

# GENESIS

## The Book of Beginnings

### I. PREPARING TO STUDY

#### A. Authorship

1. From the time of their writings until the early 1800`s, the human authorship of the first five books of the Bible, known as the \_\_\_\_\_ or the Pentateuch, was universally attributed to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. This was the testimony of the other authors of the Old Testament as well. (Josh. 8:31, 1 Kings 2:3, 2 Kings 14:6, 1 Chr. 22:12, Ezra 3:2, Neh. 8:1, Dan. 9:11, Mal. 4:4)
3. New Testament writers also referred to the books of Genesis to Deuteronomy as the \_\_\_\_\_ of Moses.

*John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*

*1 Corinthians 9:9 For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain." Is it oxen God is concerned about?*

4. Most importantly for us, \_\_\_\_\_ attributed the authorship of these books to Moses as well.

*Luke 24:44 Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me."*

5. In 1895, with the rise of \_\_\_\_\_, Julius Wellhausen popularized the Documentary Hypothesis which proposed that the Pentateuch is a combination of four separate documents that were compiled and edited to create the final form which we now possess. The four documents were each given a letter to reference them, and the theory was called the JEDP theory, and it is still popular among liberals today. However, much to their dismay, there is no \_\_\_\_\_ or archaeological evidence for the existence of any of these documents. In reality, the documentary hypothesis is a classical attempt to remove the \_\_\_\_\_ from the Scriptures and offer a naturalistic explanation of events.

We would do well to remember the words of the Master, **John 5:46** For if you **believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me.**

## B. Relationship to the Other Books of the Bible

It is no coincidence that Genesis is the first book of the Bible. The word Genesis means “\_\_\_\_\_,” and indeed this divine record of origins tells us the beginning of virtually everything significant to our lives. Genesis is the foundation of every other book of Holy Scripture. It is quoted or referenced more than \_\_\_\_\_ times in the New Testament, and every major doctrine finds its origin in the pages of this book. No one can be a scholar in any other portion of the Bible without first becoming a serious student of the Book of Genesis.

## II. EXAMINING THE TEXT

### A. The Beginning of the \_\_\_\_\_ (1)

1. Two types of creative activity are described:

- a. “bara” to call into existence - v 1 (space and \_\_\_\_\_), v 21 (life), v 27 (people)

**Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God **created** (bara) the heavens and the earth.

**Genesis 1:21** So God **created** (bara) great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

**Genesis 1:27** 27 So God **created** (bara) man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

- b. “asah” to make and “yatsar” to form or shape – using what was created to form new things

**Genesis 1:7** Thus God **made** (asah) the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so.

**Genesis 2:7** And the LORD God **formed** (yatsar) man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

- c. It is interesting to note that man and woman were both created and formed. The body of Adam was formed from the already existing elements (the dust of the ground), but he had to be created because he was given a spirit, which neither plants nor animals possessed.

2. The text is specific in the \_\_\_\_\_ of creation: light, atmosphere, land, plants, heavenly bodies, water animals, birds, land animals, man and woman. This is not the order in the theory of evolution.
3. The text is also specific in declaring the limit on progressions: “each according to its \_\_\_\_\_” (1:11, 21, 24)

**Genesis 1:24** Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth the living creature **according to its kind**: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each **according to its kind**”; and it was so.

4. Finally it is specific in \_\_\_\_\_: 6 days, each of which was a light/dark cycle; clear meaning of the author was 6 twenty four hour periods of creation.

### **B. The Beginning of Life (1:20 – 2:23)**

1. Living things were distinguished from non-living by giving them life, soul, “nephesh.” (\_\_\_\_\_ do not have “nephesh;” animals and people do.)
2. Man and woman were distinctive from other life by being made in the image of God, which means they also had \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thess. 5:23), which animals do not possess.

### **C. The Beginning of Marriage (2:24)**

1. Eve “mother of all living” was made as a “\_\_\_\_\_” for Adam.
2. In marriage, husband and wife become “one flesh.”

### **D. The Beginning of Sin, \_\_\_\_\_, and Redemption (3-4)**

1. The first temptation came as casting \_\_\_\_\_ on God’s Word. (3:1) Satan lied (3:4) and appealed to the three root causes of sin: lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. (3:6 and 1 John 2:16)
2. Death began as a result of \_\_\_\_\_. (The postulation of death before Adam by the theory of evolution or the gap theory is a contradiction of this clear truth.)
3. The gap theory seems to have originated in the late 1500s but was popularized by the Scottish theologian Thomas Chalmers in the 1800s. This theory changes the translation of Genesis 1:1-2 from

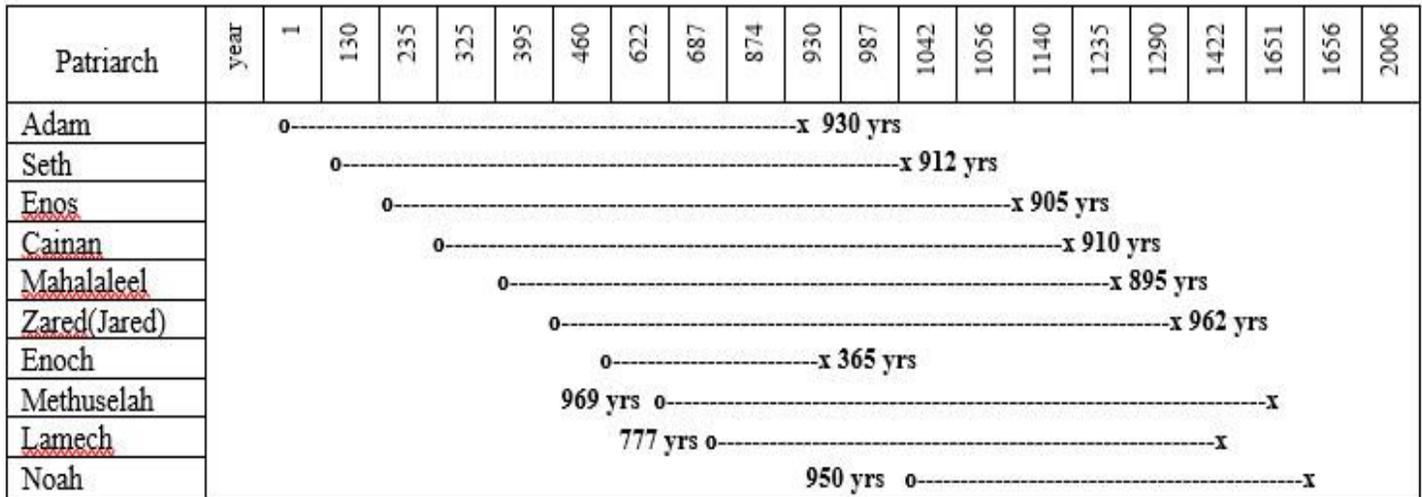
**Genesis 1:1–2** 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth **was** without form, and void; ....

To 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth **became** without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep.

Proponents then place all the geological ages in this time frame and make Genesis 1 describe a re-creation of the universe.

- The first promise of a Redeemer: **Genesis 3:15** **And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.**

**E. The Beginning of Families (5)**



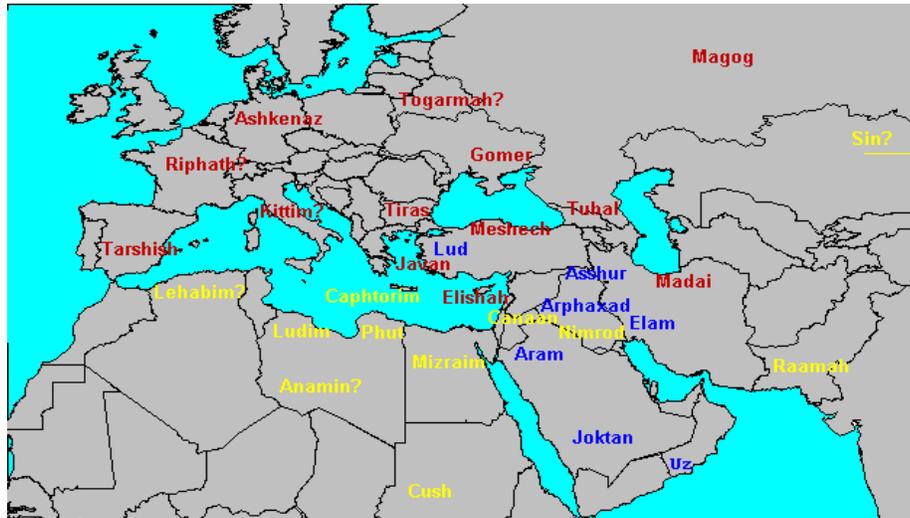
**F. The Beginning of the Present Topography and Climate (6-9)**

- Reason for the flood: spread of \_\_\_\_\_ (6:5-6)
- Purpose of the flood: start human race over (6:7, 17)
- Deliverance from the flood – by \_\_\_\_\_ (6:8)
- Extent of the flood: covered the whole earth (7:19-24)
- Result of the flood: changes in climate, topography, \_\_\_\_\_, relationship with animals (9:1-7)
- The rainbow covenant (9:11-13)

**G. The Beginning of Languages, Races, and Nations (10-11)**

- God’s command: \_\_\_\_\_ the earth (9:1)
- Man’s intent: build ourselves a city (11:4)
- God’s action: confuse \_\_\_\_\_ and scatter the people(11:9)

**TABLE OF THE NATIONS**



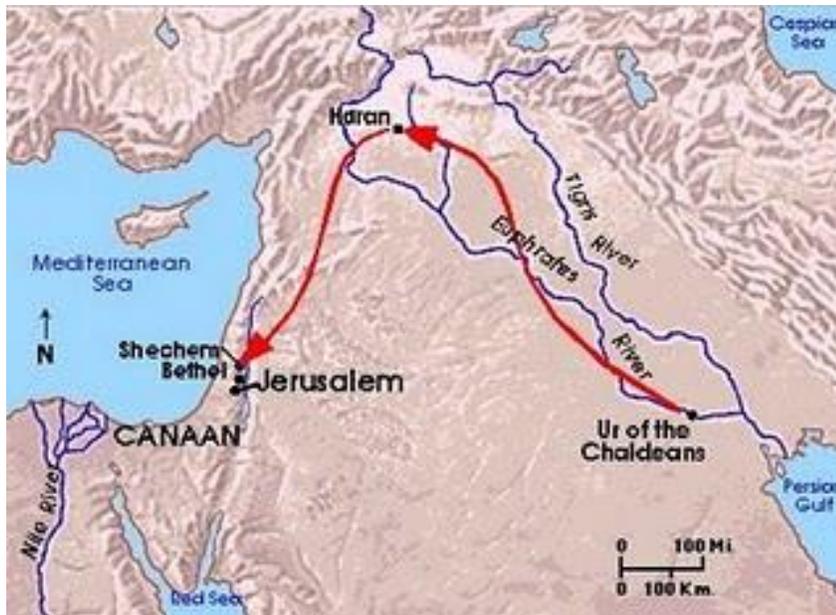
Blue = descendants of Shem    Yellow = descendants of Ham    Red = descendants of Japheth

**H. The Beginning of the Abrahamic \_\_\_\_\_ as the Path of the Redeemer (12-50)**

**1. Abraham (12-20)**

**a. The call (12:1)**

Genesis 12:1 Now the LORD had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you.



- b. The covenant (12:2-3)
- Genesis 12:2–3 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Fulfilled in Christ
2. **Isaac** (21-25)
- a. The miraculous birth of Isaac (21)
- b. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Isaac (22)
- c. The ram who takes Isaac’s place is a picture of Christ who took our place.
3. **Jacob** (25-36)/Esau
- a. The younger rules the elder (25:23)
- b. Name changed to \_\_\_\_\_ (32:28)
- c. The 12 sons of Jacob: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin
4. **Joseph** (37-47)
- a. From son to \_\_\_\_\_ (37)
- b. From slave to ruler (39-45)
- c. From ruler to \_\_\_\_\_ (46-47)
- d. The great lesson of the life of Joseph
- Genesis 50:20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; *but* God meant it for \_\_\_\_\_, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive.
5. **The future** (47-50)
- a. Immediately before his death, Jacob prophesied concerning his 12 sons (listed above) who became the fathers of the 12 \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel. (49:28)
- b. Especially notice his words concerning Judah.
- Genesis 49:10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him *shall be* the obedience of the people.

In what way shall the scepter not depart from Judah? God had already purposed that \_\_\_\_\_ should be born from the tribe of Judah which was to become the royal line of His chosen people.