

## OUTLINE: THE BOOK OF GENESIS

### I. SIN ENTERS THE WORLD (Genesis 1-11).

#### A. CREATION (Genesis 1-2)

##### 1. Heaven and Earth (Genesis 1:1)

*The word “create” in v1 is “bara” in this Hebrew context; the word means to make from nothing.*

2. The earth was formless and empty (Genesis 1:2).
3. Creation continues (Genesis 1:3-2:25).
  - a. First Day — God created light (v3-4).
  - b. Second Day — God created vaults to provide separation (v6-8).
  - c. Third Day — God created dry land and plant life (v9-12).
  - d. Fourth Day — God created the sun, moon, and stars (v14-19).
  - e. Fifth Day — God created creatures in the sea, waters, and sky (20-23).
  - f. Sixth Day — God created land creatures and mankind (v24-31).
  - g. Seventh Day — God created the Sabbath and rested (2:1-3).

- h. A summary of the creation of man (Genesis 2:4-25), This is called the law of recurrence.

**B. THE FALL (Genesis 3-4)**

- 1. The root of sin — Man doubts and disobeys God.
- 2. The fruit of sin — Sin flows from the heart of man. (See also Matthew 15:19.)

**C. THE FLOOD (Genesis 5-9)**

- 1. Man is fruitful and the generations multiply from Adam through Seth. The beginning of man's history and early obituaries are included (Genesis 5).
- 2. Civilization before the flood to include the cause of flood and the construction of ark (Genesis 6).
- 3. The Flood—the judgment of God on mankind (Genesis 7).
- 4. Civilization after the flood (Genesis 8-9).

**D. THE TABLE OF NATIONS AND THE TOWER OF BABEL (Genesis 10-11)**

- 1. The Table of Nations (Genesis 10)
- 2. The Tower of Babel (Genesis 11), This is an interesting contrast to Pentecost (Acts 2).

**II. PREPARATION FOR THE COMING REDEEMER (Genesis 12-50)**

## **A. ABRAM—ABRAHAM—A MAN OF FAITH (Genesis 12-23)**

1. God calls Abram and Abram's response (Genesis 12).
2. Abram returns to Canaan and separates from Lot. Then God appears to Abram a third time (Genesis 13).
3. The first recorded war and Abram rescues Lot. The first mention of a priest—Melchizedek blesses Abram (Genesis 14).
4. God reaffirms His promises to Abram (Genesis 15).
5. Abram and Sarai doubt and disobey God, and Ishmael is born (Genesis 16).
6. God makes a covenant with Abram and changes his name to Abraham. God also confirms His promise to bless Abraham with a son (Genesis chapter 17).
7. God reveals the impending destruction of Sodom, and Abraham pleads for God to spare the people of Sodom (Genesis 18).
8. The angels warn Lot to leave Sodom because God's patience has expired, and God destroys Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19).
9. Abraham sins again, confesses to God, and God works on his behalf (Genesis 20).
10. Isaac is born and Hagar and Ishmael banished (Genesis 21).

11. God commands Abraham to offer Isaac. Abraham obeys. God intervenes and renews His covenant with Abraham (Genesis 22).
12. Abraham purchases a cave in a field in Machpelah to bury Sarah (Genesis 23).

## **B. ISAAC, REBEKAH, AND THE DEATH OF ABRAHAM (Genesis 24-26)**

1. Abraham sends a servant to search for a bride for Isaac — Rebekah returns with him and becomes the bride of Isaac (Genesis 24).
2. Abraham dies. Esau and Jacob are born to Isaac and Rebekah. Esau sells his birthright to Jacob (Genesis 25).
3. God confirms His covenant to Isaac. Isaac is deceptive about his relationship with Rebekah (Genesis 26).

## **C. JACOB (Genesis 27-36)**

1. Jacob and Rebekah use deception to receive the blessing intended for Esau (Genesis 27).
2. Jacob leaves home and meets with God in Bethel. God confirms the earlier covenant He made with Abraham (Genesis 28).
3. Jacob arrives in Haran, meets Rachel and Uncle Laban. He serves for her hand in marriage but is deceived into marrying Leah (Genesis 29).

4. Jacob's sons are born, and he prepares to leave Laban (Genesis 30).
5. Jacob flees from Haran, but he is overtaken by Laban. Jacob and Laban make a covenant at Mizpah (Genesis 31).
6. Jacob prepares to meet Esau, wrestles a man at Peniel and is given the name Israel (Genesis 32).
7. Jacob meets Esau and travels to Salem (Genesis 33).
8. Dinah is defiled, and her brothers slay the men of Hamor to avenge their sin (Genesis 34).
9. Jacob returns to Bethel. Rachel dies at Bethlehem. Isaac dies at Hebron (Genesis 35).
10. The family of Esau becomes the nation of Edom (Genesis 36).

#### **D. JOSEPH—his suffering and glory (Genesis 37-50)**

1. Jacob dwells in Canaan, and Joseph sold into slavery (Genesis 37).
2. The sin and shame of Judah (Genesis 38).
3. Joseph from prisoner to power (Genesis 39-40).
  - a. Joseph oversees the house of Potiphar, is framed by his wife, and then thrown into prison (Genesis 39).

- b.** Joseph interprets the dreams of a baker and a butler (Genesis 40).
- 4.** Joseph is exalted in Egypt (Genesis 41-48).
  - a.** Joseph interprets the dreams of Pharaoh. He is made the overseer of Egypt, marries Asenath, and his children Manasseh and Ephraim are born (Genesis 41).
  - b.** Jacob sends 10 sons to Egypt for food. They unknowingly speak to Joseph. Joseph recognizes them and plots to see his father again (Genesis 42).
  - c.** Jacob sends Benjamin to Egypt as instructed. Joseph dines with his brothers (Genesis 43).
  - d.** Joseph sends brothers home but plants a cup in Benjamin's sack. Judah pleads for Benjamin safety (Genesis 44).
  - e.** Joseph reveals identity, has a reunion with brothers, and invites Jacob and all family to join him in Egypt (Genesis 45).
  - f.** Jacob moves his family to Egypt and enjoy a reunion with Joseph (Genesis 46).
  - g.** Jacob and Joseph's brothers live in Goshen. They meet Pharaoh. The famine forces the Egyptians to sell the land to Joseph for Pharaoh. Joseph plans to bury Jacob in Canaan (Genesis 47).

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

## Genesis 1-2—Creation

1. What does the *imago dei* mean, and how should it impact man's identity?
2. Why did Adam and Eve choose to disobey God, and how does this disobedience affect us today?
3. Why did God rest on the seventh day, and how should this impact us today?

## **Genesis 3-4—The Fall of Man**

1. Why does God address Adam after Eve eats of the forbidden fruit?

2. How does the fall impact us today? How should we respond to this information?
3. Why did God accept Abel's offering and reject Cain's? How should this example impact our lives today?

## **Genesis 5-9—The Flood**

1. What does the story of Noah reveal about his faith? What can we learn from his example?
2. Who closed the door to the Ark, and what does this mean?
3. Why did God place a rainbow in the sky after the flood, and how should this impact us today?

## **Genesis 10-11—The Table of Nations and the Tower of Babel**

1. Why did God destroy the Tower of Babel?
2. What does this event teach us about the heart of man?
3. How should we respond to this knowledge?

## **Genesis 12-23—Abram—Abraham—A Man of Faith**

1. What did Abram's call (Gen. 12) mean to him, and how should it impact us today?
2. What does the birth of Ishmael and the events surrounding his birth teach us about humanity and about God?
3. What can we learn from Abraham's experience of Mount Moriah (Gen. 22), and how should it impact us today?

## **Genesis 24-26—Isaac, Rebekah, and the Death of Abraham**

1. What practical lessons can we learn from the story of the journey leading to the marriage of Isaac and Rebekah?
2. What is the significance of the births of Jacob and Esau, and how should their story impact us today?

### **Genesis 27-36—Jacob**

1. What can we learn from Jacob's deception of Esau, and how should this impact us today?
2. Who did Jacob wrestle with in chapter thirty-two? What is a Christophany?
3. What was the significance of this great wrestling match?

### **Genesis 37-50—Joseph His Suffering and Glory**

1. What can we learn about mankind from the early actions of Joseph's brothers?
2. How do we protect ourselves from living like them?
3. Contrastingly, what does Joseph's final act of forgiveness to his brothers teach us about God's amazing grace?
4. What can we learn about the sovereignty of God in and through the life of Joseph?