



Finding Favor in a Wicked World

Genesis 6:1-8

Listen! Have you ever done something that you knew was evil and harmful, and then had guilt and regret and deep, deep emotional pain settle in your heart?

Why talk about this? At some point in life every honest person must answer yes to my opening question.

- What can we possibly do in the face of our own evil actions and the settled guilt and the emotional suffering that follows?
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The Situation: There was a world of universal, continually expanding evil. (vv 2, 5)

- One Example: The sons of God willfully overstepping sexual boundaries. (v 2)

The Response of God: He felt emotional pain and acted to limit evil. (vv 3, 6, 7)

- Emotional Pain:
- Limiting Evil:
 - 120 years:
 - World-wide flood:

The Gift of God: He gave grace, unmerited favor. (v 8)

- Please Note Clearly: Grace is “unmerited favor.”
- Please Note Clearly: God gave this favor as a gift.
- Please Note Clearly: Noah did not “deserve” or “merit” or “earn” this favor.
- Please Note Clearly: You can find the favor that Noah found! You are not sentenced to continual guilt and remorse and fear and emotional pain.
- Please Note Clearly: That favor is found through trust in Jesus Christ.

The Big Idea of this passage: God deals with wickedness in the world...by limiting evil and by giving grace.

For Example :

Application: Have you trusted Christ? If not, would you be willing to make this simple decision and declaration to God?

“God, I understand that I am a sinner and therefore that I am separated from You. I know I cannot personally fix this. I am, at this moment, gathering up all my hope and trust from wherever it is currently placed and putting it all in Jesus Christ and His sacrifice for me on the cross. In other words, God, Jesus is my “Plan A” for the forgiveness of my sins and I have no “Plan B.” The sacrifice of Jesus in my place is my only hope, I have no back-up plan, and if this does not work I am forever lost.”

Walking Papers

Practical helps for walking the Christian walk this week.

The Big Idea of this passage: God deals with wickedness in the world...by limiting evil and by giving grace.

Please take time each day this week to think through these questions and ideas:

- **Today:** If you have not done so, would you be willing today to put your trust in Christ?
- **Monday:** Ask the Holy Spirit to convict and deliver you of the ways that you are grieving Him with sin.
- **Tuesday:** Ask the Holy Spirit to convict and deliver you of the ways that you are overstepping your sexual boundaries.
- **Wednesday:** Thank God for the remarkable grace (unmerited favor) He has given to you.
- **Thursday:** Identify one person today to whom you will give grace.
- **Friday:** Identify one person today to whom you will give grace.
- **Saturday:** For tomorrow please read and reflect on Genesis 6:9-8:22.

***“God still gives the gift of unmerited favor.
Have you found it?”***