

## **GENESIS**

Genesis is very rich & full because it is very condensed (approximately 1600 yrs. Of history in the 1<sup>st</sup> 9 chapters)

What does the word Genesis mean? (Beginnings or Origins)  
So then in the book of Genesis, we would expect to see the beginnings of many things

-It deals with the beginning of:  
Creation  
World  
Human history  
Family and marriage (Adam and Eve)  
The nation Israel (from Jacob)  
Sin (garden of Eden)  
Death (Spiritual-Adam and Eve, Physical-Abel)  
Sacrifice (clothes of animal skins)  
Salvation (Messiah foretold to overcome serpent)  
But not the beginning of God!

Genesis was written by Moses approx. 1450 B.C.

-I often wondered how Moses could have known all the information about creation and the flood which happened before he was born.  
-It is possible that this was all revealed to him while he was on the mountain for 40 days.

There are 7 major sections or themes in Genesis. (Notice the “7” sections which represents perfection or completeness)

### **1. Creation**

- ever wonder if aliens exist??
  - are we are just one of millions of planets that God created with that support life?
  - with billions of solar systems, isn't it very possible that we are not alone??

- Believe it or not, the bible has the answer
  - in the creation story, you see that the earth was created first
  - afterwards, the sun, moon and stars were created
  - the earth is the focus of God's creation
  - here is what God has to say about the rest of planets and stars

**Gen 1:14** Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;

**Gen 1:15** and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.

- and even though the bible says that God knows all the stars by name, look at the importance He places on them in the creation story:

**Gen 1:16** ".....*He made* the stars also"

- so you can put the telescopes away and turn off the signals we are shooting into space...WE ARE ALONE

- creation account seems pretty basic but it's not without controversy, even among Christians circles

- not only do people debate if the 6 days were literal days (day-age theory) but also if this earth was the first creation or a recreation

- ever heard of the "Gap Theory"?

- here it is in a nutshell:

- God created the earth, (v.1)

- Satan fell and was cast to earth, (between v.1 & 2)

- God destroyed the earth

- Starting at verse two is the story of God re-creating the earth

- Here's their logic:

- V. 1-2 says

-**Gen 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

**Gen 1:2** The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

Their entire theory is based on one phrase in v.2 "formless and void"

- they compare this to

**Isa 45:18** For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, *but* formed it to be inhabited), "I am the LORD, and there is none else.

- supposedly, these two phrases are exactly the same (in the Original)
  - so they say since God didn't create the earth formless and void, then it must have become formless and void after the original creation
  - that must have been when Satan rebelled and was cast out of heaven
    - then Satan turned the earth into a waste place.
    - so all of that happened between verse 1 & 2
    - Hence the name "gap theory"

- 2 of my favorite bible teachers of all time hold this theory
  - they are very wise, much smarter than me and I respect them greatly
  - but I just don't buy this theory at all...here's why:
    - look at the beginning of Ch. 2

**Gen 2:1** Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts.

**Gen 2:2** By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.

**Gen 2:3** Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

**Gen 2:4** **This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created**, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven.

**Gen 2:5** Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground.

**Gen 2:6** But a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground.

**Gen 2:7** Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

- This must be a problem
  - ch. 1 clearly stated that plants, animals and man were already created
  - why are they being recreated here in chapter 2?
- simple...
  - v.1-3 are an overview and starting with v.4, the details are filled in
- the exact same thing is true in Ch.1
  - v.1 is the overview and starting with v. 2, the details are filled in
  - the earth was not created and then became formless and void
    - it was naturally formless and void before God began to shape and create it

- But my biggest problem with this theory is three verses in Ezekiel 28
  - I have never heard any of them explain or even mention this verse in their teachings

**Eze 28:13** "You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created They were prepared.

**Eze 28:14** "You were the anointed cherub who covers, And I placed you *there*. You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire.

**Eze 28:15** "You were blameless in your ways From the day you were created Until unrighteousness was found in you.

-here we have a description of Lucifer before his fall

-notice that he is in the Garden of Eden before he fell

-Eden was created in the supposed "recreation account"

-so there is no way Satan (pre-rebellion) could have been in Eden if his fall is what resulted in the destruction of the first creation!

-The last verse of Genesis 1 is clear:

**Gen 1:31** God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

-if this was after the fall, God would not say that everything was very good

## 2. Adam & family

-Cain & Able, Seth...and other sons and daughters...

-Cain rebelled against God and killed Able (who followed God)

-now the only surviving brother is a wicked man who rebels against God, it's not looking good for the human race

-then Seth is born and Seth has a son named Enosh

-and then it says "Then *men* began to call upon the name of the LORD."

-Through Seth, the godly lineage flows

## 3. Noah & flood

-Genesis 6 (another popular view I don't subscribe to)

**Gen 6:1** Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them,

**Gen 6:2** that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.

**Gen 6:3** Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

**Gen 6:4** The Nephilim 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. Those were the mighty men who *were* of old, men of renown.

-The theory is that the “sons of God” are actually demons who came down and had relations with human women

-this created a super race called Nephilim

-I disagree for a couple of reasons:

1. while talking to Nicodemus, Jesus says

**Joh 3:6** "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

-even in the creation story, everything was only able to reproduced “after its kind”

2. Nothing happens without the approval of God

-Even if demons somehow had relations with women, it is not consistent with what we know about God that He would give a life giving seed to fallen angels

-then comes the Great Flood

-Interesting that virtually no details are given about the civilization between Creation and the flood

-the assumption is that they were a primitive people with no technology

-Think of the smartest people in our time

-Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, Albert Einstein, Nicolai Tesla

-none of them lived to be 100 yrs old.

-the pre-flood population lived to be almost 1000 yrs.

-imagine what they could have accomplished if they had 900 more years to work on it

#### **4. Abraham**

#### **5. Isaac**

#### **6. Jacob**

-we all know the story of Jacob and Esau

-First, Jacob tricks Esau out of his birthright

-then he tricks him out of his father’s blessing

-Everyone is quick to blame Jacob for his trickery (even his name means “supplanter)

-but the blessing rightfully belonged to him

- it goes to the firstborn
- Esau sold his birthright to Jacob years earlier for a bowl of stew
- I like Jacob
  - even with all his flaws and failures and trickery, he still perused God passionately
  - that gives me hope

## **7. Joseph (last 14 ch.'s)**

- about ¼ of Genesis is Story of Joseph
- sold into slavery, rose to power, delivered his family and the nation from the famine

Genesis ends with Joseph taking his family (*who are the beginning of the Hebrew people and ultimately the Nation Israel*) out of the famine in their homeland and bringing them to Egypt where he is now 2<sup>nd</sup> in command

## **JESUS TYPE:** (not hard to find in Genesis)

### **At Creation...**

**Gen 1:26** Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

### **After the Fall...**

**Gen 3:22** Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"--

### **At the Tower of Babel...**

**Gen 11:7** "Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another's speech."

## **-Paul says about Adam:**

**Rom 5:14** Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

Adam is a picture of Christ

- both born through a miracle of God
- Only two people born sinless
- Adam was head of old creation, Jesus is Head of new creation

### **-Isaac's near sacrifice**

- Only son
- carries wood for his own sacrifice
- doesn't resist

### **-Life of Joseph**

- no recorded sin
- sold by his brothers
- went from place of prominence to shame
- elevated to position of authority