

6) Noah (Heb. 11:7) Faith that Built the Ark

The Life and Culture of Noah's Day

A) The line of Lamech from chapter 4 has continued down the slippery slope of unrighteousness

1) Lamech had defied the command of God and had taken 2 wives (4:23)

2) Now society had degenerated into a free sexual society

a) Now the sons of God freely took multiple wives unto themselves (v. 2)

b) These sons of God are thought to include many of the descendants of the godly line of Seth

That is why they are called the sons of God – They supposedly were still calling on the name of the Lord

**The progression of wickedness starts when people ignore the the commands of God  
and adopt what seems right in their own eyes**

Notice that the criteria for choosing women was their physical beauty, NOT their allegiance to God (v. 2)

B) The next step down the slippery slope is to completely ignore the standards of God altogether

1) The sons of God married multiple women (v. 2) – **Polygamy**

2) Now there were the Nephilim (v. 3) – **Giants or Mighty Warriors**

a) These men now have intimate relations with the offspring of the sons of God

b) Now there is no mention of marriage or taking of a wife – Simply that they had relations and bore children

Society has now degenerated into a free sexual society

Where intimate relations have no bounds of marriage upon it

It is viewed as simply something to satisfy a desire – with no commitment to the woman or the child afterward

A Culture of Sensuality

C) The next step down is to remove any standards of God altogether

1) Since God's standards regarding sexuality, marriage and family are thrown to the wind

Why would some like this obey ANY commands of God?

2) This is precisely what happens (v. 5)

a) The Lord sees that the wickedness of man was great – Living opposed to God

The Lord sees that **EVERY** intent of the heart of people in this society was that way – All that they could think of!

In fact – It is described as **ONLY EVIL CONTINUALLY!** – How much more emphatic can you say it that that?

Society had degenerated to where this was all that they could come up with

A Culture of Wickedness and Evil

D) The next step down the slippery slope is to place self into the place of God (v. 11)

1) God is the only true avenger and judge of others

2) Mankind now places himself in that position and fills the earth with violence

So it is **violence** that is the **last earmark** of this culture (v. 12-13) – Before God destroys it

4) These 3 areas – Sensuality, Wickedness and Violence were the trademarks of a society that God would destroy

a) It also marked the signs of a society that would be present at the end of time when Jesus returns

“As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of Man” (Lk. 17:26)

Does this sound like the society of today? – God destroyed a society like this (v. 13) – Can He do any different with ours?

## The Faith of Noah

### 1) Noah found grace (favor) in God's eyes (v. 8)

- a) Noah was a man who found God's grace for himself
- b) God pours out His grace upon all mankind – Even this corrupt society
- c) Grace is the unearned and un deserved favor of God offered to man

Noah was not a perfect man who never made mistakes – He was a sinner like the rest of us

Yet he found that God is compassionate and gracious to forgive those who come to God by Grace – Now found in Jesus

### 2) Noah was a righteous man (v. 9) – He had a true faith

- a) His faith was not merely lip service – it was a faith that lived according to the laws of God
- b) Even when others didn't – Because no one else in this time cared about God or His ways

### 3) Noah was blameless in his time (v. 9) – Whole, complete, having integrity

- a) No one could point the finger at Noah and say – “Aha – Look at that!”
- b) His life was exemplary – He could not be blamed for a breach against any other man
- c) He had a sincere consecration – In the midst of a wicked culture

### 4) Noah walked with God (v. 9)

- a) Like his predecessor Enoch – This man's testimony was that he walked with God  
He lived and walked and talked with God in his daily life – **His life was centered in God**

### 5) Noah was a preacher of righteousness

**2 Peter 2:5** <sup>5</sup> God did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness

- a) Noah not only lived righteously before God – But he told them what was going to happen
- b) He had a concern for these **PEOPLE IN THEIR DEPRAVITY**

### 6) Noah saved his family

- a) Noah's family was his wife – His 3 sons (v. 10) and their wives
- b) They still held to God's estate of marriage when the others in society did not

Noah saved his family in 2 ways

#### 1) He saved them from the wickedness of society

- a) Noah's righteous life and preaching were FIRST to his own family
- b) He was able to keep them from the wickedness of the culture
- c) He was able to keep them from the Sensuality – Wickedness – And Violence prevalent in the day

#### 2) He also saved them from the final judgment of God (v. 18)

It is interesting that when the New Testament talks about Noah – It talks about him saving his family

**Hebrews 11:7**

**1 Peter 3:20**

**2 Peter 2:5**

- a) The saving of the animals was secondary – The saving of Noah and his family was primary  
Noah saw to it that their faith in God and their lives in him was living and active