



Were the “Sons of God” mentioned in Genesis 6:2 fallen angels who married women?

Jewish teachers of the Old Testament, as well as the early church, taught that the “sons of God” mentioned in Genesis 6:2, 4 were fallen angels that had sexual relations with women. Giving weight to this theory is the fact that in the Old Testament the phrase “sons of God” always refers to angels (Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7). Many contemporary theologians and evangelical scholars believe that the “sons of God” were more likely the Godly line of Seth who intermingled and had sexual relations with the godless women from the line of Cain, or that “sons of God” could also mean “powerful human rulers.”

This marrying of the Godly line of Seth with the godless line of Cain resulted in the corruption of faith and the “Nephilim, fallen or mighty ones” (Genesis 6:4). This union was the cause of wickedness (Genesis 6:5) and the flood that God sent to destroy the world.

The “fallen angel with a human body” theory has its problems since angels are non-corporeal beings (nonmaterial) and not temporal beings like humans. In other words, they don’t have flesh and blood like you and I have:

-Angels and demons live in the spirit realm (Ephesians 6:12) and are bodiless spirits (Hebrews 1:14) and the only instance of angels taking on human form in the Bible is when they were sent as a messenger from God. We have no instances in the Bible where demons take on human form.

-The Bible also points out that angels “neither marry nor are given in marriage” (Matthew 22:30) and thus would not have sexual reproduction organs in which to procreate with. In other words, angels and demons are genderless.

-Luke 20:35-36 echoes this when he says, “But those who are considered worthy of taking part in that age and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage...for they are like the angels.”

Ultimately, Dr. Wayne Grudem, professor of Bible and Theology at Phoenix Seminary says it best when he points out that the, “Larger purpose of the narrative seems to be to trace the parallel development of the godly (ultimate Messianic) line of Seth and the ungodly descendents of the rest of mankind.”

If you would like more information on the Apologetics Ministry of Calvary Chapel Aurora, please contact Robby Beum at 303.628.7200 or robby@calvaryaurora.org.