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GREAT EVIL ON THE EARTH

We are studying the sixth lesson of the Days of Noah, taken from Matt.24:37-39.

(Matt.24:37) - "For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah."

What was the central cause for God to destroy the Antediluvian civilization? This lesson will tell us why and issue a warning to the Church of Jesus Christ, now living in "last days of the Son of Man."

Five reasons why God chose to destroy the Antediluvian Civilization by water (The Flood)
"Because there was Great Evil on Earth!"

- 1. Gen.6:5 describes the earth being saturated with great evil!
 - "Every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only (raq) evil (ra/ LXX/ ta poneros) continually" (kalhayom)
 - o Every moment of everyday!
 - "Every intent of the thoughts of the heart"
 - o Explains what was being formed in the mind as concepts to live as everyday life (Jer.17:9).

We are told that "only evil continually" meant that the "thoughts were evil every minute of every day" in minds of the mankind of the Antediluvian civilization.

Evil is the worldly system of Cosmos Diabolicus (Eph.4:20-24). It's the thinking of the Devil, the evil one. It stands in opposition to God's Will and Divine Viewpoint thinking.

• Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus vs. New Man Divine Viewpoint thinking.

(1 Jn.5:19) We know that we are of God, and that the <u>whole world</u> lies in the power of <u>the evil one</u> (to poneros).

The Danger: "Evil in heart of mankind is expressed in the culture that is corrupting its civilization, such as in did in the Antediluvian Civilization."

God warns that evil, that is only continuous in hearts of mankind, corrupts the earth.

(Gen.6:11) "Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence."

- 2. There are three stages of poneros evil that will destroy a civilization: (Gen.6:11-12)
 - Continuous evil in the heart (Gen.6:5)
 - Corruption (shachath/ niphal impf) (Gen.6:11)
 - Violence (Gen.6:11)
 - o Violence (chamm) is a legal term describing lawlessness, anarchy, and uncontrollable crime)

The Danger: When the earth becomes filled with evil, corruption, and violence; then you know what God thinks, and what He says about it. This is true whether He is speaking about an individual or a collective society.

(Gen.6:13) "Then God said to Noah, 'The end of all flesh has come before me; <u>for (cause)</u> the **earth is filled** (male/ qal pf) with violence because of them; behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth."

- 3. In Gen.6:13, God warns mankind of the consequence of maintaining an evil heart, corruption, and violence, which is destroying a culture, a civilization, and even the earth!
 - Note that it is evil in heart of man that corrupts and destroys the civilization and earth (Gen.2:15; 3:1-24).

(Gen.6:13) "Then God said to Noah, 'the end of <u>all flesh</u> has come before Me; for <u>the earth</u> is filled (qal pf) with violence because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy (shachath/ hiphil ptc 3pl) [to ruin] them with the earth."

God declared that He would destroy the earth by a cataclysm flood.

(2 Pet.2:5) "And (God) did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood (kataklusmos) upon the world of the ungodly."

(Eph.5:6) "Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience".

4. Flood water (mabbul) is described as a cataclysm (Ps.29:10; Gen.6:17; 7:6-7, 10; 9:11, 15, 28; 10: 32; 11:10).

The flood waters of the Days of Noah changed the geography of the earth for the Postdiluvian world (Divine Blessings).

(Matt.24:38-39) "For as in those days before **the flood (kataklusmos)** they were eating and drinking, marrying, and giving in marriage, **until the day** that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand **until the flood** came and <u>took them all away</u>; **so will the coming of the Son of Man be."** (2 Pet.2:5; 2 Cor.6:1-2)

Noah was a preacher of righteousness for 120 years yet -"They did not understand until the flood" because "Every intent of the thought of their hearts were only evil continually."

5. Divine judgment upon the Antediluvian Civilization is further described in Gen.6:17:

(Gen.6:17) "Behold, I, even I am bringing the flood (mabbul) of water upon the earth, to destroy all flesh in which is the breath (ruach/spirit) of life (chayyim/lives), from under heaven; everything that is on the earth shall perish. (gawa/ql impf) [death by drowning.]"

(Gen. 7:21-23) the breath (neshamah) of the spirit (ruach) of life (chayyim)

(Gen.2:7) "Then the Lord formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being."

A Warning: Biblical history will repeat itself in the Coming of the Son of Man.

(Matt.24:37-39) "For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying, and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be."

(2 Pet.3:3-7) Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with *their* mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For *ever* since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation." For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God *the* heavens existed long ago and *the* earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.