

Activity Sheet, 8 July 2018

Spiritual problem with physical results Genesis 6v1-8; 1 Peter 3v18-22; Matthew 8v28-32

- “Christianity is unembarrassed supernaturalism”
- Spiritual world is real - affects physical world
 - conflict with *naturalism*
 - know by what God says

➤ See Genesis 1v1. Who does the Bible begin with? Someone spiritual or physical. What does he make? Something spiritual or physical?

(1) Spiritual problem outside

- marriage redefined
 - ‘sons of God’ = angels [Job 1v6, Psalm 29v1]
 - NT: Jude 6-7, 2 Peter 2v4-5, 1 Peter 3v19-20
 - OT: ‘big people’: Numbers 13v33, Og, Goliath...
 - But (a) angels don’t marry? (b) why is man judged?
- war against God
- war continues today

➤ Where are the angels who do not marry (Matthew 22v30)?

➤ “There are no evil spiritual powers at work in the world today.” True or false? [See Ephesians 6v12]

(2) Spiritual problem inside

- ‘heart’ disease
- dehumanises

➤ What was different about what “God saw” in Genesis 1v31 and 6v5?

(3) Physical judgement

- creation reversed in flood

➤ How long did God wait before bringing the flood (6v3)? 120 (a) minutes, (b) days, (c) years?

(4) Spiritual answer in physical world

- grace found Noah
- Jesus: God made flesh, victory over sin and evil through cross

Questions for discussion: [For a more detailed explanation of the ‘giants’ mentioned in this sermon see: <http://www.sohambaptist.org.uk/WP/?s=lloyd>]

1. Why is it a mistake to pick and choose which miracles in the Bible you accept?
2. Why has *naturalism* (belief that the physical world is all that is real) become the underlying assumption of modern western culture?
3. How do we see evil spiritual power at work in the world today? How should we respond to it?
4. Many people are outwardly moral and respectable. How does Genesis 6v5 help to expose the true nature of our sinfulness?
5. Why is it important to communicate that God’s judgements are physical as well as spiritual?
6. How did Jesus achieve his victory over evil powers? How do we share in that victory? What will spiritual warfare involve (e.g. see Ephesians 6v10-18).