

# Revelations from the Old Testament – Part 2

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Sub-title: What happened to the Giants in the Old Testament?

- 1 Cor. 10:11 tells us that O.T. events are examples, written for our learning & for our instructions
- We read & study these events, not to adopt O.T. practices, but to learn timeless principles
- God's dealings with seven Canaanite nations may seem very harsh on the surface, but on examination, it shows the mercy and grace of God

Last week's main points:

- A. God commanded the Israelites to destroy seven Canaanite Nations
- B. God had a Plan – the Redemption of all humanity
- C. The Wickedness of the seven Canaanite Nations was very great
- D. God's Covenant Promise to Abraham
- E. 5 Main Reasons why God commanded these 7 Nations to be destroyed
  - God was determined to protect the purity of the human species so He could bring Messiah into the world

## 1. God's command to the Israelites – destroy these Nations of Giants

**Deuteronomy 9:1–3 (NKJV)** *Hear, O Israel: You are to cross over the Jordan today, and go in to **dispossess nations** greater and mightier than yourself, cities great and fortified up to heaven, **2 a people great and tall, the descendants of the Anakim**, whom you know, and of whom you heard it said, 'Who can stand before the descendants of Anak?' **3 Therefore understand today that the Lord your God is He who goes over before you as a consuming fire. He will destroy them and bring them down before you; so you shall drive them out and destroy them quickly, as the Lord has said to you.***

- ... go in to dispossess nations ... (seven in total)
- ... a people great and tall ... not just a few individual giants, but whole people groups (nations of giants)
- Giants were widely scattered throughout Canaan, and locally they were known by different names, including:
  - Rephaim (race of giants)
  - Emim (Terrible ones)
  - Nephilim (bullies or tyrants)
  - Zuzim (roving creatures)
  - Anakim (long-necked)
  - Zamzummim (plotters of evil)

- Naturally, since they were fathered by fallen (wicked) angels, they had a demonic nature within themselves
- Most Christians know about Goliath & maybe about his 4 brothers, but are not aware that several nations of Canaanites were nations of giants

**Deuteronomy 2:19–21 (NKJV)** ... the land of the people of Ammon ... **20** *(That was also regarded as a land of giants; giants formerly dwelt there. But the Ammonites call them Zamzummim, **21** a people as great and numerous and tall as the Anakim. But the Lord destroyed them before them, and they dispossessed them and dwelt in their place.*

- Notice: ... a land of giants ... a people great, numerous & tall

## **2. Moses sent spies into Canaan land to check out their Defences**

**Numbers 13:32–33 (NKJV)** *And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, “The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. **33** There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.”*

- Initially, the first generation of giants came from sexual union between human women and fallen angels (Genesis 6:2-4)
- Thereafter, these first giants produced offspring among themselves, (giant men with giant women) & presumably, also giants with humans
- They, and all their offspring were hybrid beings (humanoids)
- They had human features, and were very tall and strong, but were no longer pure Adamites, but a mixture of humans and demons
- (According to God’s creation rules, every species produced after its own kind. God strictly forbade the mixing of seeds & species!)

## **3. The Origin of these Giants**

**Genesis 6:1–4 (NKJV)** *Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, **2** that **the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.** **3** And the Lord said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.” **4** **There were giants 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. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.***

- Vs. 2 ... sons of God... this is reference to angelic beings (fallen angels)
- ... daughters of men ... (human) women
- Their sexual union produced these off-spring called giants (Nephilim)
- These giants were hybrids, in the sense that they were neither fully human nor fully angelic, but a mixture of the two
- This evil practice happened before and also after the flood of Noah
- This is one of the main reasons why God brought the flood upon the earth
- He wanted to protect the purity of the human species, so He could bring the Messiah, Jesus Christ into the earth, who had to be 100 % human

***Jude 6–7 (NKJV) And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; (7 as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.)***

- This speaks about fallen angels who had sided with satan (Luzifer) in his rebellion against God
- They did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode (habitat)
- Although angels are not understood to pro-create among themselves, there appears to be a special class of angelic beings (fallen) who had the ability to pro-create (reproduce)
- This happened before the flood of Noah, and also after the flood
- At a certain point in time, God had these fallen angels locked up “in everlasting chains, under darkness” to:
  - Stop their practice of producing giants with human women
  - And keep them confined & isolated till they are judged & thrown into the Lake of Fire at the Great White Throne Judgment

#### **4. Some Descriptions of (Canaanite) Giants**

***Deuteronomy 3:11 (NKJV) For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of the giants. Indeed his bedstead was an iron bedstead. (Is it not in Rabbah of the people of Ammon?) Nine cubits is its length and four cubits its width, according to the standard cubit.***

- King Og was one of the giants. His bedstead was made of iron, with:
  - 9 cubits in length – 5.7 metres

- 4 cubits in width – 2.5 metres
- In Amos 2:9, God said that Og’s height was like that of a cedar, and that he was as strong as the oaks

**1 Samuel 17:4–7 (NKJV)** *And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. 5 He had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. 6 And he had bronze armor on his legs and a bronze javelin between his shoulders. 7 Now the staff of his spear was like a weaver’s beam, and his iron spearhead weighed six hundred shekels; and a shield-bearer went before him.*

- Goliath’s height was approx. 4 metres (six cubits and a span)
- His coat of mail weighed approx. 95 kgs (five thousand shekels)
- The weight of his brass helmet is estimated at 4.5 kgs
- His wooden spear was like the size of a weaver’s beam (approx. 60 mm)
- His iron spearhead along weighed approx. 11 kgs (six hundred shekels)

**2 Samuel 21:16 (NKJV)** *Then Ishbi-Benob, who was one of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose bronze spear was three hundred shekels, who was bearing a new sword, thought he could kill David.*

- This giant’s spear was made of bronze & weighed approx. 5.5 kgs

### **Quote from Josephus, the Roman-Jewish Historian:**

“... 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 ... these men did what resembled the acts of those whom the Grecians call giants” (Antiquities, Book 1,3:1). “There were till then left the race of giants, who had bodies so large, and countenances so entirely different from other men, that they were surprising to the sight, and terrible to the hearing. The bones of these men are still shown to this very day” (Antiquities, Book 5,2:3).

### **So what happened to the giants of old?**

- Those before the Flood of Noah were drowned in the flood
- Those who were born after the flood were killed, mostly by Abraham’s descendants (Israelites & Esau’s descendants) as well as Lot’s descendants (Ammonites)
- David and his mighty men killed the last of the giants, namely Goliath and his brothers (2 Samuel 21:22)