

Giants in the Land

We have been studying the heroes of faith out of the eleventh chapter of Hebrews. The faith referred to in this chapter is not just the faith we receive from God's Word; it is actually the demonstration or acts of faith as seen in the lives of the men and women mentioned. Faith is not only inward; faith demands action. James said that faith without works (or corresponding actions) is dead. What good is it to have faith if you do not go out and do something with that faith? In review, let us again look at chapter 11, verses 1 and 2: Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it (faith), the elders (mature ones) obtained a good report.

The "good report" spoken of in these verses is not just a good report among men; it is also a good report from God. I want you to understand that we live in two worlds. The moment you received Jesus as your Savior, you become recognized by and approved of God. However, there comes a time when God wants you to step out of that faith and do things for the people around you. He wants people to see through your outward actions the faith that is on the inside of you. That is what is meant by "a good report."

Verse 3 continues, Through faith we understand that the ages were arranged by the (spoken) word of God, so that the things which are seen (these acts of faith mentioned in the verses to come) were not made out of things which do appear. Verses 4-6. By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness (divine approval) that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and by it he being dead yet speaketh. By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God (or approaches God) must believe that he is (exists) and that he is a rewarded of them that diligently seek him.

It is not enough to know the Lord or to know about Him, and it is not enough to be in His Family. His desire is that we diligently seek Him, because He also desires to reward us in this life and in eternity which is to come.

Verse 7 continues, By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became the heir of the righteousness which is by faith. Notice, Noah was warned of thing not yet seen. The reason it took such faith for Noah to build the ark is that no one had ever seen rain. Before the time of Noah, the earth was actually watered by a mist. Genesis, chapter 2, verses 4-6 say, These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, and every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

So again, when God told Noah that it was going to rain on the earth, Noah had never seen rain. That is why it took a tremendous act of faith to build the ark. All of the races of the earth that we have today came from Noah and his three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Why did God send the flood? Many say because iniquity was on the earth, and that is true, but I want you to look at Genesis, chapter 3, verse 15. This is the first prophecy in the Word concerning the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. God said, "I will put a division between you (Satan) and the woman." The New Testament tells us in First Timothy that the reason He put the division between Satan and the woman was that the woman was beguiled - deceived. In fact, when the Lord came to her, she told the truth. Man knew what he was doing when he sinned, and when God first came to Adam and said, "Why have you done this?" Adam replied, "Don't look at me - it's her fault." When Eve partook of the fruit, she was deceived into it, but when she handed it to Adam, he had a clear-cut choice; he knew what she had done, and with all of his will he partook of it. Therefore, the responsibility was on him. Even though the woman was in the transgression, she was not held responsible for it, because she was deceived. That is the reason God says in verse 15, "I will put a division between you (Satan) and the woman, and between thy seed (the fallen seed of man) and her seed, and it (the seed) that shall pass through her shall crush your head and thou shalt crush his heel".

It says again, Thou shalt crush his heel. This means that there would be momentary victories by Satan on the seed of the woman, but the eventual defeat would come by the Lord Jesus Christ when He would literally crush the head of Satan.

When Jesus went to the cross, He spent three days and three nights in the heart of the earth, and He took principalities and powers and spoiled them and made a show of them openly and He triumphed over them in it. When Jesus arose from the dead, He conquered him (Satan) who had the power of death. The work of the cross is substitution. My friend, it was not God that went to the cross, it was Jesus and His humanity that went to the cross. This prophecy is speaking of the fact that Jesus would come through the seed of the woman. This is the prophecy concerning the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ. Through the Virgin Birth, Jesus escaped the seed of man. The seed of man is what perverts and brings the death sentence upon man. Jesus came to reverse what Adam had done in this earth. Everybody who is born into this earth is born a slave, and slaves cannot free slaves. Everyone that has been born into this earth has been born through the seed of man. This makes them unqualified to redeem mankind. What are a slave's wages? Nothing. Therefore, they have nothing with which to purchase mankind. You have to be born a free man to purchase and redeem mankind. Jesus was born a free man. There is redemption in only one name, and that name is Jesus. There is only one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus. Glory to God!

Genesis, chapter 6 recounts one of Satan's attempts on the lineage of the Lord Jesus. This is one of the most controversial chapters in all the Bible. Beginning in verse 1: And it came to pass when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. And the Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh; yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years. There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

This is just shortly after the time of Adam and Eve and Cain and Abel. Verse 2 says again, "The sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair (beautiful) and they took them wives of all that they chose. When it says, "the sons of God," here is where the discrepancy lies. Who were "the sons of God" that took the "daughters of men" and made wives out of them?" This term, "the sons of God" is found only four times in all of the Old Testament. Job, chapter 1, verse 6 says, Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came

also among them. What is actually being described in this verse is a scene from heaven. The term "sons of God" is referring to angels.

Job, chapter 38, verses 5-7 says, "Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" God is speaking of the creation of the universe in this verse. Did you know that the angels rejoiced when God created the universe? This term is different in the New Testament. In the New Testament, when you find the term "son of God," singular, it is a reference to the Lord Jesus Christ. When you find the reference "sons of God," plural, it is a reference to the believers - to those of us who are the sons of God. In the Old Testament, believers were not the children of God. The book of Hebrews tells us that they were servants in the house of God.

Genesis, chapter 6, verse 2, says again, The sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were beautiful, and they took them wives of all that they chose. My friend, there is really no way around it, the "sons of God" in this verse is a reference to angels. Second Peter, chapter 2, talks about the fall of Satan and the angels that fell with him. Ezekiel, chapter 28, and Isaiah, chapter 14, also describe the fall of Lucifer. Lucifer tried to rise up and revolt against God; this is actually where the first sin began. Revelations, chapter 12, tells us that a third of the angels fell with Satan. Angels, up until this time, had never seen rebellion - they did not know what rebellion was. To follow Lucifer was to follow God, and to follow God was to follow Lucifer; because Lucifer and God spoke the same thing. But there came a day when Lucifer and God became divided, and the angels had to make a decision. Free will always demands something, because to have a free will is to have a choice. The day that Lucifer rebelled, all of the angels were given a choice; one third of the angels freely chose to follow Lucifer. Some people teach that demons are fallen angels, but the Word of God proves that they could not be demons. First, people, from time to time, have seen demons, through the gift of discerning of spirits. One thing that those who have seen demons will tell you is that they do not look like angels. Next, angels have never had a body to desire one. Why would angels constantly seek to be inside a body (as demons do) if they have never had one. Demons, apparently at one time or another, have had bodies. Also, angels have the ability to come into this natural world and appear as natural man. The book of Hebrews tells us to beware when we entertain strangers

because many have entertained angels unaware. Throughout the Old Testament, angels appeared to men. They appeared to Abraham. They also appeared in Sodom and Gomorrah to deliver Lot and his family. The people did not know that these were angels; in fact, they thought that they were such good-looking and interesting men that they wanted to have sex with them. Fallen angels had the ability to appear in this natural world just as Satan does.

Second Peter, chapter 2, verse 4-5 tell us what happened to the fallen angels. For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; and spared not the old world (the world before the flood) but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly.

The Greek word for "hell" is the word "Tartarus." It is the only time this word appears in the New Testament, indicating that there is a special compartment under the earth where the fallen angels are still bound.

Jude 6 says, The angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

My friend, in Sodom and Gomorrah they went after strange flesh; and the strange flesh they went after was that of animals--bestiality. They were committing fornication with animals. The angels also went after strange flesh; but the strange flesh that the angles went after was the "daughters of men." Just as man has crossed over into animals, so the fallen angles crossed over and took to them wives of men that were on this earth.

Something that is interesting is that the Bible is not the only place where Tartarus is mentioned. Tartarus is also a place found in Greek mythology. It was the place where the heroes were kept and it was located under the earth. Greek mythology divided all of the species into three classification: gods, heroes, and men. Tartarus was said to be a place so far under the earth that it was as far under the earth as the earth was under the heaven. It was said in mythology to be a place that if you dropped a stone, it took nine days to get to Tartarus. Tartarus was a place that was surrounded by a ring of fire, or literally, a river of fire. The river of fire was called

Flegalon. The gods who sinned were cast into Tartarus and were bound one year for every day it took a stone to fall. Thus they were bound for nine years before they could be released.

The book of Genesis, chapter 6, verse 1 says again, And it came to pass when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, that the sons of God (fallen angels) saw the daughters of men that they were beautiful and they took them wives of all which they chose. I want you to notice that the word "wives" is plural. Each angel took many wives. Listen to me carefully, heroes in Greek mythology always had a god for a father and a human mother and the children were always called the super-heroes. Before the time of the flood, the whole earth had become perverted with a super race - a super race of men who were also gods. It is interesting that both the Bible and most of the literature of the ancient world bring out the fact that there was a time when gods took women of this earth, and their offspring were called heroes. Listen to me, all mythology is not false. There is a certain amount of truth that is weaved into all of it, but the truth seems so exaggerated that most people dismiss it. That is why it is called mythology.

Verses 3 and 4 of Genesis continue, And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man. There were giants in the earth in those days, and also after that when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, (literally "they became super-human men before the time of the flood"), men of renown.

The word "giant" is the Hebrew word "Nephilim," which means "fallen ones." Did you ever wonder where the giants in Canaan came from after the flood? When the spies went into Canaan, they said, "We are as grasshoppers in their sight." My friend, after the time of Noah, the angels, once again, as in the time of Sodom and Gomorrah, took the women of men to be their wives. That is why God cast them into Tartarus. He wanted to prevent the corruption of all flesh, as at the time of the flood.

Go to Deuteronomy, chapter 3, verse 11. It says, For only Og, king of Bashan, remained of the remnant of giants; behold his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Rabbath of the Children of Ammon? Nine cubits was the length thereof, and four cubits the breadth of it, after the cubit of a man. His bed was eighteen and a half feet long and eight feet, four inches wide. Og was a perversion. He was something that

came through the breeding together of angels and the women of the earth at that time. Apparently there was no salvation for these super-human giants - heroes.

Again, at the time when the flood hit, the canopy that surrounded the earth came crashing in. Noah and his family were the only ones that survived. When Noah got out of the ark, God set a symbol in the sky of the covenant He had with man. It was a rainbow. Isn't it interesting that the rainbow appeared? It could never have appeared before, because the sun could not get through. But suddenly, when that canopy was gone, and as the rain was diminishing, God set a bow in the clouds to let them know that God will never destroy this earth again by water. Hallelujah!!

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