

Who Were the Nephilim?

In Genesis 6:4, the Bible introduces a mysterious group known as the Nephilim. The passage explains that they were present on the earth when the “sons of God” took wives from the “daughters of men,” placing them within the unusual events described in the early part of the chapter.

The Hebrew word Nephilim is often translated as “giants,” though scholars continue to debate its exact meaning. Some believe the term may mean “fallen ones,” while others think it refers to powerful warriors or formidable individuals known for strength and influence.

The text also calls them “mighty men of old, men of renown.” This phrase suggests that they were remembered figures in ancient traditions, possibly heroic warriors, rulers, or legendary characters whose stories circulated among early cultures.

Because the Bible gives only a brief description of the Nephilim, many questions remain unanswered. Their identity, origin, and role in the narrative are still discussed by theologians and historians.

Despite the mystery surrounding them, the reference to the Nephilim helps illustrate the extraordinary and chaotic nature of the world before the flood.