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# Genesis

## Book of Beginnings

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# 1. Creation of the World

Read Genesis Ch. 1,2

In this book of beginnings God lays out the case for the need of man's salvation. It starts with the creation of the perfect environment for man. Then, the temptation, the 1st sin, and then its effects: toil, pain, loss of Eden, envy,... murder. Man became so evil that God was 'grieved in His heart'. Even the global flood could not wipe out sin from man's heart and thoughts... Ch. 12 starts the story of Abraham's family, from which Jesus, the Messiah, will later come to bring the true and final Salvation...

In God's creating of the World, we see the progress of creation towards its crown: mankind (in its 2 forms: man and woman). Even more, we see all elements were created to serve mankind's needs for sustenance, a place, and a purpose for living.

The first 3 days God creates 'realms', and the next 3, He fills them...

- ① Light                      ② Waters separation, Sky    ③ Dry Land & Plants,  
④ Sun Moon Stars    ⑤ Fish& Birds            ⑥ Land animals and Adam & Eve.

Ch. 1 : 1, 2 serve as an introduction of what God had been creating before that 1st night/day (24hr) cycle on earth. We see God's Holy Spirit hovering over the waters and we 'hear' God's Word proclaiming things into existence.

**Day 1** Got calls Light into existence and separates it from the darkness. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> day, on earth (v3-5)

**Day 2** God separates the waters below and above. This is the sky (or Heaven) or atmosphere. The water had already been there before. (v6-8)

**Day 3**, Dry land & Seas & Plants. The land was already made, He just called it out of the waters of v.2. What 2 types of vegetation are mentioned here? (v9-13)  
How does man use seeds? \_\_\_\_\_

Note, 'seed' is often mentioned in Genesis.

**Day 4**. God creates the sun, moon & stars (after the light of v.3). For what purposes (for whom) were they made? (v14-19) \_\_\_\_\_  
V.16 repeats, 'made' so man worship the Creator, not the created. Man should not worship the Sun, moon, animals... only the Creator.

**Day 5.** Birds, Fish, great Sea creatures (dinosaurs) were created (v20-23). They received the very 1st blessing; to be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters and the earth (v22). Again we see ‘created’ beings, not to be worshiped as gods. V21 “According to its kind” is in direct opposition to Darwin’s theory of evolution ‘from one kind to another’ (thru random selection).

**Day 6.** Land Animals: livestock, creeping things, and beasts of the field (v24-31). Domesticated (livestock) animals (v24) are naturally inclined to live by and serve mankind, not so the ‘beasts of the field’.

Also, Man was made in the image of God. Male and Female. To rule over all animals (land, sea, air). Man receives the 2nd blessing, to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth (v28). Only in humans did God breathe a living soul (2:7)

**Day 7.** God rested and He blessed this day (2:1-3). This day is a *pattern* for later, a commandment of the Sabbath day, and for us Christians, the rest we have in Jesus Christ and His sacrifice (Heb 4:10).

In conclusion God looks over creation and declares it \_\_\_\_\_ (v 31).

Q. what do you think it means that God ‘names’ the things He created? (Day/night, sky, land/seas) Later he shows Adam the animals so he can name them.

Q. Count how many times it says “and God saw that it was good”. What do you think is meant by ‘good’? Is it only that they functioned properly? Or is it that they were good because they all combined to serve a higher purpose (what)?

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Q. What do both blessings (v 22, 28) mentioned have in common? Expansion of what? \_\_\_\_\_

Ch. 2 retells the creation story with a focus on the human ideal. Eden, man’s responsibility, etc.

Marriage. God had brought animals to Adam to be named, but there was a deeper purpose. It continues: ‘BUT for him was found no helper’ 2v20. Adam saw every animal came in pairs, and saw his need. God meets this need and brings Eve to him, like a father brings his daughter to the marriage altar. Adam names her, takes Eve as his own, and they become the 1st family.

~ This was Paradise ~

## 2. Sin enters the World

Read Ch. 3

What was God's command (2:16, 17)?

you CAN eat \_\_\_\_\_

you CANNOT eat \_\_\_\_\_

What was the punishment for disobeying? \_\_\_\_\_

Was it fair for God to make such a rule? \_\_\_\_\_

If God didn't want Adam to eat from the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, what did He expect Adam to do when a moral dilemma came up?

Why do you think the tree was in the garden at all?

What does it show about God expectation of man to entrust him with such a dangerous fruit (death causing)?

How does Satan's 1st line compare to what God commanded? What trick is he using? (3:1b) \_\_\_\_\_

What was the actual temptation, for why to eat the fruit? (3:5)  
(2 minor and 1 major) \_\_\_\_\_

What new feelings did they experience when they realized what they'd done? (3:7-8) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Do we have similar feelings when we sin?

In hindsight, was the gain from eating the fruit worth the loss?

Is sin ever worth it?

3:8 God, most likely the Son, was walking in the garden when he called Adam. He was there in physical form. What kind of fellowship did God and man have in Eden? \_\_\_\_\_.

How can we follow that type of fellowship with God today? \_\_\_\_\_

What major and minor separations or divisions did sin cause? \_\_\_\_\_

Ch. 3:11, 13 God gently asks each what they have done; to get them to confess. What do you think of their confession?

Did they immediately accept all guilt (3:12)?

“Yes, but” .... even though imperfect, God accepted their confession. How should we accept and forgive those who sin against us?

What *curse* did the serpent get?

What *punishment* did Adam and Eve get? \_\_\_\_\_

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What’s the difference between *curse* and *punishment*?

Can you see any positive things out of these punishments? \_\_\_\_\_

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3:21 the first animal was sacrificed for sin. Thru the animal skin God provided a more permanent cover for their shame (in place of the fig leaves 3:7). This was a sign of his provision until the ultimate sacrifice in Jesus.

Why did God send them away from Eden? Was this a curse or a blessing in the long run? (3:22). What would’ve happened if they also ate from the tree of life?

Now they are a little more like God because of their knowledge, but no longer with God.

(This sending away occurred again with the nation of Israel when due to their sin they were exiled from Canaan, returning later after years of hardship in slavery.)

The battle with sin goes on in our life. Rom 7:22, 23. Although we’ll never be without all sin, we are to take it serious and fight against it (Heb12:4). It is thru God’s strength that we overcome sin (1 John 1:9)

Like Adam and Eve were, we all are cutoff from the tree of life, until that day, when in the garden of the New Jerusalem we will all eat from the tree of Life, again in the LORD’s presence. (Rev 22:1-2)

### 3. First Children, Cain and Able

Read Ch. 4

The effects of sin follow the next generation. The chapter describes the lead-up, the murder, as well as the aftermath. As Christians, we can be challenged by the ending of this episode...

Cain is born. Was he to be the 'seed of woman' that will crush Satan's head? ...

Cain is a farmer and Able is a shepherd. Cain brings a burned offering to God (v3), and Able brings his offering (v4.) Other than the fact that one was a fruit and the other an animal, what other difference do you notice between the 2 offerings? \_\_\_\_\_

(Keep in mind there was no Mosaic Law to instruct what should be offered. And even then, fruit and grain offering was prescribed)

What does it say about the *attitude of the heart* of each worshipper?

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Cain becomes angry and God gently confronts him (4:6-7). What does God tell him regarding sin? How can WE do the same? \_\_\_\_\_

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4:8. We see Cain's thoughts, words, and finally action. God tells us we must control \_\_\_\_\_, otherwise it will rule over us. We will see family strife throughout Genesis... Noah's sons, Abraham-Lot, Isaac-Esau, Joseph-bro's.

Was Cain upset more because his sacrifice was *refused*, OR more because Able's sacrifice was *received*? What is this sentiment called? \_\_\_\_\_.

Do you stumble on this when comparing yourself to others, especially their success? \_\_\_\_\_

God confronts Cain with a question, to encourage a confession (4:9). How is his response different than Adam's (3:9-10)? \_\_\_\_\_

As punishment Cain is not a farmer any longer, but a shepherd (nomad) just like what Able was.

What does this say about God, that Cain didn't get what he deserved?

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4:13-16. Cain despairs, pleads with God.

God promises His protective 'mark' or sign over him so no one would harm him.

God shows \_\_\_\_\_ toward him.

4:16-22 Cain marries and has a line of descendants. The Bible doesn't say they were cursed or worse than anyone else.

In fact Jubal became the father of shepherds, Jubal the father of the 'arts', Tubal-Cain the father of metallurgists 'technology'.

4:23-24 Lamech a revengeful man, killed another young man for an injury he received. Death for injury is hardly fair...

4:26 "At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD" a time of spiritual renewal.

## *4. Enoch, the man who walked with God*

Read Gen 5: 22-24, Heb 11:5.

Enoch is an enigmatic figure in the Bible but we can learn from his life.

How many years did Enoch walked faithfully with God \_\_\_\_\_?

Even though Adam and Eve were sent away from God's presence, we see it's still possible to 'walk with God', similar to how they had in Eden.

Gal 5:16 urges us to walk \_\_\_\_\_. Why?

Memorize 1 John 1:6-7 \_\_\_\_\_

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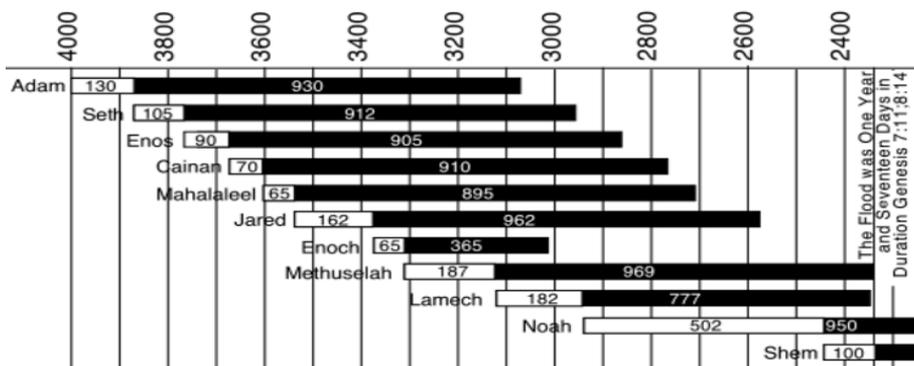
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We don't know why God took Enoch. Maybe it's so he and Elijah will return in the end times as the two witnesses (Rev. 11:3-12). This is just a speculation...

The real lesson is that we should be men and women that walk faithfully with God (in the Light), keeping away from sin; pure in thoughts, words, and actions. As to how God will reward that, that's up to Him and His divine purpose and perfect will.



## 5. God punishes sin – Noah (Gen Ch. 6)



It is now about 1600 years since Creation Week. People multiplied and populated the earth (6:1-2) but sin continued its corruption of the human soul. God decides to shorten man's life to ~120yrs, to limit the amount of sin in each generation (6:3).

Giants, famous warriors, and powerful leaders lived then, but, in general, man's thoughts were continually towards evil (violence). Thoughts turn to Actions... What do you think those societies looked like?

God was pained, grieved and saddened for humanity. So to save it, He decided to cut off the bad in order to save the good; vrs 6-8. The flood not only wiped out wicked humanity, but also washed away all blood spilled on the land (4:10), the idols, the great monuments and cities (6:11-12). This was humanity's best chance at a fresh start.

Noah lived 600 years before the flood, in a totally corrupt society. What 3 things are told of him in v6:9?

As He often does, God tells those he 'knows' His plans; in this case He tells Noah He will destroy humanity as a judgement for their sin. V6:13-22

Noah doesn't say much in this text, but his actions speak louder (Heb 11:7)

The narrative of the flood show God's Grace in midst of His judgement. \*\*

Where else do you see grace in this chapter?

7 days of waiting (7:4)  
 7 days of waiting (7:7-10)  
 40 days of Flood (17a)  
 150 days of Flood (7:24)  
**BUT GOD REMEMBERED NOAH (8:1)**  
 150 days of waters receding (8:3)  
 40 Days of waiting (8:6)  
 7 days of waiting (8:10)  
 7 days of waiting (8:12)

As the waters rose, peaked and subsided, so did God's judgement. Towards the end, a dove brings an olive branch 8:11. What do you think that symbolized?

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Noah was obedient in building the ark, entering (7:5), but also on the exiting. Even though he saw the dry land (8:13), he waited another 56 days until God told him to exit (8:14, 15). \_\_\_\_\_

Noah builds an altar and sacrifices of the clean animals 8:20. God had told him to take extra numbers of these just for this purpose. He even guides his followers in proper worship.

In this 2nd Creation God restricts people from eating animal's blood (9:4), similar to restricting eating from the forbidden fruit. The blood is an animal or human's life. This will later point to forgiveness thru the animal sacrifices and ultimately to Jesus' blood sacrifices for the salvation of our souls.

Heb 9:22 "without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness."

God makes a covenant with Noah and his sons (9:9) that He will not destroy the earth again by a flood, and He sets a sign. Everyone sees the rainbow, but only by faith do we know what it truly symbolizes.

Jesus also makes a new covenant with His followers and sets a sign;

Mat 28:19 \_\_\_\_\_

The Noah story ends with a sad episode. Noah gets drunk from wine and his grandson, Canaan, who was born after the flood, does something very shameful to him 9:24. Ham, his father discovers it and tells his 2 brothers. Why do you think this young man sinned so egregious since he was raised in a believing family, and surely he heard of the world before the flood and the judgement it received? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the only solution to the sin problem? What is the only solution to the sin problem? 2Cor 5:17...

\*\* search for other 'chiasms' in the Bible.



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The goal of this study is to help spiritually prepare you for the upcoming mission trip to Moldova (2017). We hope it also encourages you to keep digging into God's Word and find the many treasures hidden there. The Ultimate Goal, always being, for each of us to glorify God in all we think, say, and do.

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