

WHERE SIN ABOUNDS

Genesis 6:1-8



Only with the juxtaposition against radical depravity can mercy actually make sense. Failing this understanding, you cannot sustain Christian theism. Otherwise, mercy becomes weak, expected, and even demanded.

Gregory Thornbury

Who were the "sons of God" and the "Nephilim"?

"sons of God"	Nephilim	sin condemned
fallen _____ or _____-possessed humans	mighty ("giant") offspring of demons and humans	demons intruding into the forbidden human realm
_____ aristocracy	physically and politically strong offspring or contemporaries	polygamy and abuse of power
godly _____	unrelated contemporaries (time-marker)	mixed marriages (godly to ungodly)

Sin Abounding

- Sin as unravelling _____ (1-4)

The human heart, ignoring God, turns in on itself, tries to lift itself, wants to please itself, and ends up debasing itself.

St. Augustine

Cf. Gen. 3:6; 6:11, 13.

- Sin as persistent _____ (5)

To be successful, evil needs what it hijacks from goodness.

Cornelius Plantinga

- Sin as _____ evil (5)

Craving ⇒ Scheming ⇒ Creating ⇒ Producing

God Responding

- He _____ (5).

- He _____ (6).

“regret” –

“grieved Him to His heart” –

- He _____ (7).

(The surprise is not that God rescues _____ one.
The surprise is that He rescues _____ .)

Grace Persisting

“But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD” (8).

“found favor” –

Noah’s righteousness was not the _____ of God’s favor.

It was the _____ of God’s favor.

Two Takeaways

1. Am I humbled by the depth of my sinfulness? If not, why not?
2. Am I astounded by the reality of God’s grace? If not, why not?