

TRACKING FOOTPRINTS OF THE NEPHILIM

A Study Guide to Accompany
Luke 21 Episodes 459-462

By Steve Wood



Luke 21
CATHOLIC BIBLICAL PROPHECY

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OUTLINE

- I. Tracking Footprints of the Nephilim Giants in Scripture
- II. Tracking Footprints of the Nephilim Giants in 1st Enoch
- III. Tracking Footprints of the Nephilim in Early Church History
- IV. Significant Biblical Geography Relating to the Rebellious Angels & Spiritual Warfare
- V. Sources for Further Study

I. Tracking Footprints of the Nephilim Giants in Scripture

Genesis 6:1 When men began to multiply on the face of the ground, and daughters were born to them, **2 the sons of God [fallen angels]** saw that the daughters of men were fair; and they took to wife such of them as they chose. **3** Then the LORD said, “My spirit shall not abide in man for ever, for he is flesh, but his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.” **4** The **Nephilim [LXX Giants]** were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men that were of old, the men of renown.

LXX is an abbreviation for the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Old Testament used extensively by many apostles and the early church. Why is the LXX translation of the Hebrew word “Nephilim” as “giants” important? The translation itself provides a vivid interpretation of what was occurring.

Those who advocate the intermarriage between godly men and ungodly women interpretation of Genesis 6 have a lot of explaining to do.

Where else in Scripture supports this notion?

Nowhere in the entire Bible are **sons of God** equated with Seth’s family line. Sons of God refer to angelic beings.

Job 1:6 Now there was a day when **the sons of God** came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.

Why does an ungodly marriage produce giants and mutants?

If a man marries an ungodly wife, then he can expect a number of negative outcomes, but having giant kids isn't one of them!

Numbers 13 - the giant Anakim (sons of Anak) are described as descendants of the Nephilim. The descendants of the Nephilim are also known as Rephaim in the O.T.

Numbers 13:32 So they brought to the sons of Israel an evil report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people that we saw in it are **men of great stature**. **33 And there we saw the Nephilim** (the **sons of Anak**, who come from the **Nephilim**); and **we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers**, and so we seemed to them."

Wisdom of Solomon 14:6 For even in the beginning, when **arrogant giants** were perishing, the hope of the world took refuge on a raft [the ark], and guided by your hand left to the world the seed of a new generation.

Sirach 16:7 He was not propitiated for the **ancient giants** who revolted in their might.

Baruch 3:26 The **giants** were born there, who were famous of old, **great in stature**, expert in war.

Goliath was a descendant of the giants: Gath, his hometown, was a nest of wicked giants.

1 Samuel 17:4 And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of **Gath**, whose height was six cubits and a span. Height: approximately 9' 9" and weight probably between 400 – 600 pounds.

David's victory over Goliath in 1 Samuel 17 is one of the most important O.T. previews of Jesus' victory over Satan and the other spiritual powers.

Colossians 2:15 He [Jesus] disarmed the principalities and powers and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in him.

Goliath's hometown of Gath was a nest of wicked mutant giants

The unnatural union of fallen angels and human women, besides giving birth to giants, also created mutants.

2 Samuel 21:20 And there was again **war at Gath**, where there was **a man of great stature, who had six fingers on each hand, and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; and he also was descended from the giants**. 21 And when he taunted Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimei, David's brother, slew him. 22 **These four were descended from the giants in Gath**; and they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants. (*Repeated in 1 Chronicles 20:6-8*)

Bashan was the region near Mount Hermon where, according to 1 Enoch, was the location of the wicked angels' first descent to earth.

Deuteronomy 3:1 “Then we turned and went up the way to Bashan; and **Og the king of Bashan** came out against us, he and all his people, to battle...

Deuteronomy 3:11 For only Og the king of Bashan was left of the remnant of the **Rephaim**; behold, his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Rabbah of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length, and four cubits its breadth, according to the common cubit. (approximately 15' x 7', or 13' x 6')

Our first pope knew the correct interpretation of Genesis 6

2 Peter 2:4 For if God did not spare the [fallen] **angels** when they sinned, but cast them into **hell** and committed them to pits of deepest darkness to be kept until the judgment; **5** if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven other persons, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly.

The word translated “hell” in the above passage is the Greek word “**Tartarus**.” The term was used in classical Greek literature to describe the place of judgment of the Titans (giants) of mythology.

Jude and Peter were in sync with their understanding Genesis 6

Jude 6 And the [fallen] **angels** that did not keep their own position but left their proper dwelling have been kept by him in eternal chains in the deepest darkness until the judgment of the great day; **7** just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise acted immorally and **[both] indulged in unnatural lust**, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

II. Tracking Footprints of the Nephilim Giants In Pre-Christian Jewish Writings

Enoch is a part of the canon of Scripture in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. It is **not** a part of the Catholic or Protestant canons of Scripture. Yet, Enoch is considered the most significant **non-canonical** writing by Jews *and* early Christians.

1st Enoch is **explicitly cited** in the New Testament and also alluded to.

Jude 6 [allusion to 1 Enoch] And the angels that did not keep their own position but left their proper dwelling have been **kept by him in eternal chains in the deepest darkness until the judgment of the great day [1 Enoch 10,4-6]**.

Jude 14-15 [direct quotation of 1 Enoch 1,9] “It was of these also that Enoch in the seventh generation from Adam prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord came with myriads of his holy ones, to execute judgment on all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness which they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”

1st Enoch is also clearly alluded to by our first Pope in 2 Peter 2:4–6, cited above.

Fragments of 1 Enoch were found among the Dead Sea Scrolls and were used by the Qumran Community. Advanced scholarly research about to be published in a book titled: *Enoch and the Qumran Origins: New Light on Forgotten Connection*, will be published during April 2025. It contains the work of five scholars engaging in substantive discussions with forty-seven scholars from nine countries. Most of you will not need this book, which is intended for specialists. But know this: the day has passed calling 1 Enoch “an old Jewish myth” and then proceeding to ignore it. 1 Enoch was very influential among Jews in the years leading up to the birth of Christ *and* in the early Church until the time of Augustine.

1 Enoch, chapters 6-11, is an expansion of the brief account of the fall of the Sons of God in Genesis 6. 1 Enoch not only describes their unnatural lust, but also how they significantly increased the corruption of the human race by teaching arts of seduction and methods for making weapons out of metals.

1 Enoch 6:1 “And it came to pass when the children of men had multiplied that in those days were born unto 2 them beautiful and comely daughters. And the angels, the children of the heaven, saw and lusted after them, and said to one another: ‘Come, let us choose us wives from among the children of men 3 and beget us children.’ And they were in all two hundred; who **descended in the days of Jared on the summit of Mount Hermon, and they called it Mount Hermon**, because they had sworn 7 and bound themselves by mutual imprecations upon it. And these are the names of their leaders...”

Enoch 7:1. “And all the others together with them took unto themselves wives, and each chose for himself one, and they began to go in unto them and to defile themselves with them, and they taught

them charms and enchantments, and the cutting of roots, and made them acquainted with plants. 2. And they became pregnant, and they bare great giants.”

THE EXTREME VIOLENT STATE OF THE WORLD LEADING UP TO THE FLOOD

Genesis 6:11 “Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight, and the earth was **filled with violence**. **12** And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. **13** And God said to Noah, “I have determined to make an end of all flesh; for the earth is **filled with violence** through them; behold, I will destroy them with the earth. **14** Make yourself an ark...”

Sin almost immediately caused violence, evidenced as Cain killed his brother Abel (Genesis 4). But when the Watchers (sons of God in Gen 6) came down, they taught the art of warfare to men. This multiplied the existing inclination to violence among mankind.

The Secrets the Watchers Reveal

1 Enoch 8:1 “**Asael taught men to make swords of iron and weapons and shields and breastplates and every instrument of war. He showed them metals of the earth...**”

The Watchers who mated with the human women chained in the abyss

One of the archangels doing the chaining was St. Michael...

1 Enoch 10:4-14, **18:6-19:1**, **21:7**, **54:1-6**, **88:1-3**

Jude 6 And the **angels** that did not keep their own position but left their proper dwelling have been kept by him in eternal chains in the **deepest darkness** until the judgment of the great day...

III. Tracking Footprints of the Nephilim Giants In Early Church History

St. Irenaeus (Ad. 103 – 202) was a 2nd Century church father. He was beheaded for his faith. Irenaeus is a saint in the Catholic Church. In 2022, he was declared a Doctor of the Church. He was one of the first great theologians of the church.

Irenaeus, "The Demonstration of the Apostolic Preaching", para. 18

“...and illicit unions took place upon the earth, since [fallen] **angels** were united with the daughters of the race of mankind; and they bore to them sons who for their exceeding greatness were called **giants**. And the angels brought as presents to their wives teachings of wickedness... [tools of seduction] by the entry of which things into the world evil extended and spread, while righteousness was diminished and enfeebled: [1 Enoch] 19. Until judgment came upon the world from God by means of a flood.”

St. Justin Martyr (100 – 165), *Second Apology*, Chapter 5

“But the angels transgressed this appointment, and were captivated by love of women, and begat children ... and besides, they afterwards subdued the human race to themselves.”

Tertullian, A.D. 200, was an early Christian theologian. He was one of the first major Christian writers to use **Latin** in his works.

“There are the carcasses of the giants of old time; it will be obvious enough that they are not absolutely decayed, for their bony frames are still extant ... even lately in this very city.”
Tertullian lived in Carthage, which was an important N. African center of early Christianity.

Josephus, *Antiquities* 3:1 (A.D. 37 -100) - a Jewish historian writing history from creation ... to the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70

“for many angels of God accompanied with women, and begat sons that proved unjust, and despisers of all that was good, on account of the confidence they had in their own strength; for the tradition is, That these men did what resembled the acts of those whom the Grecians call giants.”

IV. Significant Biblical Geography Relating to the Rebellious Angels & Spiritual Warfare

According to 1 Enoch 6:1-6, the fallen angels descending to earth landed on Mt. Hermon. Near **Caesarea Philippi** is a large rock plateau at the base of Mt. Hermon. At the foot of this huge rock plateau was a bottomless pit (at the time of Christ) dedicated to the false god Pan.

Matthew 16:13 Now when Jesus came into **the district of Caesarea Philippi**, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?"

14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, **and the powers of death shall not prevail against it.**

IF the final apostasy is to resemble the apostasy in the days of Noah...

IF the bulwark against the "principalities and powers" is the Catholic Church founded on Peter...

...THEN Catholics who find themselves living in a time when "Satan, and all the evil spirits" are prowling about the world (St. Michael the Archangel Prayer by Pope Leo XIII), should take a long pause and think hard before considering leaving the Catholic Church in our time that's like the days of Noah.

...THEN Protestants who are serious about end-times spiritual warfare and opposing the gates of hell should make a careful investigation of Catholic beliefs with a study of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (St. John Paul II edition). It's past time for the Christian team to unite.

Revelation 9:1 And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key of the shaft of the bottomless pit; **2** he opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke from the shaft.

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. **11** Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. **12** For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. **13** Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

V. Sources for Further Study

Dr. Michael Heiser, an Evangelical scholar, produced the most readable scholarly research on the events associated with Genesis 6 and the Nephilim. Heiser earned his PhD in Hebrew Bible and Semitic Languages. His work has significantly impacted contemporary understanding of ancient perspectives on biblical texts.

- Search YouTube for dozens of Heiser's free lectures on Genesis 6 topics.
- *Supernatural: What the Bible Teaches About the Unseen World—And Why It Matters*. This book is the best place to begin a study of Heiser's works.
- *The Unseen Realm: Recovering the Supernatural Worldview of the Bible*. It's a book similar to *Supernatural*, but much more in-depth.
- *Reversing Hermon: Enoch, The Watchers & The Forgotten Mission of Jesus Christ*
- *Demons: What the Bible Really Says About the Powers of Darkness*
- *Angels: What the Bible Really Says About God's Heavenly Host*

Michael Heiser's titles are available on Audible, Kindle, and print editions. Heiser is writing from an Evangelical perspective, so there may be a few statements that Catholics should simply ignore.

There are two recommended reliable translations of 1 Enoch without New Age deceptions attached to Enoch.

1 Enoch A New Translation by George Nickelsburg and James VanderKam (Fortress Press). This is the only English translation of 1 Enoch that takes into consideration all of the textual data now available in the Ethiopic version and the Greek texts, in addition to the Dead Sea scrolls from Qumran.

The Book of Enoch by R.H. Charles (died 1931). Charles was a highly regarded British scholar with expertise in Jewish apocalyptic literature. There are usually economical editions available since they are outside of copyright restrictions.

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