

An Outline of Genesis

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- I. A Record of Origins (1:1–2:3)
 - A. God forms: Days 1–3 (1:1–13)
 - 1. God forms the light: Day 1 (1–5)
 - 2. God forms the heavenly expanse and the waters: Day 2 (6–8)
 - 3. God forms the land and vegetation: Day 3 (9–13)
 - B. God fills: Days 4–6 (1:14–31)
 - 1. God fills the heaven with the sun, moon, and stars: Day 4 (14–19)
 - 2. God fills the sea and air with sea creatures and birds: Day 5 (20–23)
 - 3. God fills the land with animals and humans: Day 6 (24–31)
 - C. God rests: Day 7 (2:1–3)
- II. What Became of the Heavens and Earth (2:4–4:26)
 - A. Act 1: “The Garden Story” (2:4–3:24)
 - 1. Scene 1: Paradise Gained (2:4–25)
 - a. Creation of man and the garden (4–17)
 - b. Creation of woman (18–25)
 - 2. Scene 2: Paradise Lost (3:1–24)
 - a. Dialogue with the Devil (1–5)
 - b. The Fall (6)
 - c. Immediate results (7–13)
 - d. Lasting consequences (14–19)
 - e. Final removal (20–24)
 - B. Act 2: “The Cain-Seth Story” (4:1–26)
 - 1. The seed of the serpent—Cain and his descendants (1–24)
 - a. Characteristic #1: They offer convenient worship (1–5a).
 - b. Characteristic #2: They do not properly care for others (5b–8).
 - c. Characteristic #3: They cover their sin (9).
 - d. Characteristic #4: They respond to trouble in self-preserving ways (10–24)
 - 2. The seed of the woman—Seth and his descendants (25–26)
- III. What Became of Adam and His Descendants (5:1–6:8)
 - A. A genealogy that shows the world’s population was increasing (5:1–32)
 - 1. The formula and emphasis
 - 2. The exceptions
 - a. Enoch (5:21–24)
 - b. Lamech (5:28–32)
 - B. A narrative that shows the world’s wickedness was increasing (6:1–8)
 - 1. Part 1: An unparalleled act of rebellion (1–4)
 - 2. Part 2: God’s response (5–7)
 - 3. Part 3: The narrator’s comment (8)
- IV. What Became of Noah: “The Flood Story” (6:9–9:29)
 - A. The story’s intro (6:9–12)
 - B. The story itself (6:13–9:29)



1. Scene 1: The “Divine Speech” scene (6:13–7:5)
 - a. Divine speech #1: about building (6:13–22)
 - b. Divine speech #2: about entering (7:1–5)
 2. Scene 2: The “Flood” scene (7:6–24)
 - a. Entry (7:6–9)
 - b. Rain begins (7:10–16)
 - c. Flood prevails (7:17–24)
 3. Scene 3: The “Waiting” scene (8:1–22)
 - a. Water receding (1–5)
 - b. Earth drying (6–14)
 - c. Crew leaving (15–19)
 - d. Noah worshipping (20–22)
 4. Scene 4: The “Blessing” scene (9:1–29)
 - a. The scene starts first with a new humanity emerging (1–7).
 - b. The scene continues with an eternal covenant being established (8–17).
 - c. The scene ends with a twisted tale of curse and blessing (18–29).
- V. What Became of Noah’s Sons (10:1–11:9)
- A. Act 1: The Table of Nations—a segmented genealogy (10:1–32)
 - B. Act 2: The Tower of Babel—a succinct narrative (11:1–9)
 1. Scene 1: Settling on a Plain (1–2)
 2. Scene 2: Planning for a Project (3–4)
 3. Scene 3: Leaving for an Inspection (5–7)
 4. Scene 4: Dispersing of a People (8)
 5. Final Comments (9)
- VI. What Became of Shem (11:10–26)
- VII. What Became of Terah—The Abraham Story (11:27–25:11)
- A. Act 1: The Beginning (11:27–12:20)
 1. Family (11:27–32)
 2. Fidelity (12:1–9)
 3. Failure (12:10–20)
 - B. Act 2: The Lot Chronicles (13:1–14:24)
 1. A family squabble—contrasting Abram and Lot (13:1–18)
 2. An international war—contrasting Abram and the King of Sodom (14:1–24)
 - C. Act 3: The Covenant Reaffirmed (15:1–21)
 1. A reaffirmation of the seed promise (15:1–6)
 2. A reaffirmation of the land promise (15:7–21)
 - D. Act 4: The Ishmael Story (16:1–16)
 1. Sarai’s sinister scheme (16:1–6)
 2. God’s gracious goodness (16:7–16)
 - E. Act 5: The Sign of the Abrahamic Covenant (17:1–27)
 1. God’s appearance to Abram (17:1–21)
 2. Abram’s obedience to God (17:22–27)
 - F. Act 6: The Lot Chronicles—Part 2 (18:1–19:38)
 1. At Abraham’s tent (18:1–15)



2. On the way to Sodom (18:16–33)
3. In Sodom (19:1–29)
4. In the hills (19:30–38)
- G. Act 7: Threats and Fulfillments (20:1–21:34)
 1. Abraham & Abimelech: Part 1—the threat of an illegitimate pregnancy (20:1–18)
 2. The birth of Isaac (21:1–8)
 3. The dismissal of Ishmael—the threat of an intruding heir (21:9–21)
 4. Abraham & Abimelech: Part 2—the threat of no water (21:22–34)
- H. Act 8: The Sacrifice of Isaac (22:1–19)
 1. The test (22:1–2)
 2. The response (22:3–14)
 3. The results (22:15–19)
- I. Act 9: The Concluding Act of Abraham (22:20–25:11)
 1. Scene 1: Genealogy and Death (22:20–23:20)
 2. Scene 2: Marriage (24:1–67)
 3. Scene 3: Genealogy and Death (25:1–11)
- VIII. What Became of Ishmael (25:12–18)
 - A. Genealogy (25:12–16)
 - B. Death Report (25:17–18)
- IX. What Became of Isaac—the Jacob Story (25:19–35:29)
 - A. The early episodes (25:19–28:22)
 1. Episode 1: The beginnings (25:19–34)
 - a. The birth scene (25:19–26)
 - b. The birthright scene (25:27–34)
 2. Episode 2: The challenges (26:1–33)
 - a. Struggles in Gerar (26:1–16)
 - b. Conflict outside of Gerar (26:17–22)
 - c. Blessings in Beersheba (26:23–33)
 3. Episode 3: The blessing (26:34–28:9)
 4. Episode 4: The dream (28:10–22)
 - B. The Laban Chronicles (29:1–31:55)
 1. Episode 1: Two wives for Jacob (29:1–30)
 - a. The scene at the well (29:1–12)
 - b. The scene at Laban’s home (29:13–30)
 2. Episode 2: God increases Jacob (29:31–30:43)
 - a. Increased children (29:31–30:24)
 - b. Increased wealth (30:25–43)
 3. Episode 3: Jacob’s family exchanges goodbyes with Laban (31:1–55)
 - a. Jacob faces a brother (32:1–33:17)
 - b. Jacob fails a daughter (33:18–34:31)
 - c. Jacob buries a father (35:1–29)
 - C. The late episodes (32:1–35:29)
- X. What Became of Esau—A Brief Record (36:1–8)
 - A. Esau’s immediate family (2–5)



- B. Esau's imminent departure (6–7)
- XI. What Became of Esau—An Extended Take (36:9–37:1)
 - A. The sons and chiefs of Esau (36:10–19)
 - B. The sons and chiefs of Seir (36:20–30)
 - C. The kings and chiefs of Edom (36:31–43)
- XII. What Became of Jacob—the Joseph Story (37:2–50:26)
 - A. The Opening Act: Dreams and Deception (37:2–36)
 - 1. Scene 1: Hatred at Home (37:2–11)
 - 2. Scene 2: Animosity Away (37:12–30)
 - 3. Scene 3: Heartache at Home (37:31–36)
 - B. Act 2: Judah's Fall (38:1–30)
 - 1. Scene 1: Widespread devastation (38:1–12a)
 - 2. Scene 2: Secret sins (38:12b–23)
 - 3. Scene 3: Startling confession (38:24–26)
 - 4. Scene 4: Vigorous offspring (38:27–30)
 - C. Act 3: Joseph's Ascent to Power (39:1–41:57)
 - 1. Scene 1: From blessing to prison (39:1–20)
 - 2. Scene 2: From prison to being forgotten (39:21–40:23)
 - 3. Scene 3: From prisoner to ruler (41:1–57)
 - D. Act 4: Fulfillment of Joseph's Dreams (42:1–47:12)
 - 1. First trip (42:1–38)
 - a. Stage 1: Departure from Canaan & Peril in Egypt (42:1–25)
 - b. Stage 2: Departure from Egypt & Distress in Canaan (42:26–38)
 - 2. Second trip (43:1–45:28)
 - a. A family talk at home (43:1–14)
 - b. A family meal in Joseph's house (43:15–34)
 - c. Final test (44:1–34)
 - d. Final response (45:1–28)
 - 3. Third trip (46:1–47:12)
 - a. Phase 1: Departure & Descendants (46:1–27)
 - b. Phase 2: Encounters & Establishment (46:28–47:12)
 - E. Act 5: Provision for Jacob's Family (47:13–27)
 - 1. The fate of the Egyptians (47:13–26)
 - 2. The blessing of the Israelites (47:27)
 - F. Act 6: Jacob's final moments (47:28–50:14)
 - 1. A discussion about his burial plot (47:28–31)
 - 2. A special time with his grandsons (48:1–20)
 - 3. A gift for Joseph (48:21–22)
 - 4. A blessing for his sons (49:1–28)
 - 5. His death (49:29–33)
 - 6. His embalming and burial (50:1–14)
 - G. Act 7: Joseph's final moments (50:15–26)

