

**OT Narratives Bible Study Series**  
**Genesis 4-8 - Sin and its effects**

**For Discussion:** One of your old high school friends to whom you've been trying to share your faith finally agrees to come out to fellowship with you one Friday evening. As it happens, you're studying the account of Noah and the Flood that evening. The next day, you follow up with him and ask what he thought. He says, "It was OK, but do you really believe all that stuff about a world-wide flood and about Noah gathering animals into a boat? Sounds pretty far-fetched to me." How would you respond?

Previously, we saw how Genesis 1-3 lays the foundations for the Christian worldview, and also for understanding the rest of the Bible. In today's study, we consider the effects of sin, as depicted in Genesis 4-8.

**Read Genesis 4-5**

-Why did Cain kill Abel? (cf. Hebrews 11:1-4; 1 John 3:11-12)

-Why do you think there are two genealogies provided in Genesis 4 and 5, given that only one would survive the Flood (Gen. 6-8)? (Hint: compare and contrast the characters described in the 2 genealogies - what does this tell us about mankind? consider also Hebrews 11:5-7)

**Read Genesis 6-7**

-Why did God destroy the earth with the Flood? Who was Noah, and why did God save him and his family?

## Read Genesis 8

-What warnings and encouragements does the account of Noah and the Flood give us today? (cf. 2 Peter 2:5,9 and 3:3-13; Matthew 24:36-39)

## Putting it all together...

-What does today's passage (Genesis 4-8) tell us about God? about mankind? about sin and its effects?

## For further reflection

We've seen today that after the Fall, sin spread quickly throughout Adam's descendants, and the earth was filled with mankind's wickedness. In Noah's time, God warned that He would one day judge the sins of the world. Noah believed God and, by faith, "in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household." (Heb. 11:7) In His mercy, God patiently waited for many years while the ark was being built, giving ample time for repentance, yet the world continued in its rejection of Him. In the end, with the exception of Noah and his family, they were all swept away and perished when God's righteous judgment finally fell.

In the same way, though we may see evil abounding in our day, God has promised that He has "set a day when He will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He has appointed" - that is, Jesus Christ (Acts 17:31). He is not slow to fulfill this promise, but as 2 Peter 3:9 says, He "is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance." Have you turned to Jesus to be saved from God's coming wrath? If not, we urge you not to delay. The Bible tells us that the day of God's judgment will come like a thief, when we are not expecting it. Turn to Him now and be saved, for "now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation." (2 Cor. 6:2, NIV1984).

If you have already come to faith in Jesus Christ, are you continuing to walk with Him? Are you living a holy and Godly life, looking forward to the day of His return? Are you reaching out to others with the good news of salvation in Christ, knowing that He is coming again soon?

## Additional Resources

CGYG/LIFE website: [www.cgygfellowship.com](http://www.cgygfellowship.com) (Resources section)

- Genesis Bible study series: [http://www.cgygfellowship.com/BBS\\_Genesis.shtml](http://www.cgygfellowship.com/BBS_Genesis.shtml)
- OT Daily Devotional series

CGC website

- OT Survey and Genesis adult Christian education materials: <http://www.cgctorenglish.chinesegospelchurch.ca> (Resources section)