

Vicarious Sacrifice: The Demonic Infiltration of the Human Race: Bene ha-Elohim Procreate with Human Women Producing the Half-Breed Nephilim, Gen 6:1-4; Jude 6; God Sentenced the Demons to Tartarus & Restrained Them with “Chains of Darkness,” 2 Peter 2:4; Nephilim Drowned in the Universal Flood; Resurrection: Matt 28:1–6a; Occurred on First Fruits; in Resurrection Body, Jesus Goes to Tartarus to Inform the Demons of His Strategic Victory in the Angelic Conflict, 1 Pet 3:18–19

Genesis 6:1 - Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them,

v. 2 - that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose. (NASB)

13. “Sons of God”: **בְּנֵי־הָאֱלֹהִים** (*bene-ha-Elohim*) is a term that is always used in Scripture to describe angels. Yet there are two categories of angels, the elect, who have remained loyal to God since their creation, and fallen, who were participants in the angelic rebellion led by Lucifer in Isaiah 14:13–14.
14. We are able to detect that this group is among the fallen angels from three New Testament passages. We have just noted two in 1 Peter 3:20 and 2 Peter 2:4, the third found in:

Jude 6 - Angels who did not keep within their proper domain, but abandoned their own place of residence, He has kept in eternal chains in utter darkness for the judgment of the great day.

15. Both Peter and Jude provide us with these essential facts about the *bene-ha Elohim*: (1) they were disobedient, (2) which was classified as a sin, (3) for which they were imprisoned in Tartarus, (4) because they strayed from their assigned domain thus violating the rules of engagement for the angelic conflict, and (5) for which they will be judged at the Great White Throne.
16. In Genesis 6:1 it is noted that there was a population explosion on earth that produced a high percentage of women.
17. Consequently, there were not enough men to go around so the fallen angels came up with the idea of accommodating the ladies awaiting.
18. The cohabitation of angelic beings with human women produced a super race of half-breeds – half angel, half man – called Nephilim:

Genesis 6:4 - The Nephilim [**נְפִילִים** (*Nephilim*)] were on the earth in those days, when the sons of God were having sexual relations with the daughters of mankind, who gave birth to their children. They were mighty heroes of old, the famous men. (NET)

19. There is absolutely nothing in this passage that would cause a person to conclude that it needs to be interpreted allegorically.
20. So if the “sons of God” are fallen angels and the “daughters of mankind” are human women, then who are the Nephilim?
21. Here are two sources providing the explanation:

The word [Nephilim] means “warriors; mighty men; heroes.” The text refers to superhuman beings who held the world in their power and who lived on in ancient lore outside the Bible.¹

¹ NET Bible, First Beta Edition (Dallas: Biblical Studies Press, 2001), Genesis 6:4: 39tn18.

All ancient literature contains stories of heroes—mighty men who performed unusual, extranatural, or supernatural feats. They were all described as half-human and half-god, demigods. In Greek tradition, Zeus, the chief god, was said to be the father of most of them including: Orpheus, Theseus, Cadmus, Perseus, Jason, Hercules, Castor, and Pollux. Although this literature is called mythology, it is not entirely mythical. It is based on the factual events of Genesis 6. As time went on, the stories were embellished and transformed by vivid imagination.

The half-angelic, half-human superrace completely took over and corrupted the human race of the antediluvian civilization except for Noah and the seven members of his family. Noah and his family were not involved in this angelic corruption because they were born-again, super-grace believers. God protected them physically from the superrace, who were exceedingly warlike and brutal. Eventually, for the preservation of true humanity, it was necessary for God to destroy the Nephilim.²

22. Speaking of an overly vivid imagination, Darren Aronofsky and Ari Handel, screenwriters for the film, *Noah*, presented these Nephilim as Rock People.
23. They would have done better to have presented them as personalities found in ancient mythological pantheons.
24. The fallen angels, or demons, involved were removed from the angelic conflict and incarcerated in the Tartarus compartment of Hades.
25. We are led to assume that angelic bodies consist of visible light since the “chains” by which they were bound are said to be of “darkness.”
26. This phrase “chains of darkness” is found in the text of the King James Version and it accurately translates the Greek words **σειρά (seirá)**: “chains,” and **ζόφος (zōphos)**: “darkness,” found in 2 Peter 2:4 and Jude 6.
27. The “chains” are not literal but figurative for the immobilizing effect of darkness upon the demons’ bodies.
28. The Nephilim are dealt with by the universal flood; all drowned in the deluge. They possessed both human and angelic life. Because they are not fully human, their place of residence until the Great White Throne Judgment is also the compartment of Tartarus.
29. While Jesus was in Paradise, accompanied by the criminal who believed in him at Calvary, He announced to all Old Testament saints they would be soon transferred into heaven.
30. This transfer would occur at the ascension of our Lord, described in Luke 24:50–51, Acts 1:9, and Ephesians 4:8 which we will note later.

Resurrection:

Matthew 28:1 - Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave.

v. 2 - And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it.

² R. B. Thieme, Jr., *Victorious Proclamation*, 2d ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2002), 10.

v. 3 - And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow.

v. 4 - The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

v. 5 - The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified.

v. 6a - "He is not here, for He has risen."

1. The resurrection of our Lord occurred on first fruits, an offering from the bounty of the initial harvest of cereal grains or fruits or those things prepared from the initial harvest. It may be the first-ripe or choicest of the first fruits.
2. This offering occurred on the morning after the Sabbath in the week of unleavened bread as per:

Leviticus 23:10 - "Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When you enter the land which I am going to give to you and reap its harvest, then you shall bring in the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest.

v. 11 - 'He shall wave the sheaf before the Lord for you to be accepted; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.'"

3. The Sabbath is on the seventh day, the day following being the first day of the week, called presently Sunday.
4. In the Lord's exchange with the scribes and Pharisees in Matthew 12, He prophesies that for three days and nights He will be in Hades:

Matthew 12:40 - "Just as Jonah was in the belly of the huge fish for three days and three nights, so the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth [ᾅδης (*Háidēs*): Hades: Paradise, Torments, Tartarus, & the Abyss; Hebrew: שְׁאוֹל (*She'ol*)] for three days and three nights [72 hours]." (NET)

5. This being the case, it would be impossible for Jesus to have been crucified on a Friday afternoon and resurrected on the following Sunday morning, a timespan of somewhere between 36 and 42 hours.³
6. The Lord's first order of business following His resurrection was to return to Hades in resurrection body where He issued a victorious proclamation to the demons of Genesis 6:

1 Peter 3:18 - Because Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, to bring you to God, by being put to death in the flesh but by being made alive in the Spirit [resurrection body; soul restored by the Holy Spirit].

v. 19 - In it [the resurrection body made alive by the Spirit] He went and preached to the spirits [demons] in prison,

Jesus Christ proclaimed or announced a certain doctrine to all the fallen angels incarcerated in Tartarus. The content of His proclamation is suggested in 1 Peter 3:18. He informed these fallen angels that they had failed in their attempts to destroy true humanity and that God's plan had progressed through every satanic attack. Christ declared that He had gone to the cross as planned.

³ For a detailed explanation of the time period between the day of the crucifixion and the day of the resurrection, see R. B. Thieme, Jr., *King of Kings and Lord of Lords*, 4th ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2004), 27–31.

The sudden appearance to these spirits of Jesus Christ in a resurrection body was the visible evidence of His strategic victory in the angelic conflict. The penalty of sin had been paid. Thus, any man who believes in the Son of God for salvation enters into fellowship with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit for all eternity.⁴

7. Having explained His strategic victory in the angelic conflict to these imprisoned angels, the Lord returned to Jerusalem where he appeared to various people over a period of forty days.
8. There is controversy among biblical scholars regarding the chronological sequence of post-resurrection appearances of Jesus.
9. It is not my intent to try and accomplish what honorable, trained, and expert theologians have yet to find agreement.
10. We will observe, by synopsis, the sequence presented by Dr. J. Dwight Pentecost in his book, *The Words and Works of Jesus Christ*. The bullet points are drawn from the biblical passages indicated.

⁴ Thieme, *Victorious Proclamation*, 22.