

Studies in Genesis

Introduction and Review

Genesis 1-11

It is good to be
with you again



Welcome!!

But what a
SCARY picture!!!!



What's the Overall Plan

- * Genesis - part 1 ... 7/8-8/26
- * IDK ... 9/2-10/21 — by IDK
- * Genesis - part 2 ... 10/28-12/16

Today's Plan

- * Re-introduce the book of Genesis
- * Interactive QUIZ on what we learned in Genesis 1-11 😂
- * YES ... I realize it has been a long time, but I know you are good students with EXCELLENT retention!!

Introductory Matters

- * Genesis is the “Book of Beginnings”

- ◆ Of the heavens and earth ... and everything in it
- ◆ Of mankind .. in particular!
- ◆ Of SIN 😞
- ◆ Of God’s redemptive plan and His covenant people ..
Israel

- * Q-Q1: Genesis was written by?

- ◆ Moses — Most likely during his 40 years in the wilderness

Intro .. Continued

* Q1 follow-up .. What evidence do we have?

- ◆ Commands to write things down .. Exod 17:14; 24:4; 34:27; Num 33:12; Deut 31:9
- ◆ 14 OT books connect Moses with authorship of the pentateuch
- ◆ Jesus acknowledged it w/no rebuttal — John 5:45-47 (and others in Matthew and Mark)
- ◆ The Apostles acknowledged it — Act 28:23

Intro .. Continued

- * Purpose of the book
 - ◆ History and theology of ...
 - ◆ God's selection of Israel to be His chosen people, through whom He will redeem mankind.
- * Begins very broadly with the creation and fall ... then quickly narrows its focus to God's plan of redemption (Gen 3:15ff)
- * There are many areas we would love more detail ...
 - ◆ BUT — God gives us the details He wants us to have
 - ◆ AND — there is STUNNING PRECISION in what he reveals

Intro .. Continued

* Q-Q2: Why does God withhold information?

- ◆ Deut 29:29 ... things we don't need to know

 - ▶ It is not germane to understanding redemption

 - ▶ Bible, while accurate on science & history, is neither a science nor a history book!!

- ◆ Isa 55:8-9 ... things we won't understand

- ◆ My opinion ... Our PRIDE!!

* Structure of Genesis ... 2 alternatives

- ◆ Extra-credit question — Do you remember the 2 options?

Intro .. Continued

* Option 1

- ◆ Pre-patriarchal HISTORY — Gen 1-11; 4 topics
 - ▶ Creation: 1:1-2:25
 - ▶ Fall: 3:1-6:22
 - ▶ Flood: 7:1-9:29
 - ▶ Dispersion: 10:1-11:26
- ◆ Patriarchal HISTORY — Gen 12-50; 4 people
 - ▶ Abraham: 11:27-25:11
 - ▶ Isaac: 25:12-28:9
 - ▶ Jacob: 28:10-36:43
 - ▶ Joseph: 37:1-50:26

Intro ... Continued

- * Option 2 — By the textual marker **אֵלֶּה תּוֹלְדוֹת** - “this is the account of”
 - ◆ This marker occurs 10x’s .. each time narrowing the focus of attention to the “generations” and material that follows
 - ▶ For example — Gen 2:4 narrows from creation to Eden and its inhabitants.
 - ▶ Gen 5:1 — Narrows from Adam to Noah
 - ▶ Each of the following 8 are introduced with genealogies that narrow the focus of God’s plan (6:9; 10:1; 11:10, 27; 25:12, 19; 36:1; 37:2)

The Creation Account

GENESIS 1:1 - 2:25

The Creation Account

- * Q-Q3: What are some of the key details or features you remember from Gen 1:1-2:3?
 - ◆ “In the beginning God ...” (1:1)
 - ▶ He exists (Exod 3:14); He is eternal (Rev 1:8); He is Creator (Isa 45:12)
 - ◆ No form, empty (void), dark ... (1:2)
 - ◆ Presence of the Holy Spirit at creation ... (1:2)

Creation .. Continued

- ◆ Aspects of “how God created”
 - ▶ By His spoken word; Immediately; Out of nothing; Order & Structure
 - ▶ Day by 24-hour day!
- ◆ God’s assessment of creation — good & VERY good
- ◆ The manner of reproduction — ACCORDING TO THEIR KIND (10x’s)
- ◆ Indication of God’s Tri-Unity (i.e. the Trinity) ... (1:26)

Creation .. Continued

- ◆ Man is created in GOD's Image ... (1:26)
- ◆ Man is given dominion ... (1:26)
- ◆ Man is created male and female ... (1:27)

Creation .. Continued

- ◆ Q-Q4: What is interesting about day 7?
 - ▶ Only DAY God blessed
 - ▶ Different conclusion than days 1-6 .. seems something “ongoing” about day 7
 - ▶ Day 7 is sanctified — it is “set apart”
 - ▶ Gives us a pattern for work and rest (note the proportion ... 6 and 1)

Creation .. Continued

Q-Q5: What is THE key “big bang” issue about creation?

There is no BIG BANG - Gen 1 contains the literal and historical account of God's creative work

Follow-up bonus question: What are some of the names of the alternative theories to a literal creation?

Creation - Part 2

* Q-Q6: What is the point of Gen 2:4-25?

- ◆ To provide more detail about Day 6
- ◆ To prepare us for Chapter 3

* Outline of the chapter

- ◆ Prologue — vv. 4-6
- ◆ The formation of the MAN — v. 7

Part 2 .. Continued

- ◆ God's perfect provision for the MAN — vv. 8-25
 - ▶ A perfect place (his habitat) — vv. 8-14
 - ▶ A perfect purpose (his mission) — vv. 15-17
 - ▶ A perfect partner (his helpmate) — vv. 18-25
- ◆ Q-Q7: What is the key word in this outline?

Part 2 .. Continued

* Key lessons from chapter 2

- ◆ vv. 4-6 are not a second creation account
- ◆ Man was formed by organic material and “animated” (i.e. made alive) by God’s breath
- ◆ God prepared a place for the Man
- ◆ God gave the man a purpose ... meaningful work
- ◆ God gave the man a prohibition ... DON’T EAT!
 - ▶ So much confusion over a simple command ...
 - ▶ Take it at face value ... God requires obedience from His children

Part 2 .. Continued

* Q-Q8: Why does God decree a penalty in v. 17?

◆ To demonstrate that He gave the man the ability to choose ... that is, to exercise his volition (i.e. his will)

* Follow-up Q-Q9: What is the fundamental nature of the choice we make as followers of Christ - for every situation?

◆ Will you submit to and obey God's will .. or exert "SELF WILL"

Exposes Our Heart Condition



GOD'S WILL
"A tree planted by water"

SELF-WILL
"A bush in the desert"



JEREMIAH 17:5-10

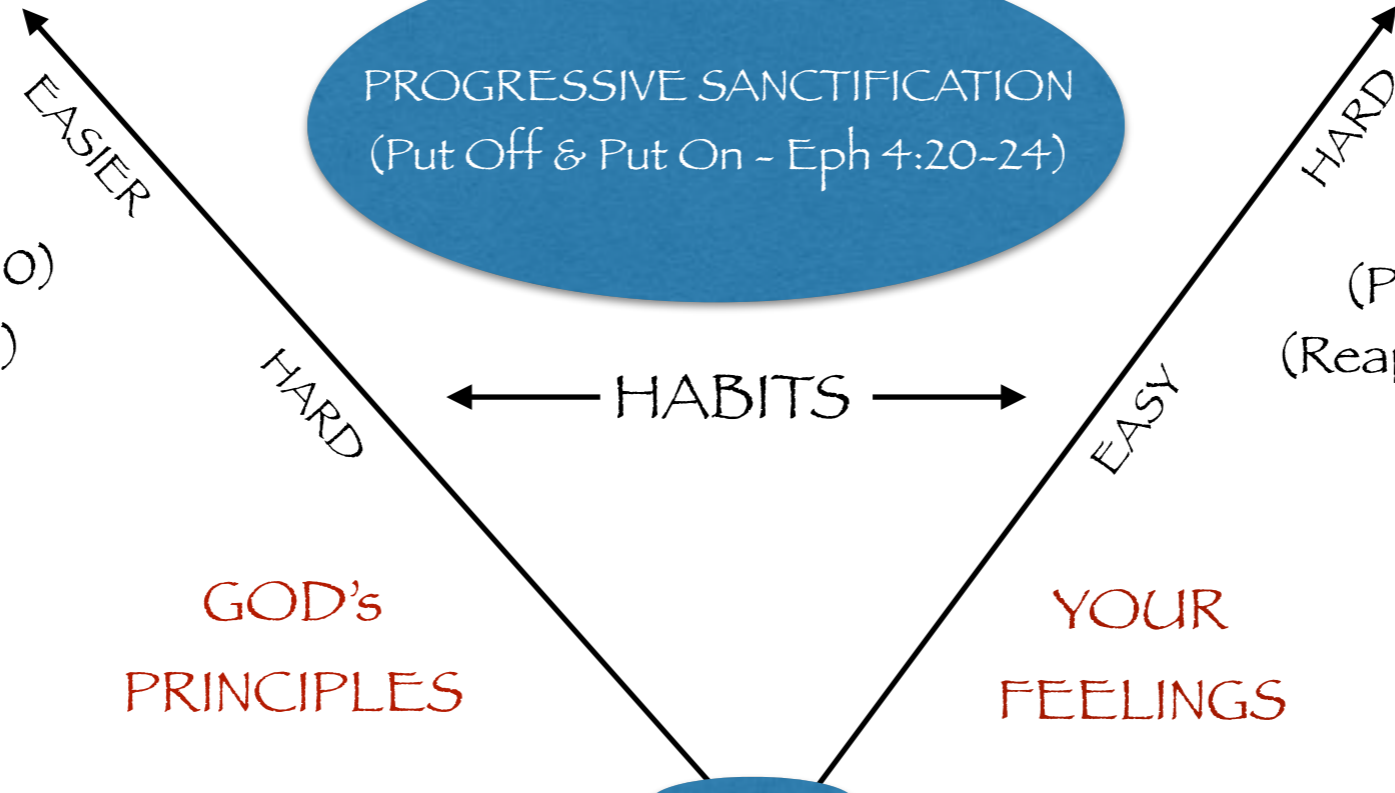
How This Works in Our Life?



PROGRESSIVE SANCTIFICATION
(Put Off & Put On - Eph 4:20-24)

(Please God - 2 Cor 5:9-10)
(Christ in you - Gal 2:20)

(Please Self - Prov 14:12)
(Reaps Corruption - Gal 6:8a)



What You Sow - Gal 6:7



(Matt 12:34b-35; Prov 4:23-24)

.. For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and put perverse lips far from you.

Part 2 .. Continued

- * Gen 2 finishes with MARRIAGE .. *what two summary points might you highlight about vv. 18-25?*
 - ◆ The preeminence of marriage in God's eyes
 - ◆ The particulars of marriage in God's design
- * Bottom Line — Marriage is **IMPORTANT** to God

The Fall

GENESIS 3:1-6:22

The Fall of Mankind

- * These next 4 chapters may be among the saddest in all the Bible!
- * Having experienced “perfection” we see how fast **SIN** unravels things
- * The theme of Gen 3-6 is sin and its impact
 - ◆ Originating in the “first couple”
 - ◆ Extending to their progeny - then all the earth
- * A second theme is God’s response ... R → J → R

The Fall .. Continued

* Q-Q10: Does anyone remember “R-J-R”

- ◆ Take responsibility for your sin leading to repentance
- ◆ Without repentance, God must execute His justice ... stemming from His holiness
- ◆ Yet, we see that God repeatedly seeks to reconcile us to fellowship

The Fall .. Chapter 3

* Outline of chapter 3

- ◆ Temptation leading to disobedience - vv. 1-6
- ◆ The “fruit” of disobedience - v. 7
- ◆ God’s **surprising** response (confronts) - vv. 8-13
- ◆ God’s **rightful** response (judgment) - vv. 14-19
- ◆ The **final** response (man & God) .. vv. 20-24

Chapter 3 .. Continued

- * Q-Q11: What do we learn about the process of temptation in vv. 1-6?
 - ◆ Starts innocently with an “approach” - v. 1
 - ◆ Preys on our “inattentiveness” and creates “confusion” .. any tree; or touch it - vv. 2-3
 - ◆ Proactively defies God’s will - vv. 4-5
 - ◆ Engages our **DESIRE**!!! - v. 6

Chapter 3 .. Continued

* Q-Q12: What is the point of v. 7?

- ◆ Sin never lives up to its promise!!!

* God's initial response is interesting ... he delays judgment in hopes of repentance!! - vv. 8-13

- ◆ Kind of like what He is doing in the world today

- ◆ This is a reflection of God's "common grace"

* Q-Q13: Yet instead of repentance what do we see?

- ◆ **BLAME SHIFTING!!** ... They never deny the fact of their sin, BUT they deny the responsibility for their sin

Chapter 3 .. Continued

- * Next we have God's rightful response in vv. 14-19 ... His judgment of sin
- * Q-Q13: What is the fundamental difference in the judgment between Satan and man - v. 15
 - ◆ Satan's IS irreversible and fatal
 - ◆ Ours CAN BE reversed unto eternal life
- * Final response to the first sin in vv. 20-24
 - ◆ Man — Believed God (naming of his wife .. Hebrew word play)
 - ◆ God — Provided for man (loin coverings; eviction)

The Explosion of Sin

- * Chapters 4 & 6 record the explosion of sin
- * Chapters 4-5 highlight ...
 - ◆ *The hereditary nature of sin* ... it is passed down from our first parents to their progeny; and to their progeny; and onto us today — and our progeny!
 - ◆ *The cycle of sin and response* ... follows the same pattern
 - ▶ Note 4:1-15

Explosion .. Continued

- ◆ The intensification of sin ... the fundamental arrogance and pride that sin IS
 - ▶ Monuments to our children - note v. 17
 - ▶ Distortion of God's design for marriage - note v. 19
 - ▶ Exalting in SIN ... Lamech's boastful pride - note vv. 23-24
 - ❖ Cain "gave in" to sin; Lamech "celebrated" his sin
- ◆ In vv. 1-24 we see the **maturati**on and the **spread of SIN**
 - ▶ Left "un-checked" sin only proceeds in one direction!!

Explosion .. Continued

- * Yet, Yet, Yet ... God ALWAYS has a remnant
- * He preserves His Godly line ... which is announced with the birth of Seth in vv. 25-26
 - ◆ This Godly line — began to call upon the name of the Lord
- * Chapter 5 marks the first major “narrowing genealogy” ... from Seth to the next notable person in God’s redemptive plan, **who is _____?**
 - ◆ By narrowing I’m noting that it is a full genealogy — but concerned primarily with one branch of Adam’s line.
 - ◆ Surely Cain’s line had other son’s and daughters ... but they are not the focus of God’s purpose
 - ◆ Which is to say that the Bible’s genealogies are accurate, but selective

Explosion .. Continued

- * Having fully penetrated the “first family” and their descendants ... chapter 6 speaks to **Total Depravity** - note v. 5
 - ◆ Wickedness was great on the earth ... and
 - ◆ **Every** intent of the thoughts of man’s **heart** was **only evil continually**
- * And yet we see God’s remnant — Noah - vv. 8-9
 - ◆ Found favor ... Why? Because he was a righteous man
 - ▶ Blameless (i.e. not perfect, but repentant) ... and he walked with God (i.e. Obedience)

Explosion .. Continued

- * Beyond Noah — **all flesh** had corrupted their way .. they were unrepentant for their sin - v. 11-12
 - ◆ Note the extent - on two axis
 - ▶ First — all flesh; that is “everyone”
 - ▶ Second — the extent individually
 - ❖ Corrupt .. moral depravity
 - ❖ Violence .. physical expression
 - ◆ Note the source .. the choices of man - **their way**

Explosion .. Concluded

* Q-Q14: So what is God going to do??

- ◆ He will judge on a worldwide scale .. bringing it about HIMSELF by means of a flood
- ◆ God reveals His plan to Noah, and tells him build a boat ...
God reveals His plans and His reasons to His people!

* Q-Q15: What 3 things are notable about Noah's response?

- ◆ He did it — Obedience .. He believed what God said
- ◆ He did it IMMEDIATELY
- ◆ He didn't ask WHY .. Because God already told him

The Flood

GENESIS 7:1-9:29

The World-Wide Flood

- * The story will now start to move along a little quicker ...
- * Gen 7:1 through the end of Gen 9 records the flood event in 3-parts
 - ◆ The world-wide flood itself— 7:1-8:19
 - ◆ God's covenant with Noah — 8:20-9:17
 - ◆ The aftermath of the flood — 9:18-29

The Flood .. Continued

- * Four things we need to remember about the flood
 - ◆ It was a global flood — NOTE ALL THE DETAILS in 7:1-8:19
 - ◆ God sovereignly brought it and ended it
 - ◆ God sovereignly protected His remnant
 - ◆ Noah acknowledged God's protection with worship
- * God's response to Noah's worship = **A covenant promise**
 - ◆ 9:1-17 provides the details of the covenant that was promised back in Gen 6:18

The Noahic Covenant

* Components of the Covenant

- ◆ Fill the earth (reaffirmation) - v. 1
- ◆ Fear replaces dominion - v. 2
- ◆ Permission to eat meat .. w/o the blood - vv. 3-4
 - ▶ Note the permission-restriction pattern again (like in 2:15ff)
- ◆ Capital punishment .. authority & sentence - vv. 5-6
- ◆ A promise .. Never again destroy by flood - v. 11

Covenant .. Continued

- ◆ A sign .. the rainbow - v. 13
- ◆ The parties ..
 - ▶ Noah, his son's and their seeds
 - ▶ Every living creature
 - ▶ The physical earth
- ◆ The form .. Unconditional
 - ▶ "I establish" - cf 9:9, 11, 17
 - ▶ Reflects God's undeserved grace

The Aftermath

- * Q-Q16: What is most notable about the aftermath of the flood .. Hint, see vv. 20-22
 - ◆ It did not change the condition of man's heart ...
 - ◆ Sin still reigns!!

The Dispersion

GENESIS 10:1-11:26

The Dispersion

- * If you remember ...
 - ◆ Gen 10-11 has an interesting structure
- * It is one long genealogy interrupted by a parenthetical explanation
 - ◆ Genealogy - Part 1 (10:1-32) records the table of nations ... it is inclusive
 - ◆ The parenthetical (11:1-9) explains how God “divided” the nations
 - ◆ Genealogy - Part 2 records the “line of promise” from Seth ... it is exclusive

Genealogy - Part 1

* Features of the genealogy - Part 1

◆ It is a *horizontal genealogy*

▶ Note the difference between Gen 10:1-32; and Gen 5; 11:10-26

◆ Gen 10 is concerned with ALL the *families, nations, languages, and lands* - see 10:5, 20, 31

◆ Purpose of Gen 10 is communicated in v. 32

▶ To identify the nations of the earth

The Means of Dispersion

- * But how did the dispersion come about?
 - ◆ I'm glad you asked ... the answer is in 11:1-9
 - ◆ Just as in Gen 2:4ff, God provides more details
- * These nine verses are “parenthetical”
 - ◆ Starts with a key detail - one language
 - ◆ Continues with Man's plan - vv. 2-4
 - ▶ Disobedience ... to God's directive to “fill the earth”
 - ▶ Pride ... exalt themselves

The Means .. Continued

- ◆ Then moves to God's response - vv. 5-8
 - ▶ God comes for a look .. He confirms Man's disobedience
 - ▶ Notes their progress and allows them to continue
 - ❖ "Will be impossible" in v. 6 is better translated "Will be withheld from"
 - ▶ God's judgment is to introduce multiple languages
- ◆ The place is memorialized by a name .. Babel - v. 9
- * So what is the point for us today?
 - ◆ God may allow you to persist in your disobedience, but His plans will not be thwarted!!

Genealogy - Part 2

- * Having explained how the Nations were dispersed, we return to the genealogy
- * In Part 2, the genealogy returns to its more normal vertical pattern
- * It is concerned with the specific “line of promise” ... leading us to the first Hebrew Patriarch — Abraham
- * From this point forward we encounter the second part of the book of Genesis .. The Patriarchal History

The END

- * Thus endeth our rapid fire review ..
- * Next week we will start in on Abram — who will be later renamed Abraham