

Series: Stand Fast In the Lord

# THE DAYS OF NOAH

## GENESIS 4; MATTHEW 24

Text: Matthew 24:37-39

### **Matthew 24:37-39**

*<sup>37</sup> But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. <sup>38</sup> For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, <sup>39</sup> And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.*

Introduction:

Today we begin considering another example of one that stood fast in the Lord.

Though Noah wasn't a perfect man and though he could have ended much better than he did, he did stand fast when the entire world didn't.

Over the next few weeks we'll consider the life of Noah.

Before Jesus went to the cross to die for our sins; He painted a clear picture of what the world would look like as the end of time approached in Matthew 24-25.

The Lord stated that as it was in the days of Noah that will be how things are before He returns.

What were the days of Noah like?

Note:

Sermon Content:

## **1. THEY WERE CHARACTERIZED BY PERVERSION (GENESIS 4:1-15)**

### ***Genesis 4:1-15***

*<sup>1</sup> And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. <sup>2</sup> And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. <sup>3</sup> And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. <sup>4</sup> And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: <sup>5</sup> But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. <sup>6</sup> And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? <sup>7</sup> If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. <sup>8</sup> And Cain talked with Abel his brother:*

*and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.*

*<sup>9</sup> And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper? <sup>10</sup> And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.*

*<sup>11</sup> And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; <sup>12</sup> When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth. <sup>13</sup> And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment is greater than I can bear. <sup>14</sup> Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me. <sup>15</sup> And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.*

Note those mentioned in this passage.

- Cain and His Bloodless Religion

Cain ignored the plain mandate ordained by God Himself.

## **Genesis 3:21**

*<sup>21</sup> Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.*

This way of thinking abounds in our world today.

## **2 Timothy 3:5**

*<sup>5</sup> Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*

We are living in days of widespread apostasy.

## **2 Thessalonians 2:3**

*<sup>3</sup> Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;*

## **1 Timothy 4:1-3**

*<sup>1</sup> Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; <sup>2</sup> Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; <sup>3</sup> Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.*

## **2 Timothy 4:3-4**

*<sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap*

*to themselves teachers, having itching ears; <sup>4</sup> And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.*

Sadly many who people look up to like Oprah and her self-help philosophy.

To her, God is merely a “force.” Sadly, the same ideas prevail in many churches today.

And, what is even more sad is the fact that many people swallow this social, psychological Gospel, hook line and sinker.

Not only were these days Characterized by Perversion but also:

## **2. THOSE WERE DAYS CHARACTERIZED BY PROSPERITY (GEN 4:20)**

### ***Genesis 4:20***

*<sup>20</sup> And Adah bare Jabal: he was the father of such as dwell in tents, and of such as have cattle.*

Jabal was the first to practice the domestication of animals. Now, men no longer had to hunt and scrounge for their food, they merely raised it.

This allowed people to have more than they needed. It was time of material prosperity and Jabal cornered the market.

We in this country enjoy great prosperity.

Even those that are classified living in poverty have a great deal more than some in poor countries.

The median income for a family of four is around \$62,000.

Not only were these days characterized by Perversion and Prosperity but also:

### **3. THOSE WERE DAYS CHARACTERIZED BY PLEASURE (GENESIS 4:21)**

#### ***Genesis 4:21***

*<sup>21</sup> And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.*

A man named Jubal invented musical instruments and was the father of the entertainment industry.

There is no denying the fact that we are living in a pleasure mad world.

Many today live for pleasure.

Many sitting in churches just like this:

Drink on a regular basis

Are involved in activities that they give more time and attention to than the things of God

Illustration:

Just spoke with someone this week from this area that was flying to Dallas for a concert that would no doubt last at least an hour.

Today many people won't drive any distance at all to attend a good church and get nervous if the service goes an hour.

Many today load up the Lord's Day and just squeeze the Lord in if they can.

Not only were these days characterized by Perversion, Prosperity and Pleasure but also:

## **4. THOSE WERE DAYS CHARACTERIZED BY PROGRESS (GENESIS 4:22, 17)**

### **Genesis 4:22**

*22 And Zillah, she also bare Tubalcain, an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah.*

### **Genesis 4:17**

*17 And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch.*

A man named Tubal-cain discovered learned how to extract metal from ore and invented the smelting business.

This allowed men to produce stronger farm implements.

Verse 17 speaks about the rise of cities.

The days preceding the flood were marked by scientific and engineering advancements.

Even the ark was a tremendous feat of progress in that day.

Today, there are many inventions and advancements that could be mentioned that clearly reveal how we are



progressing in the scientific and engineering fields, as well as in every arena of human life.

Advancements in the medical field, alone, are almost beyond belief!

If you look at those days, you might be lead to believe that humanity was doing quite well.

They were prosperous.

They were developing a complex culture, complete with great cities, art and the ability to sustain life.

They were advancing in the fields of agriculture, mining ore and using the metal to build with, art, music and science.

Yet, for all their achievements, they did not know God!

Not only were these days characterized by Perversion, Prosperity, Pleasure, and Progress but also:

## **5. THOSE WERE DAYS CHARACTERIZED BY POLYGAMY (GEN 4:23)**

### **Genesis 4:23**

*<sup>23</sup> And Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah, Hear my voice; ye wives of Lamech, hearken unto my speech: for I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my hurt.*

Here we meet a man named Lamech.

We are told that he married two women.

He is the first person in the record of humanity who took clear steps to undermine the home and the family.

God had set the standard in Genesis 2:

### **Genesis 2:18-25**

*<sup>18</sup> And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*

*<sup>19</sup> And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. <sup>20</sup> And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; <sup>22</sup> And the rib, which the LORD God*

*had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. <sup>23</sup> And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.*

*<sup>24</sup> Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. <sup>25</sup> And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

Lamech was the first to pervert it.

It was a time marked by lust, wanton disregard for God's will and open sin and perversion.

Sadly, Lamech would not be the last!

In Genesis 6 we are told that there was the intermingling of the godly line of Seth with the cursed reprobate line of Cain.

### **Genesis 6:1-4**

*<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, <sup>2</sup> That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. <sup>3</sup> And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. <sup>4</sup> 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.*

As a result this produced a generation of men called “giants” and “men of renown.”

This was a generation of people who dominated that society for their own pleasure and profit.

Thought:

I think it is clear to see that marriage, as the Bible defines it, is under attack today.

The traditional family is being challenged by sodomy or homosexuality and lesbianism.

Cohabitation is becoming the norm of our day.

Many in churches today think it is an acceptable practice to live together and be involved sexually before marriage.

Understand:

Just because many may think this behavior is practical and acceptable doesn't make it right.

We must determine to Stand Fast in the Lord.

Not only were these days characterized by Perversion, Prosperity, Pleasure, Progress and Polygamy but also:

## **6. THOSE WERE DAYS CHARACTERIZED BY PRIDE (GENESIS 4:24)**

### ***Genesis 4:24***

*<sup>24</sup> If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.*

Lamech declares his value to be far greater than that of his ancestor Cain.

He was full of himself.

He is the first real humanist.

He sees himself as number one and believes that all his actions are right.

It's interesting his name means "powerful."

He lived as if all power resided within him.

If you look at the names of Cain's offspring in verses 17-18, you will notice that some of the names include the suffix "El."

### **Genesis 4:17-18**

*17 And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch. 18 And unto Enoch was born Irad: and Irad begat Mehujael: and Mehujael begat Methusael: and Methusael begat Lamech.*

This is a name for God, basically referring to Him as the God of creation.

Note:

We are living in days just like that now.

When I hear liberal politicians, homosexuals, and other infidels using the name of God, I realize that the days of Noah are here.

Many want to pay lip service to God but they don't want Him involved in their affairs or the affairs of the world at all.

If there was ever a day when men "did that which was right in their own eyes" it is the day in which we are living.

Men have no regard for the Word of God.

They do not fear the Lord, but they live as they want to live without thought of a Heaven to gain or a Hell to shun.

The cry of many is “Don’t tell me how to live my life. I will do as I please and answer to no one.

People refuse to bow to the authority of God or His Word.

They walk in the pride of life and there is not fear of God before their eyes.

**1 John 2:16**

*<sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.*

**Romans 3:18**

*<sup>18</sup> There is no fear of God before their eyes.*

Close:

These were the days of Noah but note what we read of Noah.

### **Genesis 6:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> But **Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.**

<sup>9</sup> These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and **Noah walked with God.**

### **Genesis 6:22**

<sup>22</sup> **Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him,** so did he.

### **Genesis 8:20**

<sup>20</sup> **And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD;** and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

### **Genesis 9:1**

<sup>1</sup> **And God blessed Noah** and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

### **Hebrews 11:7**

<sup>7</sup> 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 heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Noah stood fast in his day, and we too can stand fast as well.

May we not allow our days become our excuse not to stand fast.