

# THE NEPHILIM



Genesis 6:1-4

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1. "When mankind began to multiply on the earth and daughters were born to them,
2. The sons of God (elohiym) saw that the daughters of mankind were beautiful, and they took any they chose as wives for themselves.
3. And the Lord (yahweh) said, 'my spirit will not remain with mankind forever, because they are corrupt. Their days will be 120 years.
4. The Nephilim were on the earth both in those days and afterward, when the sons of God came to the daughters of mankind, who bore children to them. They were the powerful men of old, the famous men."

# NEPHILIM

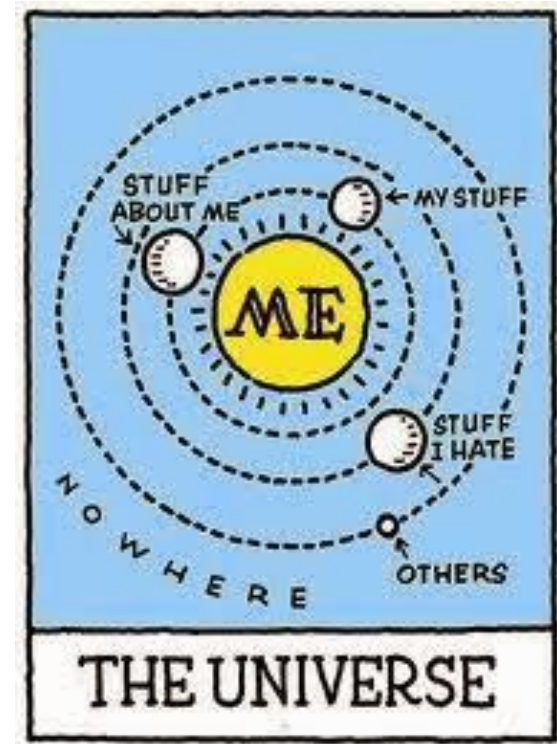
## OUTLINE

1. Short
2. Long



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# The culture of narcissism



# Materialism

We know more and more about less and less.

1 Corinthians 13:12

"For now we see indistinctly, as in a mirror but then face to face. Now I know in part but then I will know fully, as I am fully known."



# Are we creators or creations?

Job 38: 4

"Where were you when I established the earth? Tell me if you have understanding."



# The sons of God

Genesis 6:1-2

"When mankind began to multiply on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw..."

god: elohiym - spiritual beings

Heavenly beings

Can apply to God (elohiym elohiym: god of gods) - not always gods

Angels (messengers)

Humans (e.g. Samuel with the witch of endor story)

HOST OF HEAVEN



# The divine assembly



Psalm 82

"God has taken his place in the divine assembly (elohiym). He judges among the gods (elohiym).

Job 1:6

"One day the sons of God (elohiym) came to present themselves before the Lord (yahweh) and satan (the adversary) also came with them."



# Spiritual beings regularly take human form

Genesis 18-19

- God (?Jesus/the word) and two angels meet with Abraham. They EAT together.

- Two angels physically grab Lot

Genesis 32: 22-31

Jacob wrestles with an elohiym. His hip is put out.

Not the same as being human.



# Nephilim



Genesis 6:2

"The sons of God saw that they were beautiful, and they took any they chose as wives for themselves."

Beautiful (tôb) = good is the largest sense of the word

- not just "erotic"
- the glory of relationship
- the power of procreation and all that goes with it

## Genesis 6:4

"The nephilim were on the earth both in those days and afterwards, when the sons of God came to the daughters of mankind who bore children to them. They were the powerful men of old, the famous men."

Nephilim: tyrant, "giant"

Powerful (gibbor): warriors/champions

Famous (sem): well known, distinctive



# Nephilim

Numbers 13:31



"But the men who had gone up with him responded, 'we can't go up against the people because they are stronger than we are!'....all the people we saw in it are men of great size. We even saw the nephilim there - the descendants of Anak.... To ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and we must have seemed the same to them."

Deuteronomy 2:10-11

"The emim, a great and numerous people as tall as the Anakim, had previously lived there. They were also regarded as Rephaim, like the Anakim, though the Moabites called them Emim."

Other names: the Emim (=terrors), Anakim (long necked giants), Rephaim (giants)

# The watchers

Daniel 4:13

"As I was lying on my bed, I also saw in the visions of my mind, an observer, a holy one coming down from heaven."  
Observer: watcher, guardian. Mentioned 3x in Daniel



2 Peter 2:4-6

"For if God did not spare the angels who sinned but threw them down into tartarus and delivered them to be kept in chains of darkness until judgement and if he didn't spare the ancient world, but protected Noah...."

Jude 6

"... and he kept, with eternal chains in darkness for the judgement of the great day, the angels who did not keep their position but deserted their proper dwelling."

# The sin of the watchers



# Why does it matter?

What the world saw as good, the old testament presented as evil.

## Mythologies

Mesopotamian

Babylonian

Greek

Egyptian



# Why does it matter?

Is God "cruel"?

A. the flood

B. the extermination of the Canaanite peoples

Deuteronomy 7

"When the Lord your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess, and he drives out many nations before you...

- the Hittites

- the girgashites

- the Amorites

- the Canaanites

- the Perizzites

- the Hivites and Jebusites.....

You must **completely** destroy them. Make no treaty with them and show them no mercy."



# Why does it matter?

Ephesians 6:12



"For our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens."

Rulers (arche): the ancient, the beginning, points to the fall in Genesis. Pride, Distant

Authorities (exousia): freedom, liberty, the mastery of choice

World powers of this present darkness: man's corrupt system

Spiritual forces of evil in the heavens

# Why does it matter?

Our eyes are so clouded over by scientific, materialistic human centered views that we are even as Christians blind to the spiritual around us.

We cannot hope to understand the Bible, old Testament and new, without seeing both the human and spiritual warfare that is at play on every page.



Why does it matter?

The death of God and the  
return of the gods.

