



Who Are the Sons of God?

The Controversy of Genesis 6:1-4



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Preview of Angelology

1. Good angels
2. Satanology
3. Demonology
4. Gen. 6:1-4 controversy



Genesis 6:1-4

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Alternative Views

- Intermarriage between the Godly line of Seth and the ungodly lines of Cain
- Polygamous Cainite despots
- Fallen angels procreating with human women



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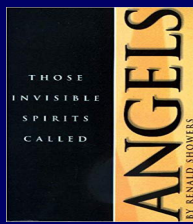
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Renald Showers

Those Invisible Spirits Called Angels (Bellmawr, NJ:
Friends of Israel, 1997), 96-97.



“...it is interesting to note that the Sethite Line-Cainite View does not begin until the fourth century A.D. This makes it the newest of the three major views. The New Catholic Encyclopedia states that this view ‘that sees in these sons of God the Sethites and in the daughters of men the Cainites dates from the fourth century and is influenced by theological concern for maintaining the spirituality of the Angels.’ This seems to imply that the major motivation for starting this view was not exegesis of Scripture but opposition to the angel view...”

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Genesis 4:23

Lamech said to his wives, “**Adah and Zillah**, Listen to my voice, You wives of Lamech, Give heed to my speech, For I have killed a man for wounding me; And a boy for striking me.”



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Genesis 3:15

“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.”



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Genesis 4:1

“Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, ‘I have gotten a manchild with *the help of the Lord.*’”



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Genesis 5:29

“Now he called his name Noah, saying, ‘This one will give us rest from our work and from the toil of our hands *arising* from the ground which the LORD has cursed.’”



Genesis 3:17

“Then to Adam He said, ‘Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat from it’; **Cursed** is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it All the days of your life.’”



Daniel 11:37

“He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the desire of women, nor will he show regard for any *other* god; for he will magnify himself above *them* all.”



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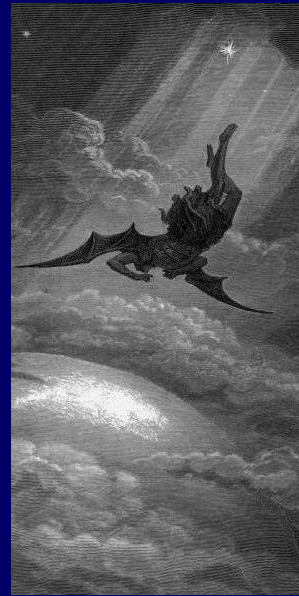
Satanic Attempts to Stop Messiah

1. Herod; Mt.2;Rev 12:4
2. Cain; Gen. 4, 1 Jn. 3:12
3. Pharaoh; Ex. 1
4. Athaliah; 2 Chron. 22
5. Haman; Esther
6. Matt 4:5-7



Satan's Progressive Defeat

1. Initial eviction from heaven (Isa 14:12-15; Ezek 28:12-17)
2. Eden (Gen 3:15)
3. Pre-diluvian world (1 Pet 3:19-20)
4. Cross (John 12:31; 16:11; Col 2:15; Heb 2:14; 1 John 3:8)
5. Mid point of the Tribulation (Rev 12:9)
6. Beginning of millennium (Rev 20:2-3)
7. End of millennium (Rev 20:10)



DOES NOT REFER TO ANGELS

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Millard Erickson

John MacArthur

J. Sidlow Baxter

Henry Morris

Warren Wiersbe

Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Paul Enns

Robert Lightner

Gleason Archer

D. Edmond Hiebert

John Sailhammer

James Boice

Wayne Grudem

Robert Morey

Meredith Kline

M. R. DeHann

Leupold

Charles Ryrie

Williamson, unpublished paper, DTS

Lesson Overview

- Defense of the Angel View
 - ◆ Old Testament
 - ◆ New Testament
 - ◆ Tradition
 - ◆ Objections



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- Men (6:1) versus the sons of God (6:2)
- Old Testament uses (Gen 6:2, 4; Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7)
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Job 1:6

“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them.”



Ezekiel 28:14, 16

“¹⁴ You were the anointed cherub who covers, And I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire.”... ¹⁶ By the abundance of your trade You were internally filled with violence, And you sinned; Therefore I have cast you as profane From the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the stones of fire.”



Job 2:1

“Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord.”



Job 38:7

“When the morning stars sang together
And all the sons of God shouted for joy?”



Deuteronomy 14:1

“You are the sons of the Lord your God; you shall not cut yourselves nor shave your forehead for the sake of the dead.”



Romans 8:14

“For all who are being led by the Spirit of God,
these are sons of God.”



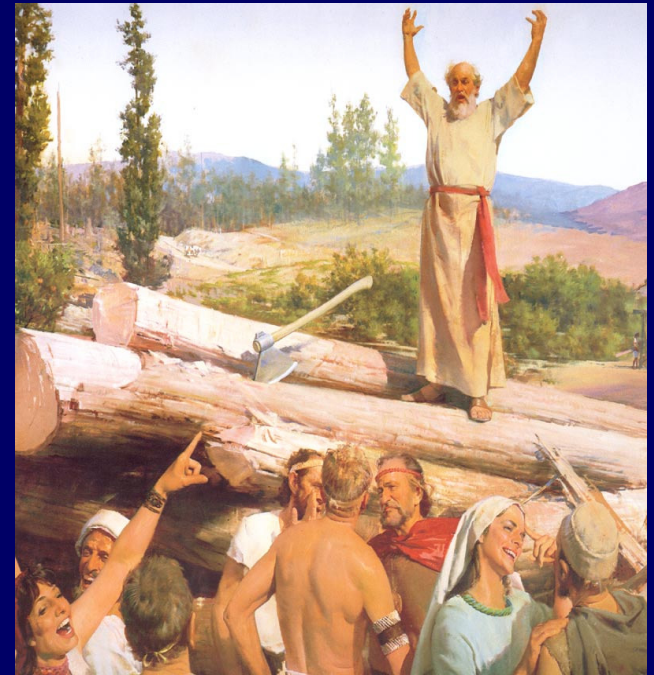
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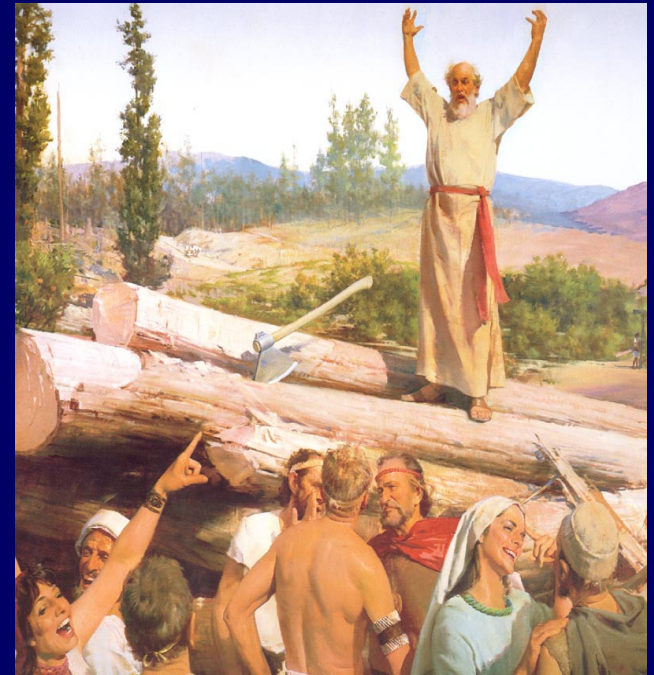
Additional Arguments From Genesis 6

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- Noah's perfection (6:9)
- Evil of pre-flood humanity (Gen 6:3, 5-7, 11-13)
- Necessity of the flood



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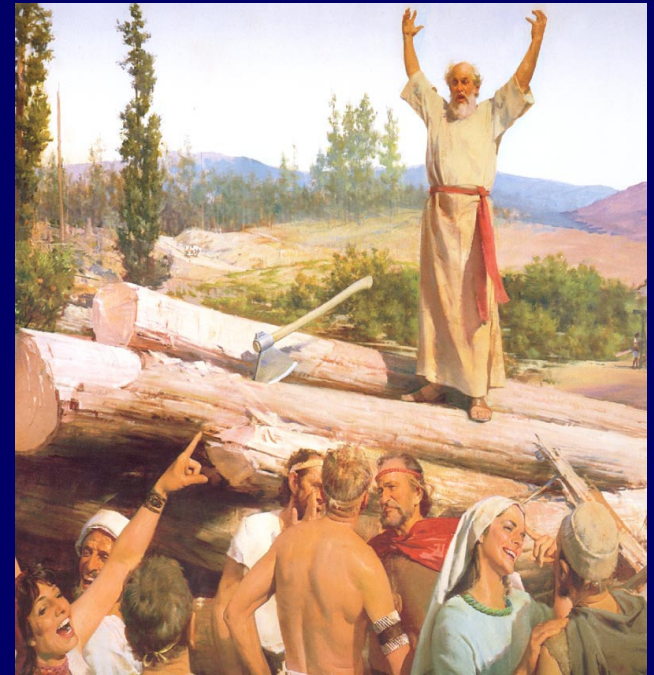
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Genesis 6:8-9

“⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.
⁹ These are *the records of* the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.”



Genesis 8:21

The Lord smelled the soothing aroma; and the Lord said to Himself, “I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man’s heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done.[emphasis mine].



Romans 3:23

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”



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Genesis 9:20-21

“²⁰ Then Noah began farming and planted a vineyard. ²¹ He drank of the wine and became drunk, and uncovered himself inside his tent.”



Genesis 6:8-9

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Exodus 12:5

“Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.”



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God's Messianic Purposes Beginning in Genesis

- Proto evangelium (3:15, 21)
- Seth (4:25)
- Noah (Gen 5:29)
- Shem (9:26)
- Abraham (12:3)
- Isaac (21:12)
- Jacob (25:23)
- Judah (49:10)



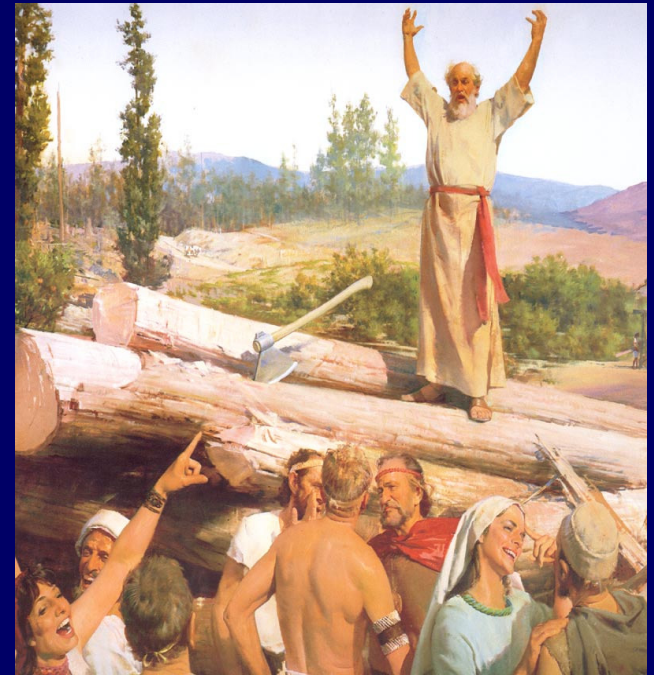
Genesis 6:11-13

“¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹² God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. ¹³ 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.”



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Genesis 6:5-7

“⁵ 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. ⁶ The Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. ⁷ The 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.”



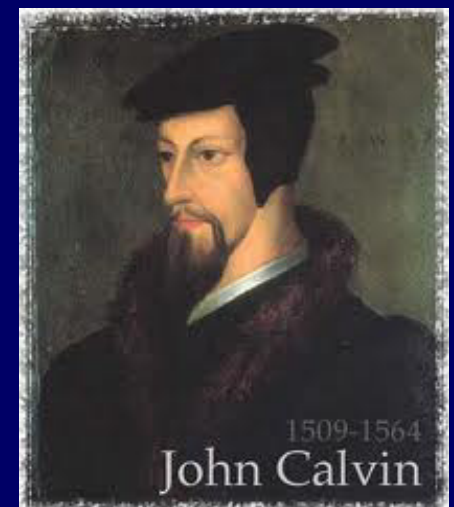
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Total Depravity

- What total depravity *is not*:
 - ◆ Man is as evil as he can possibly be & indulges every possible sin
 - ◆ Man is incapable of doing good things
 - Gen. 3:22
 - Matt. 7:11
 - Acts 10:1-2
 - Rom. 2:14-15



Henry Clarence Thiessen

“The Scriptures speak of human nature as totally depraved. However, the doctrine of ‘total depravity’ is easily misunderstood and misinterpreted. From the negative standpoint, it is important to know both what it does not mean and what it does mean. This does not mean that every sinner is devoid of all qualities pleasing to men; that he commits or is prone to every form of sin; or that he is bitterly opposed to God as it is possible for him to be. Jesus recognize the existence of pleasing qualities in some individuals (Mark 10:21); He said that the scribes and Pharisees...

Henry Clarence Thiessen

...did some things God demanded (Matt. 23:23); Paul asserted that some Gentiles 'do instinctively the things of the law' (Rom. 2:14); God told Abraham that the iniquity of the Amorites would grow worse (Gen. 15:16); and Paul says that 'evil men and imposters will proceed from bad to worse' (2 Tim. 3:13)."

CONCLUSION

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