died.

²³Thus He blotted out every living thing that was upon the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky, and they were blotted out from the earth; and only Noah was left, together with those that were with him in the ark.

²⁴The water prevailed upon the earth one hundred and fifty days.

The First Skyscraper

Genesis 11:1 - 9 (NASB)

¹Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words.

²It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.

³They said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and burn *them* thoroughly." And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar.

⁴They said, "Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top *will reach* into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

⁵The LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built.

⁶The LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them.

⁷"Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another's speech."

⁸So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city.

⁹Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth.

HISTORY:

- The "tower" that they built at Babel was what is known as a "ziggurat" Archeologists have excavated several of these large structures which were built primarily for religious purposes. A ziggurat was like a pyramid except that the successive levels were recessed so that you could walk to the top on "steps." At the top was a special shrine dedicated to a god or goddess.
- In building the structure, the people weren't trying to climb up to heaven to dethrone God; rather, they hoped that the god or goddess they worshiped would come down from heaven to meet them.
- The structure and the city were called "Babel," which means "the gate of the gods." This infamous project was an arrogant declaration of war against the Lord, similar to the revolt described in Psalm 2:1-3.
- The people were resisting God's edict to scatter and repopulate the earth. They decided to build a city and a great ziggurat and stay together. They wanted to make a name for themselves so that others would admire them and perhaps come and join them. Their purpose statement was the devil's lie in Eden: "You will be like God" (Gen. 3:4).

The people had several things in their favor.

1. They were truly a "united nations," one people (11:6)
2. They spoke just one language
3. They used one vocabulary and dictionary
4. They were motivated by one spirit of pride and one compelling desire to make a name for themselves.

The only thing missing was the approval of God!

APPLICATION:

- Every generation builds its own towers, whether these are actual skyscrapers, the idea is the same: "We will make a name for ourselves." As believers, we are in the world, but we must avoid being of the world. We're not here to build the arrogant towers of men; we're here to help build the church of Jesus Christ.
- All who trust Jesus Christ are one in Him (Gal. 3:27) and will share heaven together, regardless of race, nation, language, or tribe (Rev. 7:9). In one sense, Pentecost was a reversal of Babel, for the people present in Jerusalem at Pentecost heard the praises of God in their own languages (Acts 2:1-12). The day will come when people from every tribe and nation will worship Jesus Christ (Rev. 15:4) and the judgment of Babel will be done away (Zeph. 3:9).