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## Daily Rice 2023 May 23

Dear Heavenly Father,

In the name of Jesus, I come before you today with a heart full of gratitude and a desire for a beautiful day. I thank you for the blessings and provisions you have bestowed upon us. Your goodness and faithfulness are evident in our lives, and we are truly grateful.

Lord, we ask that you bless this day with your grace and love. May it be filled with moments of joy, peace, and harmony. Help us to appreciate the beauty of the world around us, from the gentle breeze to the vibrant colors of nature. May we find inspiration in your creation and be reminded of your infinite creativity and power.

We also want to express our thanks for all that we have. Thank you for the gift of life, for our families and loved ones, for the food on our table, and for the shelter over our heads. We recognize that every good and perfect gift comes from you, and we acknowledge your provision in our lives.

Lord, as we go about our day, guide our thoughts, words, and actions. Help us to be a blessing to others, to show kindness and compassion, and to reflect your love to those we encounter. Grant us wisdom and discernment in the decisions we make, and give us strength to overcome any challenges that come our way.

Finally, Lord, we surrender this day into your hands. May it be a day that brings glory to your name and draws us closer to you. We place our trust in you and your perfect plans for our lives.

In Jesus' precious name, we pray.

Amen.

## Genesis Chapter 6

Genesis Chapter 6 introduces a significant event in biblical history known as the account of Noah and the Great Flood. In this chapter, we see the increasing wickedness and corruption of humanity and God's decision to bring judgment upon the earth.

Verse 1 begins by noting that the human population was growing, and daughters were being born to them. It mentions that the "sons of God" saw that the human women were beautiful and took them as wives. The exact identity of these "sons of God" is a subject of debate among biblical scholars. Some interpret them as fallen angels, while others view them as powerful individuals or godly descendants of Seth. Regardless, the intermarriage between the "sons of God" and human women led to the birth of extraordinary individuals known as the Nephilim.

In verse 3, God declares that He will not contend with humans forever and limits their lifespan to 120 years. This statement is often understood as a pronouncement of the remaining time until the Flood would come.

As verse 5 unfolds, God observes the widespread wickedness and evil in the hearts of humanity. The verse describes the continual inclination of people's thoughts towards evil. This pervasive corruption grieves God, and He resolves to bring judgment upon the earth.

In verses 7-8, God reveals His intention to destroy all life on the earth, including humans and animals. However, amidst this judgment, God finds Noah to be righteous and favorably inclined towards Him. Noah is introduced as a blameless man who walks faithfully with God.

Verses 11-13 emphasize the extent of the corruption and violence on the earth, prompting God's decision to bring about its destruction. God instructs Noah to build an ark, providing detailed instructions for its construction. The ark would serve as a means of salvation, protecting Noah, his family, and a representative selection of animals from the impending floodwaters.

Verse 22 concludes the chapter, highlighting Noah's obedience and faithfulness. Noah follows God's commands precisely, demonstrating his trust in God's guidance.

Genesis Chapter 6 serves as a pivotal point in the narrative, setting the stage for the account of the Flood and the subsequent renewal of the earth. It portrays the consequences of humanity's wickedness and God's righteous judgment, while also showcasing the faithfulness of Noah amidst a corrupt world.

## Reflection on Genesis Chapter 6

Genesis Chapter 6 offers several key themes and lessons that we can reflect upon:

**The consequences of sin:** The chapter highlights the increasing wickedness and corruption of humanity. It reveals the tragic consequences of human rebellion against God's righteous ways. This serves as a reminder of the destructive nature of sin and its impact on both individuals and society.

**God's justice and judgment:** In response to the widespread evil, God decides to bring judgment upon the earth through the Great Flood. This underscores God's righteousness and His commitment to justice. It demonstrates that God will not tolerate unrepentant wickedness forever and that there are consequences for disobedience.

**God's mercy and grace:** Amidst the impending judgment, God shows His mercy and grace by choosing Noah and his family as a remnant to be saved. Noah finds favor in God's eyes because of his righteousness and faithful walk with God. This highlights the importance of living in obedience and alignment with God's ways.

**The call to faith and obedience:** Noah's response to God's instructions to build the ark is a powerful example of faith and obedience. Despite the immense task and the ridicule he faced from others, Noah trusted God and faithfully carried out His commands. This chapter reminds us of the importance of trusting in God's guidance, even when it goes against societal norms or seems difficult.

**God's faithfulness to His promises:** Despite the judgment upon humanity, God establishes a covenant with Noah, promising to preserve him and his family through the Flood. This demonstrates God's faithfulness to His promises and His commitment to fulfilling His plans. It reassures us that even in times of trial and judgment, God remains faithful to His people.

**The significance of a righteous life:** Noah's righteousness stands out amidst a corrupt generation. His faithfulness to God made him distinct, and God chose him to carry on the lineage of humanity. This highlights the importance of living a life of righteousness and integrity, as it can have a profound impact on our relationship with God and the world around us.

Genesis Chapter 6 invites us to reflect on the consequences of sin, the justice and mercy of God, the call to faith and obedience, and the significance of living a righteous life. It serves as a reminder of the importance of aligning our lives with God's ways and trusting in His faithfulness, even in the midst of a fallen world.