

## JUST HOW BAD IS MANKIND?

### Genesis 6:5

**Introduction:** If you took a survey about how good or bad people are, it would probably indicate that people are really not all that bad, just some. People judge each other by words and actions or non words and non actions and compare others with themselves, therefore rendering a slanted, "one-sided" opinion usually. However God looks at the heart of a person and it is from the heart that all evil and badness proceeds. God says that man's wickedness far exceeds man's conception of it or man is far worse off than man thinks he/she is. Just how bad does mankind have to be to cause God to flood the world and remove all mankind except a handful?

### I. GOD HAS HIS OWN OPINION OF MANKIND

1. Before God sent the flood what was mankind like?
  - In general, every person was doing about every wicked thing he/she could think of.
  - In particular, the thoughts from the heart and the imaginations of the mind were continually evil in every respect.
  
2. On what evidence did God conclude that mankind was totally evil?
  - How did God decide that the entire world was without hope?
  - Who did God think He was to make such a judgment and decision?
  - It was God who made all things. It is God who discerns all things. It is God who knows all things. It is God who knows all thoughts and imaginations of every human being.
  - God know everything about everything and every living creature.
  - It was only after a thorough, loving, inspection did God declare that mankind was totally evil.
  
3. God would say the same thing today of our world that He said of Noah's world - totally evil.
  - If God asked you, what would you say is the condition of our world right now?
    - Is there rampant evil? Where do you hear the Lord God spoken well of?
  - Take an inventory of your own heart. Seeing it as God does, what condition is it in?
    - What do you think of? Have all your thoughts been righteous thoughts?
    - Have you taken advantage of every opportunity to do good for the Lord that you have had? Or have you fallen short?
  - In all honesty, mankind's real state before God is the same as it has been in every generation.
    - Just as in the days of Noah - wicked.

### II. WHAT EFFECT SHOULD ALL THIS HAVE ON YOU?

1. Is there any humiliation?
  - Who among us has not reason to be ashamed?
  - Who among us could not bear to have his/her thoughts revealed to everyone?
  - Who among us would not blush if his/her heart and imaginations were exposed to everyone?
  - We forget that God sees it all and can recall every second of our lives.
  - Knowing all this, what ought we do?

2. Is there any gratitude?
  - How well do you know the "story" of Jesus Christ, His crucifixion, His resurrection and His willing to forgive?
  - Is all this just a "story," a "fairytale?" Who in their right mind would ever show mercy and love to such a vile, wicked, sinful people like us? Would God do this?
  - Incredible as it sounds and actually is, IT IS TRUE! God does show mercy, God does love us and "*...is not willing that any of us should perish...*"
  - Yes, the Gospel "story" is true! What do you think that we, therefore, ought to do?
3. Is there any fear?
  - Believe in God's Son, Jesus, and be saved, YES! However the believer still lives here, on this earth, in his/her natural body, with the old sin nature still just waiting to take over again.
  - The believer is to sin and temptation as a person is with a lighted match, ankle deep in gas. Anything could happen at any moment. What ought the believer do? FEAR that he/she might fall back into that sinful life, still saved, yes, but in sin once again.

## CONCLUSION:

1. The greatest men/women of God "fell" in an unguarded moment.
2. Know, remember, that all of us are wicked and sinful by our old nature.
3. We need to pray day and night for God to hold us up and out of sin.
4. God's enemy, Satan, seeks to pull believers away from God and back into sin.
5. Let us fall on our faces before our merciful God and be thankful that He has brought us into His family upon our belief in His Son, Jesus Christ.
6. Without the presence of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life, the believer would once again be as bad and evil as anybody else in the world.
7. Believer, put on the whole armor that God has provided and be totally protected.