

THE NEPHILIM RACE

“The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. Those were mighty men who were of old, men of renown.” (6:4)

The Nephilim became the third race of the Antediluvian civilization. Write the other two on the blank lines _____ and the _____.

We will examine our lesson text by the following FIVE point homiletical outline.

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|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| • Daughters of men | (Gen.6:1-2) | Copulation | Nativity |
| • Days on earth | (Gen.6:3) | Countdown | Number (120 years) |
| • Depraved race | (Gen.6:4) | Children | Nephilim |
| • Divine judgment | (Gen.6:5-7) | Corruption | Nefarious (extremely wicked) |
| • Devout believer | (Gen.6:8) | Chromosomes | Noah’s family |

This lesson will study SIX aspects of the Nephilim as the third race of the Antediluvian civilization.

1. The Hebrew word, Nephilim, is an articular noun that means the fallen ones (Gen.6:4).

The word Nephilim is formed from the hiphil (causative) of the verb naphal. The niphil form of naphal refers to them also as tyrants.

“The real idea of the word must have been ‘fallen ones’ or monsters of the mixed human and angelic birth, like the rebellious Titans.” (Unger Bible Dictionary, pg.402)

In old Greek, they were referred to as heroes or Titans or “mighty men who were of old, men of renown.” (Gen.6:4).

2. Many scholars believe them to be the subject of the Titans and Olympians of Greek Mythology.

“Greek mythology begins with Homer, generally believed to be not earlier than a thousand years before Christ.” (Mythology by Edith Hamilton, pg.14)

“The Greeks made their gods in their own image. These and their like were what the pre-Greek world worshipped. One need only place beside them in imagination any Greek statue of a god, so normal and natural with all its beauty, to perceive what a new idea had come into the world.” (Mythology, pg.16)

“On earth, too, the deities were exceedingly and humanly attractive.” (Mythology, pg.17) (This belief can be seen in Acts 14:8-20 [Paul as Hermes and Barnabas as Zeus.] Greek mythology taught that the gods were created after the universe.

The Bible teaches that the Nephilim brought the cataclysmic flood upon the Antediluvian world.

3. The title, sons of God, is used in the Book of Job for the fallen angels.

“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them.” (Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7)

The Nephilim were the offspring’s of the sons of God and the daughters of men (Gen.6:1-4). It is no accident that the Nephilim were called the fallen ones.

The writers of the NT wrote that these specific fallen angels were responsible for the Nephilim race - “And the angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day.” (Jude 6; 1 Pet.3:19-20; Rev.9:1, 11)

“For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly.” (2 Pet.2:4-5)

4. The Nephilim are described by four different terms in Gen.6:4.

- Offspring’s (yalad / kal pf) [bore children] of sons of God and daughters of men (Gen.6:4)
- Nephilim (fallen ones) (Gen.6:4)
- Mighty men of old (gibbor olam) [tyrants, powerful, heroes] (Gen.6:4)
- Men of renown (enosh hashem) [fame of defective humanity] (Gen.6:4)

The term Nephilim is used in Num.13:28, 33 by some of the spies to give an exaggerated description of the Anakim - giants who lived in the Promised Land like Goliath; (Deut.1:28; 2:10-11; Josh.11:21; 14:12; 1 Sam.17:4-7).

5. The Nephilim were the sum total of maximum evil that brought about the cataclysmic universal flood upon the Antediluvian world (Gen.6-9).

“Then 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.” (Gen.6:5)

“Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked on the earth, and behold, **it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth**. Then 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.’ (Gen.6:11-13)

6. The fallen angels (sons of God) of Gen.6:4 were cast into Tartarus until the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Rev.9:1-8, 11).

“For if God did not spare the angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell (Tartarus) and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for the judgment.” (2 Pet.2:4) (Rev.20:1-10).

“In which also He went and made proclamation to **the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient**, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.” (1 Pet.3:19-20)

“And the angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day.” (Jude 6)

This was a satanic attack upon the promised messianic Savior of the world (Gen.3:15). It involved genetic manipulation against the seed of the woman of Gen.3:15; Matt.1:20-21; and Luke 1:34-35.