

# Genesis

## LESSON 1 - Introduction to series

- 1) Timeframe covered by the book – 4000+ B.C. to approx. 1880 B.C.

From creation, to Jacob and family (about 70 people - **Gen. 46:27**) going to Egypt to live in Goshen, and the death of Jacob and Joseph.

Book divided into 3 periods;

- Antediluvian (creation to the Flood)
- The Flood to Abram
- Patriarchal age

- 2) The book is part of the Pentateuch – 5 books comprising the “Torah”.

The 5 books are considered the 5 books of Law, but they also contain a narrative of events, i.e. history.

- real accounts about real people.
- no covering up of people’s faults.

Note: The main function of the book is not to provide a *detailed* history of the earth and mankind, but to reveal God’s plan for salvation, and why we need it.

- 3) Author of book

Evidence points to Moses being the author of the other 4 books of Law.

*e.g. Exodus 17:4; 24:4; 34:27; Numbers 33:1-2; Deuteronomy 31:9*

It is suspected that Moses put together a collection of previous writings (for Genesis), but nothing clearly proves it. However, remember that all scripture originates from God, anyway – 2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21

- 4) Overview of Book Chapters

<b>Chapters</b>	<b>Topic/s covered</b>
<b>1:1 – 2:25</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creation – universe, plants, animals, birds, fish, mankind.</li><li>• God’s initial instructions to man.</li></ul>
<b>3:1 – 3:24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sin enters the world.</li><li>• First prophecy of the coming “Seed”.</li></ul>
<b>4:1 – 6:13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expansion of the human race</li><li>• Men become evil, sin spreads, few exceptions, <i>e.g.</i> Enoch, Noah.</li></ul>
<b>6:14 – 8:22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Flood. Noah, his sons, and their wives are the only survivors.</li></ul>
<b>9:1 – 11:19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New beginning - expansion of human race (again).</li><li>• Tower of Babel, God scatters people across the land.</li></ul>
<b>11:10 – 15:21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Abraham (Abram) – the 3 promises: Land, Nation and Seed. – travels to Egypt, then settles in Canaan.</li><li>• Lot separates from Abraham, taken captive, rescued by Abraham.</li><li>• High priest Melchizedek (also mentioned in Hebrews 6:20 – 7:10)</li></ul>
<b>16:1 – 18:15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Abraham’s son, Ishmael (by bondwoman, Hagar).</li></ul>

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Chapters	Topic/s covered
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circumcision introduced as a sign of the (old) covenant.</li> </ul>
<b>18:16 – 20:18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed.</li> <li>• Lot's descendants.</li> <li>• Abraham's dealings with Abimelech, King of Gerar (near Gaza).</li> </ul>
<b>21:1 – 24:67</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abraham's son, Isaac (by wife, Sarah).</li> <li>• Hagar and Ishmael depart from Abraham.</li> <li>• Abraham's test of faith in land of Moriah – sacrifice Isaac.</li> <li>• Sarah dies.</li> <li>• Isaac marries Rebekah.</li> </ul>
<b>25:1 – 27:40</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abraham remarries, has other sons, later dies.</li> <li>• Isaac's sons, Jacob and Esau.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– dealings with Abimelech, King of Gerar (near Gaza).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Jacob receives Isaac's blessings.</li> </ul>
<b>27:41 – 35:29</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jacob flees Canaan, had dream of ladder to Heaven.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– works for Laban (his uncle Gen.29:10)</li> <li>– marries Leah and Rachel, has sons and daughter</li> <li>– returns to Canaan after 20 years away (Gen.31:38)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>36:1 – 36:43</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Descendants of Esau. (Area south-south-east of the Dead Sea)</li> </ul>
<b>37:1 – 41:57</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joseph – his dreams.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– sold to slavery in Egypt, wrongly imprisoned.</li> <li>– reveals dreams, put in charge of food collection.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>42:1 – 50:26</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Famine in region, Jacob's sons go to Egypt for food.</li> <li>• Jacob's whole family and servants migrate to Egypt.</li> <li>• Jacob, and later, Joseph die.</li> </ul>

Note: From **Genesis 11:10** onwards, the historical aspect of the book is about Abraham and his descendants.

### 5) Validity of the book

#### a) God confirms the creation account.

He attests that the heavens and the earth and all there-int were created in 6 days – Exodus20-11

#### b) Jesus made reference to the book to support His teachings

New Testament	Genesis	Account
<b>Matthew 23:35</b>	<b>4:4-10</b>	The blood of righteous Abel
<b>Matthew 24:37-39</b>	<b>6 - 8</b>	The Flood and Noah
<b>Luke 17:28-29</b>	<b>19:24</b>	Sodom destroyed, Lot
<b>Luke 17:32</b>	<b>19:17, 26</b>	Lot's wife
<b>John 8:56-58</b>	<b>17:5; 8:1</b>	The Lord and Abraham
<b>Matthew 19:4</b>	<b>1:27; 5:2)</b>	God made man, woman

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New Testament	Genesis	Account
Matthew 19:5	2:24	Marriage - two becoming one flesh

Point: If Genesis is not true, then Jesus was basing His arguments on falsehood, thereby invalidating His own teachings.

### c) Other New Testament references to Genesis

New Testament	Genesis	Account
2 Corinthians 4:6 1 Timothy 2:13	1:3	God commanding light
1 Corinthians 11:8-9	2:18, 21-23	Order of Adam and Eve created
2 Corinthians 11:3 1 Timothy 2:14	3:1-6	The serpent tricking Eve
1 John 3:12 Jude 11	4:8	Cain the murderer
Hebrews 11:5	5:24	Enoch taken
Hebrews 11:7 1 Peter 3:20	6 - 8	Noah, the Flood and the ark
Galatians 3:6	15:6	Abraham believed God
Hebrews 6:20-7:10	14:14-24	Melchizedek and Abraham
Galatians 4:22-30	16:1-16; 21:1-21	Hagar and Ishmael
Hebrews 11:17-19	22:1-12	Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac
Hebrews 1:22	50:24-25	Joseph's bones taken to Canaan

The above writers – Paul, John, Peter, Jude – all referred to Genesis. Given that all scripture comes from God (2 Timothy 3:16), these references to Genesis are “God approved”.

### 6) Some “firsts” in Genesis (apart from creation)

1:28	Command to man – <i>“Be fruitful and multiply”</i>
1:29	Menu for food – <i>every herb and tree whose fruit yield seed</i>
2:5 - 6	Weather report – <i>no rain, but a mist</i>
2:8	Named location on earth – <i>eastward of Eden</i>
2:15	Job description – <i>tend and keep garden</i>
2:17	Prophecy to man – <i>eat fruit and you shall die</i>
2:19	Name for man - <i>Adam</i>
2:24 – 25	Marriage – <i>Adam and Eve</i>
3:4	Lie – Serpent <i>“You shall not surely die”</i>

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- 3:6 Sin – *ate forbidden fruit*
- 3:15 Prophecy regarding the Messiah
- 3:20 Name for woman - *Eve*
- 3:23 - 24 Eviction – Adam and Eve from garden – *mote reason*
- 4:1 - 2 Children / Parents / brothers – Cain and Abel
- 4:3 Offering to God mentioned – Cain's offering
- 4:8 Murder – Cain kills Abel
- 4:12 Fugitive - Cain
- 4:16 Traveller – Cain goes to Nod
- 4:17 Grandchild – Enoch, son of Cain, son of Adam
- 4:17 City – Built by Cain, called Enoch
- 4:19 Polygamy – Lamech had two wives
- 4:21 Musicians – harp and flute
- 4:22 Craftsmen in metal – bronze, iron
- 4:26 Turning back by men to God

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## LESSON 2 – Genesis 1:1 – 2:3 Creation

Day 1

### 1) Genesis 1:1

a) This is a “matter of fact” (declarative) statement.

- it shows who was the creator – God
- it shows what He created – the heavens and the earth
- it shows when He created them – “*In the beginning*”

The “*how*” is answered in the following verses.

b) “*In the beginning*”

The beginning of a period – time.

- however, there was “time” before the “beginning” – **Ephesians 1:4**  
Timeframe possibly around 4000+ B.C., but could be up to 10,000 B.C if there are gaps in the genealogies<sup>1</sup>.
- various dates have been proposed between the two.

Point: This is still far short of the millions of years proposed by evolutionists.

c) “*God*”

Hebrew word “*Elohim*”

The ending “*im*” usually means plural, but here means “singular God”.

Note: **1:26** “us” - the three in the God-Head are one.

Jesus was involved in creation

- **Colossians 1:16** (from context of **13-15**)
- Jesus is God – John 1:1, 14; Philippians 2:6

d) “*created*”

Hebrew word “*bara*”

Means to call into existence something that is not there already -

**Romans 4:17b; Hebrews 11:3**

*i.e.* it is not a case of changing the shape or form of something that already exists.

Note: God does not need a physical realm in order to exist – **Acts 17:24-25**.

e) “*heavens*”

Hebrew word “*shamayin*”

Can be singular or plural.

(More on this topic later.)

f) “*earth*”

Initial creation of earth seems to have been a formless mass of water (plus possibly land inside) – see verses **2** and **9**.

Note: Planet Earth preceded all of the other heavenly bodies, such as stars, moons, *etc* – see verses **14-18**.

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<sup>1</sup> Morris, page 45

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### 2) Genesis 1:2

a) “*Earth was without form*”

No particular shape yet (or occupants).

A bit like a potter with a lump of clay before it is fashioned into a functional object.

b) “*darkness,,,face.....deep*”

*i.e* no light yet. Just a space with a watery “blob” in it.

“*face*” - Hebrew word “*panim*”. Usually refers to “*presence*”.

“*deep*” usually refers to ocean depth.

In other words, darkness was in the presence of this formless, deep, watery mass.

Note: At some point, God formed the watery mass into a circle.

**Proverbs 8:27** “*...drew a circle on the face of the deep...*”

- also **Isaiah 40:22**

This may have taken place in verse 7.

c) “*the Spirit of God*”

Part of the God-Head **Matthew 28:19; 1 Corinthians 2:10**

“*hovering*” – in Hebrew = moving, shaking, fluttering.

### 3) Genesis 1:3-5

First mention of God speaking. Brings light into being.

Note: This was not the sun, because that was not created until verse 16.

From verses 4 and 5, some darkness still remained, so the light was not everywhere.

“Day” and “night” introduced - named by God Himself.

God spells out what is a day in the following verses covering the days of creation, *i.e.* a time of darkness and a time of light<sup>2</sup>.

Note: Hebrew word “*yom*” (day) never means “*period*”. It usually means either a day in the 24-hour sense, or, the daylight portion of a 24-hour period.

The suggestion by Morris<sup>3</sup> is that at this point, the earth, in whatever shape it was, was now turning in order to get a day and night.

For light to work, the electromagnetic spectrum needs to have been set up, *e.g.* radio frequencies, ultra-violet light, *etc.*

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<sup>2</sup> Sometimes, **2 Peter 3:8** is used to suggest that the “days” of creation could be extended periods of time. However, that passage is not saying that a “day” *is* (or could be) a thousand years. Rather, the passage is saying that time is of no consequence to God. He is eternal, so a day or a thousand years is “nothing” to Him. However, **Genesis** was written to people who understood that a “day” was a 24-hour period.

Consider also this: Adam and Eve were created on the 6<sup>th</sup> day. God rested on the 7<sup>th</sup> day. When Adam became a father to Seth, he was 130 years old (**Genesis 5:3**). He had previously become a father to Cain and Abel who were of adult age by **Genesis 4:2** – one was a shepherd, the other a farmer. These events took place after the 7<sup>th</sup> day, because Cain and Abel appear to have been born after Adam and Eve left the Garden (**Genesis 4:1**). But if a Genesis “day” is a thousand years, how could Adam still be only 130 when Seth was born?

<sup>3</sup> Morris, page 55

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## Day 2

### 4) Genesis 1:6-8

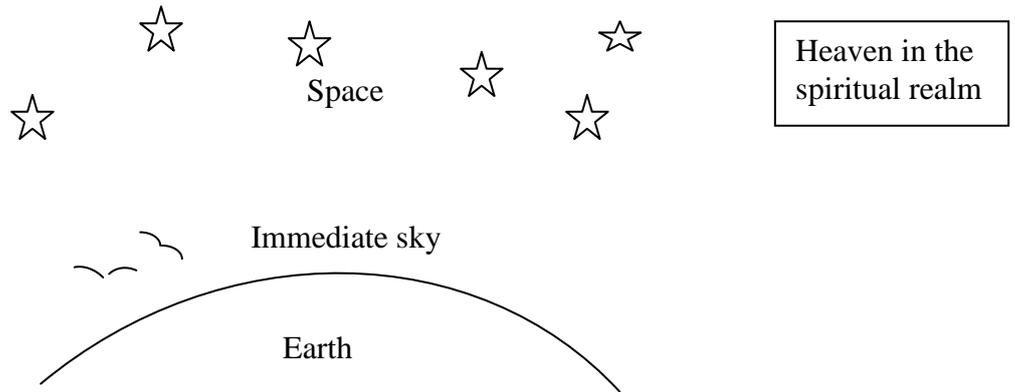
#### a) “firmament”

– a space, an expanse in the sky, a thin stretched out space.

At this point, there is now a separation of the waters – one above the other.

There are three types of “heavens” in the scriptures;

- **Jeremiah 4:25** Where the birds fly
- **Isaiah 13:10** Where the stars are.
- **2 Corinthians 12:2; Hebrews 9:24** Where God lives.



The “firmament” is also applied to three areas;

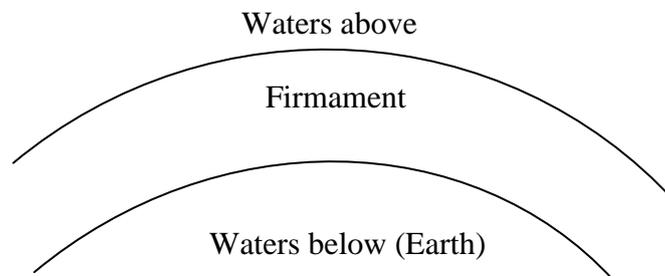
- **Genesis 1:20** Where the birds fly
- **Genesis 1:17** Where God put the stars.
- **Ezekiel 1:22** Where God is.

#### b) “waters above the firmament”

These are most likely not clouds, as **Genesis 2:5** states that there was no rain. Clouds are not mentioned until after the Flood – **Genesis 9:13**.

Possibly means a blanket of water vapour<sup>4</sup>.

- transparent to let light through, e.g. sun, moon, stars.
- serves as a global green house.



<sup>4</sup> Morris, pages 60-61

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### Day 3

#### 5) Genesis 1: 9-10

Waters (under the firmament) gathered to one place - land appears

Note: The land masses/continents that existed then may not necessarily be the same as what we have today. The Flood may have re-arranged things – **Genesis 7:11**.

God calls the dry land “earth”. – Hebrew word “*eretz*”

- same as used in verse **1**. *i.e.* what was created in verse **1** in an unformed shape is the same substance in verse **10**.

#### 6) Genesis 1:11-13

Vegetation produced – after its own kind.

Two things we see here;

- each type had the ability to reproduce, and,
- each was a distinct stream.

“*its kind*” repeated in verses 11, 12, 21, 24 and 25.

- see also **1 Corinthians 15:39**; **Leviticus 11:13-32** for distinct differences.

Note: We can have different types (or breeds) of dogs, cats, apples, etc, but at the end of the day, a dog is a dog, a cat is a cat, and an apple is an apple.

The vegetation would have to be at a level of growth ready for the animals and birds that were soon to appear and would use them for food, *etc.*

First mention of “*seed*” – the process God put in place for on-going reproduction.

### Day 4

#### 7) Genesis 1:14-19

Celestial bodies created. They had three purposes;

- To divide day from night.
- To be signs for seasons, days and years.
- To give light to the earth.

For seasons to exist, the earth would need to be on a tilt.

The water canopy above the firmament would prevent extremes of temperatures.

Note: For stars that are supposed to be “millions of light years away”, there was nothing stopping God putting light rays in place so that they were already visible from earth right at the beginning.

### Day 5

#### 8) Genesis 1:20-23

Multitudes of sea creatures created – the “*waters abounded*”

Note: This was not some slow evolutionary process. The seas abounded with all types of fishes all at once.

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First mention of “*living*” creatures.

- plants do not “live” in the same way as fish, birds, etc.
- the latter can move around, and go from place to place by themselves - plants can't.

The “*face of the firmament*” (vs **20**) would be the lower edge of the sky.

### Day 6

#### 9) Genesis 1:24-27

“*cattle*” – animals that can be domesticated

“*creeping things*” – those that crawl on the earth.

“*beast of the earth*” – wild animals

Note: All animal types created on the same day. There was no evolutionary process of animals changing from one type to another.

Some plants require birds and insects in assist in the propagation process. Therefore, “day” does not mean “*a long period of time, millions of years, etc*”

Man created – in God’s image. That made him different to all of the rest of creation.

Man is a moral, spiritual, thinking, understanding creature. His spirit is different to that of animals – see **Ecclesiastes 3:21**.

He has dominion over all the rest.

**Genesis 2:7, 21-23** gives more details of man and woman’s creation.

#### 10) Genesis 1:28-31

The first commands to mankind.

- “*Be fruitful and multiply*”
- “*fill the earth*”
- “*subdue the earth*”
- “*have dominion over the fish, birds, everything that moves*”

Note: The latter two suggest “*you have “control”, so use it for man’s welfare. But be good stewards of it*”

God has dominion over us. He does things for our good (**Romans 8:28**).

The food for man and creatures was vegetation. It later changed (after the Flood) to include meat – **Genesis 9:3**.

- fish not mentioned here in **1:30**.

Result = everything was very good. Nothing was missing.

#### 11) Genesis 2:1-3

All the creative works were finished.

God rested on the seventh day – sanctified it (*i.e.* set it apart)

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### LESSON 3 – Genesis 2:4 – 3:24 Sin enters the world

#### 1) Genesis 2:4-9

Process of watering the vegetation:  
A mist arose, as there was no rain.

God plants a garden eastward in Eden – “Eden” = “*delight*”

Note: Scripture doesn't say *when* God planted this garden. It may have been part of the creation process from **1:11-12**, or it may have been a latter act. In either case, this garden was something special.

The garden contains every tree that is;

- Pleasing to the eye
- Good for food.

Plus two other trees;

- Tree of life
- Tree of knowledge of good and evil.

God puts Adam in the garden – possibly created at a different location.  
- his job is to tend to it – see verse **15**.

#### 2) Genesis 2:10-14

River goes out of Eden – waters garden, then divides.

- Pishon – the Ganges?
- Gihon – Nile (Cush = Ethiopia)
- Hiddekel – Tigris
- Euphrates – as is.

Note: The Flood would have brought changes to the earth's geography (**2 Peter 3:6** – depends on what “...*the world that then existed perished*..” means), so they may not be the same rivers as we know them today.

#### 3) Genesis 2:15-17

God's instructions to Adam re the garden;

- Tend to the garden. Given the fertile soil and lots of water, the growth of vegetation would need constant trimming, *etc.*
- God intends for people to work (where possible), *i.e.* He doesn't want people to be lazy (**2 Thessalonians 3:10**). He expects people to “pull their own weight”, do what they can with what they have (**Matthew 25:14-30**)
- Eat freely from every tree.
- One exception – don't eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Note: For God to give commands that Adam could understand, “language” had to be in place.

God was not “tempting” Adam with this restriction (**James 1:13**). Adam had virtually the pick of anything that he wanted from the garden. God wasn't being “mean and stingy”.

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## Points:

- a) We are made in God's image (**Genesis 1:26**) with the ability (or freedom) to choose between doing what is right, and what is wrong.
  - animals are controlled mostly by instincts.
- b) There was always the risk that, by giving man the freedom to choose, man could/would make the wrong choice, *i.e.* disobey God.
- c) With freedom comes responsibility and accountability (**Romans 2:5-10**)
- d) We have no place questioning God's commands, judgements, actions (**Romans 9:20**) We should just submit to His Will (**James 4:7**), and demonstrate our love for Him through our faithfulness and obedience (**1 John 5:3**).

## 4) **Genesis 2:18-25**

God points out need for a comparable helper for Adam.

God brings animals to Adam for naming.

- Adam didn't have to go chasing them.
- He gives them each a name

God causes deep sleep on Adam – the first “*siesta*”?

Woman made from one of Adam's ribs.

- Paul refers to this in **1 Corinthians 11:8-9, 11-12**.

God's statement about marriage – repeated by Jesus in **Matthew 19:4-6**

Note: The timing of **Genesis 2:8-9, 15-25** is on the 6<sup>th</sup> day, as **1:27,31** indicates that God made man and woman on the 6<sup>th</sup> day.

## 5) **Genesis 3:1-5**

Satan enters the picture. Serpent and Satan represented as the same in **Revelation 12:9; 20:2**.

- possibly the snake itself is not Satan, but Satan “*possessed*” it.
  - Spirits entered pigs in **Luke 8:33**
- We battle against spiritual forces – **Ephesians 6:1**.- not snakes.

The attributes of Satan;

- Cunning – sneaky, subtly deceives (**Revelation 12:9**)
- Looks for opportunities to take advantage – **1 Peter 5:8**
- Takes advantage of people – **2 Corinthians 2:11**
- Can look completely innocent – like an angel - **2 Corinthians 11:14**
- A liar and murderer – **John 8:44**

Note: Satan and Eve may or may not have actually been at the tree during this event. Potentially, there could be an interlude between verses **5** and **6**.

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Later, in verse **14**, the serpent is cursed to crawl on its belly, which raises the possibility that prior to this event, the serpent didn't need to move this way.

Satan's tactics;

- Spoke to Eve when she was alone.
  - put the "odds" in his favour.
  - if Adam was present, he may have been able to refute Satan, as God had given the command directly to him (**2:17**).
- Satan's question in verse 1 suggests that "*something is not quite right here*".
  - starts to sow the seeds of doubt.
- Accuses God of lying – verse **4**
  - i.e. "what God said would happen, actually won't happen"*
  - suggests that God can't be trusted with the Truth.
- Suggests that God is "holding back" on Eve – verse **5**
  - i.e. God doesn't want Eve to be as smart as He is.*
  - implies that God is not being fair.

Note: Not once did Satan come straight out and say what he really wanted Eve to do, *i.e.* eat the fruit.

Rather, he "*chipped around the edges*" to sow the seeds of doubt. He wanted Eve's sin to be her own decision (**James 1:14-15**).

- to date, there has been no record of Adam and Eve disobeying God in any way.

### 6) Genesis 3:6

This verse aligns with **1 John 2:16**

- |                     |                  |                        |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| • Lust of the flesh | physical         | "good for food"        |
| • Lust of the eyes  | aesthetic        | "pleasant to the eyes" |
| • Pride of life     | spiritual/mental | "make one wise"        |

Eve had allowed herself to doubt God's Word – she rejected the command "*do not eat...*" - and submitted to the temptation.

The follow-on effect;

- She ate, and did not die physically right there and then.
  - God had said in **2:17** "*...in the day you eat...you shall surely die..*"
- Indirectly, Satan had now "broken down" any argument that Adam may have raised about eating the fruit.
- Adam now eats the fruit – Eve gave him some.

Note: The physical consequence of sinning may not always be immediate – **Ecclesiastes 8:11**

People can be alive physically, but dead spiritually – **Ephesians 2:1**.

Paul refers to this event in **1 Timothy 2:14**; **2 Corinthians 11:3**

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### 7) Genesis 3:7-13

Shame, guilt and fear now enter the scene – verses **7, 8** and **10**.

Both Adam and Eve try to pass the responsibility on to someone else.

- Adam blames the woman for giving it to him, and, also blames God for giving him the woman in the first place.
- Eve blames the Serpent (Satan).

### 8) Genesis 3:14-19

God's punishment

#### a) Serpent

- Most cursed of all animals
- Now must travel on belly
- Eat dust, *i.e.* mouth near the ground. Eat creatures off the dirt in front of them.

#### b) Satan

- Enmity between Satan's seed and woman's seed
- Her seed will bruise his head (A prophecy that someone is coming who will seriously harm Satan.)
- **Galatians 3:16** Abraham's "Seed" = Jesus

#### c) Woman

- Pain with childbirth (Note: only temporary pain – **John 16:21**)
- Husband to rule over the wife
- Reflected in leadership roles in New Testament
  - 1 Timothy 2:12-14** teaching (in mixed assemblies)
  - 1 Corinthians 11:3** In general
  - 1 Timothy 3:2** Elders
  - 1 Timothy 3:12** Deacons
  - Ephesians 5:22-23** In marriage

Note: This does not mean that a woman is less important in God's eyes (**Galatians 3:28**), nor does it give permission for a man to "lord it over" a woman (**Ephesians 5:25**).

#### d) Man

- Ground cursed because of him
- Hard toil now in order to feed himself – by sweat of brow
- Thorns, *etc.*, will make the toil harder
- Eat food from the field, rather than "easy pickings" from the Garden.
- Will return to dust when dead

Note: This block of text answers questions as to why things are the way they are, *i.e.* childbirth pains, the need to work for a living, why we have weeds, *etc.*

Lesson: Giving in to temptation only causes problems. Satan can make sin look good and attractive, but it masks the sorrow that follows afterwards.

We should follow God's way, not necessarily what may seem the most attractive way to us.

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### 9) Genesis 3:20-24

Adam calls the woman “*Eve*” – means “*the mother of all living*”

- she had not been given a name up to this point.

God makes clothes from skins for Adam and Eve.

- God deemed it appropriate for people to wear clothes.

Adam and Eve removed from the Garden;

- to prevent them accessing the Tree of Life and living forever (**22**)
- so that Adam could go and till the land to grow food (**23**).

A guard (cherubim) put in place at the Garden, and flaming sword to guard the way to the Tree of Life.

- for a description of cherubim, refer **Ezekiel 10:1-22; Exodus 25:17-20**

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### LESSON 4 – Genesis 4:1 – 5:32 Descendants of Adam and Eve

Adam and Eve have left the Garden of Eden. Sin (and subsequently, death) have entered the world.

#### 1) Genesis 4:1-2

Two sons born to Adam and Eve;

- Cain – a farmer
- Abel – a shepherd

Note: Eve's comment in vs 1 indicates that she acknowledges God's involvement. (God provided the mechanism for procreation – **Gen. 1:28**) In spite of the (new) pain (**Gen. 3:16**), she seems grateful for the birth.

#### 2) Genesis 4:3-8

Although driven from the Garden, Adam, Eve and sons still had a relationship with God.

- Cain and Abel offer sacrifices to God
  - Cain's – the fruit of the ground
  - Abel's – the firstborn of the flock

However, Cain's offering not accepted by God. The reason not explicitly stated here, but **Hebrews 11:4** may give an indication.

*“By faith, Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain...”*

The focus of this verse may be that Abel had a true faith in God, a righteous and obedient heart (**1 Samuel 15:22; Psalm 51:17**), etc, whereas Cain was somewhat different – seen by the following verses.

- note that Jesus included Abel in the category of “prophets” – **Luke 11:50-51**

Cain gets angry (vs. 5) but has opportunity to get right with God (vs.6-7).

Point: **James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:9** “Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you”

- requires self control (**Galatians 5:23**), discipline (**1 Corinthians 9:29**), effort.
  - Jesus did it – **Hebrews 4:15**
  - God helps us – **1 Corinthians 10:13**

Cain talks to Abel – we don't know what was said.

Cain kills Abel – sin strikes again.

Note: The unrighteous oppose those who stand for righteousness – want to get rid of them- **John 3:20**. For example:

- **Jeremiah 38:1-6** Jeremiah cast into a dungeon.
- **Matthew 14:3-11; Mark 6:17-25** Herodias wanted to get rid of John.
- **John 11:45-53** The plot to get rid of Jesus.

## Genesis

### 3) Genesis 4:9-15

Little repentance shown by Cain (vs.9)

- he does not confess when given opportunity by God
- has a tone of arrogance in his response to God.

But God knows what really happened.

Abel's death was not the end of the matter – there was to be an accountability. Sin always has consequences.

- Cain's punishment – his farming will be unfruitful
  - he will be a fugitive, vagabond.

Cain objects to the severity of punishment – doesn't display a "godly sorrow" (**2 Corinthians 7:10**).

- fears for his life (his comment suggests that by this time, other people had been born and were around – in **Genesis 1:28** Adam and Eve had been told to be "*fruitful and multiply*". The scriptures only name 3 particular children<sup>5</sup>, but they had others – **Gen. 5:4**)
- he will be hidden from God's face (the worst punishment – **Matthew 7:23**)

God sets up a "protection" for Cain

- Gives him a special mark to identify him
- People would know about the mark
- 7-fold punishment to anyone who kills Cain.

### 4) Genesis 4:16-22

Cain goes to land of Nod – east of Eden

- "Nod" = wandering

He marries – has a son - Enoch

Note: No ages or timeframes are mentioned here (like there are in chapter 5), *i.e.* we don't know how old Cain was when he left, we don't know how long it was before he married, *etc.*. Based on **Genesis 3:20** and **5:4**, Cain must have married either one of his sisters or a female from a subsequent generation.

Cain builds a city – named after his son, Enoch.

Note: A city back then does not mean that they were as big as today's cities. Consider the "City of David" (**2 Samuel 5:6-9**), the original Jerusalem. It occupied an area approximately 200m x 400m.

Vs.19 – Lamech is the 7<sup>th</sup> generation.

Note: Going by the ages shown in chapter 5, people of the first 6 generations were most likely still alive at this point.

Lamech takes 2 wives - a departure from what God had set up originally.

**Genesis 2:24** "... *man be joined to his wife...*" (wife - singular).

**Matthew 19:5** "...*the two shall become one flesh....*" (2 → 1).

He has 3 sons and 1 daughter.

via Adah – Jabal – tent dweller, possibly led a nomadic life, had flocks.

Jubal – musician – harp, flute.

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<sup>5</sup> Cain, Able and Seth (**Gen.4:1, 2, 25**).

## Genesis

via Zillah – Tubal-Cain – metal craftsman. (Metallurgy in place by the 8<sup>th</sup> generation)  
Naamah, the daughter.

### 5) Genesis 4:23-26

Characteristics of Lamech;

- Boastful – wants his wives to listen
- Murderer – killed a young man because he hurt him
- Arrogant – thinks that he should be avenged 11 times (7 x 11 = 77) more than what God had set for Cain.

(God's view about arrogance, *etc.* - **Proverbs 6:16-17; 16:18**)

Note that Lamech (7<sup>th</sup> generation) knows about Cain (2<sup>nd</sup> generation).

Note the progression of sin;

- eating the forbidden fruit (**Gen. 3:6**)
- murder of Abel (**Gen.4:8**)
  - murder and boastings (**Gen.4:23-24**)

Meanwhile, Adam and Eve have another son – Seth – born after Abel was killed.

- Seth has son, Enosh.

Men began “*calling on the name of the Lord*”, *i.e.* turning to God.

### 6) Genesis 5

This chapter follows the descendants of Seth.

Note the differences in the genealogies;

- Cain's line - no ages give
  - special mention about evil (by Lamech)
- Seth's line - ages given
  - special mention of righteousness (by Enoch – vs.**21-24**)
  - this is the “Seed” line – **Luke 3:23-38**

Enoch “*walked with God*”

- **Hebrews 11:5** He did those things that pleased God.
- **Jude 14-15** He prophesied against evil.

Note: He was of the same generation as Lamech.

Adam died when Enoch was ~ 308

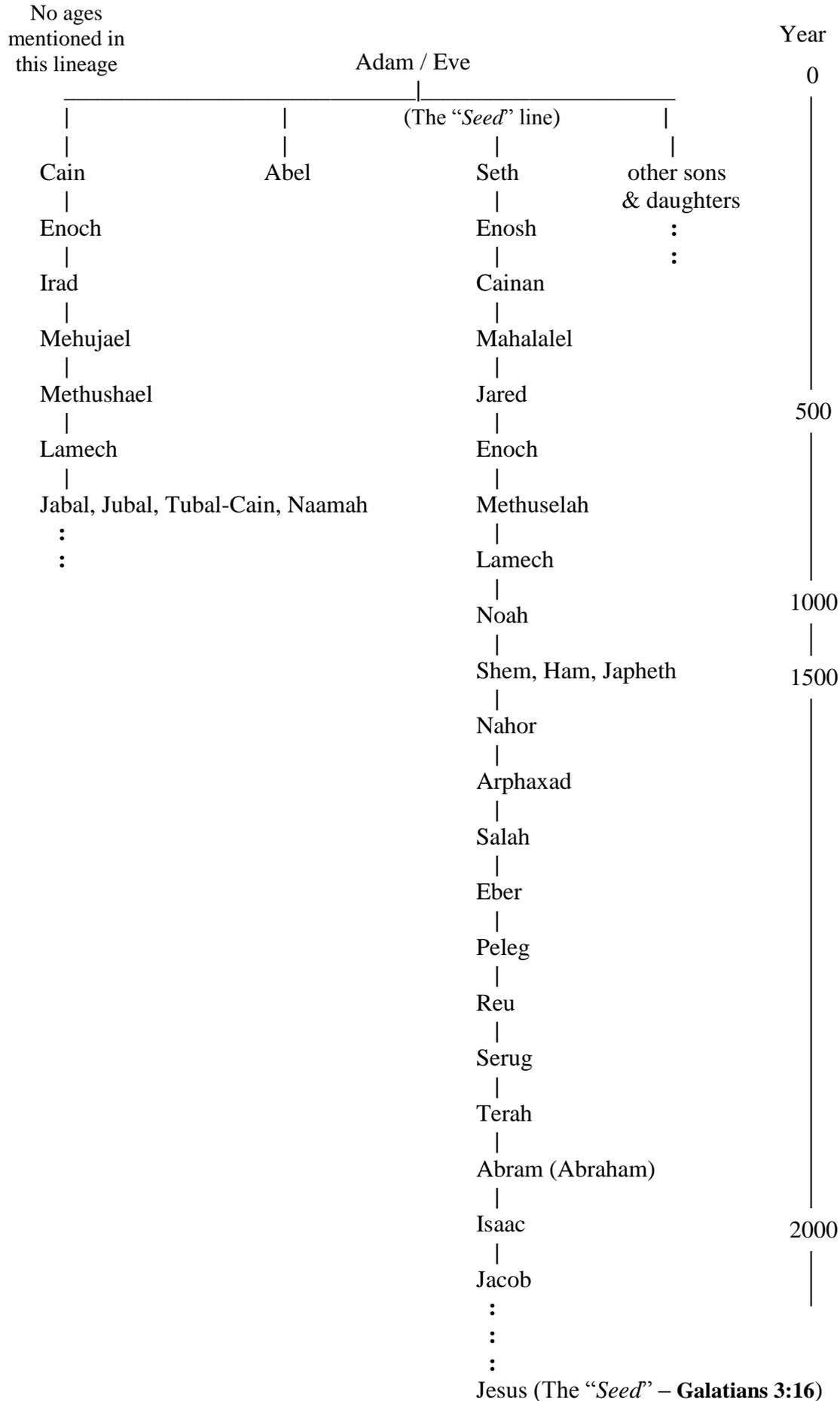
The age span by which men could father children was quite large;

- e.g.* Enoch had a son when he was 65 (**Gen. 5:21**)
- Noah had sons when he was 500. (**Gen 5:32**)

Those mentioned in this chapter had other sons and daughters besides the ones specifically mentioned by name – “...*and had sons and daughters*”  
Therefore, given the long ages of people, there is plenty of scope for the population to increase rapidly.

(Consider what the population of Australia might be if everybody who was ever born here after the First Fleet – just over 200 years ago - was still alive today. In Genesis, we are talking about people living several hundred years.)

## Genesis



## Genesis

### LESSON 5 – Genesis 6:1–22 Preparation for the Flood

#### 1) Genesis 6:1-4

“*sons of God*” – various suggestions put forward;

- Angels (**Job 1:6; 2:1**) (Angels can appear as men – **Gen 18**)
- Descendants of Seth (**Gen. 4:26**)
- Those who were obedient to God, *e.g.* like Enoch (**Hosea 1:10; John 1:12; Romans 8:14**)

The wording of verse 2 may suggest polygamy was common.

God has decided that man’s time is about to be cut short

The reason – verses 5, 6

Point: While God is “*longsuffering*”, there comes a time when God says, “*Enough is enough*” (**2 Peter 3:9-11**)

*e.g.* the northern kingdom of Israel – **2 Kings 17:5-23**

the southern kingdom of Judah – **2 Kings 23:26-27**

Vs 3 “*120 years*”

Most scholars believe the 120 years relates to how long into the future it would be when the flood would come.

- means that God made this decision before Noah’s sons Shem and Ham were born.

**Genesis 11:10** Shem was 100 y.o. two years after the flood.

- therefore he was born when Noah was around 503 years old, as the events of the flood lasted about a year.

**Genesis 9:22-24** Ham was the younger<sup>6</sup> son, so he was born when Noah was older than 503.

Vs.4 “*giants*”

“*Nephilim*” - same word as in **Numbers 13:33**, relating to the descendants of Anak (also **Deuteronomy 9:2**).

Goliath was a giant – **1 Samuel 17:6**

“*and also afterward*” may be a reference to the time of **Numbers** and **Deuteronomy**.

Note: Given that only Noah and his family survived the flood, there is nothing “mystical” about these giants. Latter day giants would have been descendants of Noah.

#### 2) Genesis 6:5-9

The spiritual state of mankind:

“*...every intent of thoughts....evil continually...*”

Got to the point where God regretted creating man – was “*...grieved in His heart..*”

But Noah finds grace in the eyes of God.

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<sup>6</sup> “*younger*” is the word used in the New King James Version Bible, while “*youngest*” is the word used in the King James Version.

## Genesis

### Lessons from Noah:

- In spite of living in a sinful world, we can remain faithful to God (**Matthew 5:13-16**). We cannot use the excuse, “*I am a product of my environment*” as justification for sin. Noah was also a sinner (**Romans 6:3**), but he had an obedient faith in God (**Hebrews 11:7**).
- God recognises the righteous, even if they are few in number (**Hebrews 4:13**)

Although there were others who did seek God (**Genesis 4:26b**), in the 1600+ period from creation to Noah, only 3 are highlighted in **Genesis** and **Hebrews** as being faithful – Abel, Enoch and Noah (**Genesis 4:4; 5:24; 6:8-9; Hebrews 11:4-7**).

### Notes regarding world’s population

- From Noah to today is approx. 4000 years. Starting with 8 people, we now have around 5 billion (or more).  
From creation to Noah is approx. 1600+ years. People in those times lived for hundreds of years (see **Genesis 5**), and so had many more years for productive child bearing. At the time of the flood, the population could easily have been 1 billion.
- About 70 people went to Egypt in the days of Joseph (**Genesis 46:27**). After approx. 400 years, the Hebrew population is estimated at approx. 2 to 3 million.
  - In **Numbers 1: 45-46**, there were 603,550 people over 20 years old who could go to war. This didn’t include the tribe of Levi (vs **47**).

### 3) **Genesis 6:10-13**

The state of the world – the result of **Genesis 6:5; Proverbs 23:7a**

“.....*corrupt..... filled with violence...*”

“.....*all flesh corrupted their way.....*”

Consequence = God will “....*destroy them with the earth.*”

Lesson: When people reject God and go their own way, they are headed for trouble (**Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 14:12; 16:18**)

God reveals His plan to Noah – He will destroy man “*with the earth*”.

“*with the earth*” most likely a reference to the destruction of all air-breathing life.

- **2 Peter 3:6** - in reference to the Flood – “...*the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water*”

Note: The earth itself also underwent change during the Flood process – e.g. **Genesis 7:11**

### 4) **Genesis 6:14-22**

God gives instruction for the Ark

- Man is required to do something to save himself
- The Ark was God’s mechanism for salvation (**1 Peter 3:20b**)
- The Ark was simply a floating container – it wasn’t meant to sail anywhere.

## Genesis

- “*Gopher wood*” – possibly a resinous wood like a conifer or cypress.
- It has to be a durable wood to last a year in the water.
- It contains separate rooms
- The hull to be covered in pitch inside and out – water-proofing.
- The size:      300 cubits long = 150 meters  
                    50 cubits wide = 25 meters  
                    30 cubits high = 15 meters  
                    (These dimensions are about half of those of the Titanic.)
- A Window one cubit deep – for light and ventilation ???
- There was a covering involved somewhere – **Genesis 8:13**, possibly across the top of the Ark.
- A door on the side
- Three levels of decks.

God re-iterates the reason for the Flood.

- all that have the breath of life will be destroyed.
- fish will be OK.

“...*destroy...all flesh...*” = this was a world-wide flood, not a local one. Otherwise, Noah could have simply relocated rather than need the Ark.

Note: The Hebrew word used for “*flood*” – “*mabbul*”, which means “*deluge*”. It is used only in **Genesis 6-9**, and *Psalms 29:10*

The Greek word “*kataklusmos*” = “*inundation*”, and is only used when referring to Noah’s Flood – e.g. **Luke 17:27; 2 Peter 2:5; 3:6**.

God required a male and female of each species in order to continue the on-going population.

vs. **20** (NKJV) suggests that the animals would come to Noah – he would not have to go out to gather them.

**Genesis 7:2** – seven of the clean animals, two of the unclean<sup>7</sup>.

For the larger animals, e.g. dinosaurs, elephants, *etc*, Noah would not necessarily have to take full-size animals onto Ark.

From “Morris” page 185

Today, there are less than 18,000 species of mammals, birds, *etc*

If you double that to cater for extinctions, you end up with about 70,000.

- possibly 75,000 to allow for the extra “clean” animals.

The average size of all of the animals would be the size of a sheep.

- The sizes range from insects to dinosaurs.

All this would take up about 60% capacity of the Ark.

As well as build the Ark, Noah has to gather enough food to last a year for all in the Ark.

Noah obeyed God in all that He had commanded him.

- acting on faith = floods not yet seen (**Hebrews 11:7**)
- surrounded by an evil generation (**Genesis 6:12**)

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<sup>7</sup> See **Leviticus 11** for examples of clean and unclean animals.

## Genesis

### LESSON 6 – Genesis 7:1 – 8:22 The Flood

#### 1) Genesis 7:1-5

The time has now come for the Flood.

Noah advised by God that it was time

- “*all your household*” – those living with him.
- there is no mention of him having other “*sons and daughters*” as found in the Genesis 5 genealogies.

Note: Faith was involved in building the Ark, because floods hadn’t been around yet (**Hebrews 11:7**)

Noah believed God, and followed up with works of obedience

- similar to Abraham (**James 2:21-23**).

Flood to start in seven days.

This was a world-wide flood – “*all living things*” would be destroyed (vs.4)

- if only a local flood, then no need for Ark, *etc* to keep animals.

Rain for 40 days. This would be no normal rain, as we can have rain these days for 40 days, and the world not flooded.

- remember the “*waters above the firmament*” – **Genesis 1:7**
- see also **7:11** “*..windows of heaven were opened*”

#### 2) Genesis 7:6-9

Noah is now 600 years old – does exactly as God commanded him.  
All enter the Ark.

#### 3) Genesis 7:10-16

Seven days later it starts – just like God said (**7:4**).

“*fountains of the great deep*” – most likely deep seated waters beneath the earth.

- “*breaking up*” suggests a releasing of trapped water.

“*windows of heaven opened*” – waters above the firmament (1:7) now released to descend.

Result = two sources of water – one from above, the from below.

- combined, could re-shape the surface of the earth.

God had shut the door (**6:16; 7:16**)

#### 4) Genesis 7:17-24

Flood for 40 days. The waters increased, the Ark lifted up.

The “waters prevailed” – they stayed around – and “greatly increased.

“waters prevailed exceedingly” – they increased even further.

All the high hills covered.

Waters increase, covering mountains by 15 cubits (7.5 meters)

All air-breathing creatures died.

Waters prevailed 150 days – about 5 months.

## Genesis

### 5) Genesis 8:1-5

After 150 days (3 months), a wind passes over the water.

- they start to subside.

The fountains of the deep and windows of heaven stopped, and rain restrained.

- implies that they were active for the 150 days.

On 7<sup>th</sup> month, Ark rested on mountains of Ararat.

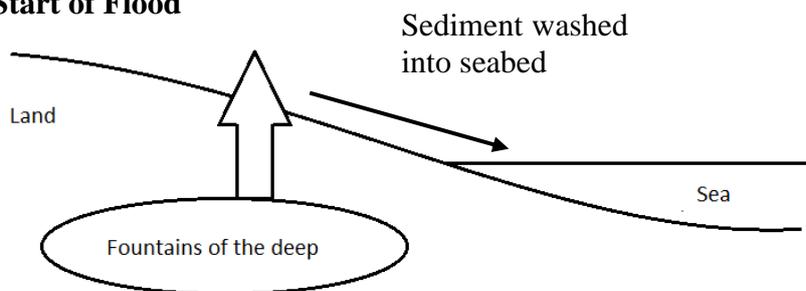
- these mountains are up to 17,000ft high.

On 10<sup>th</sup> month, tops of mountains seen.

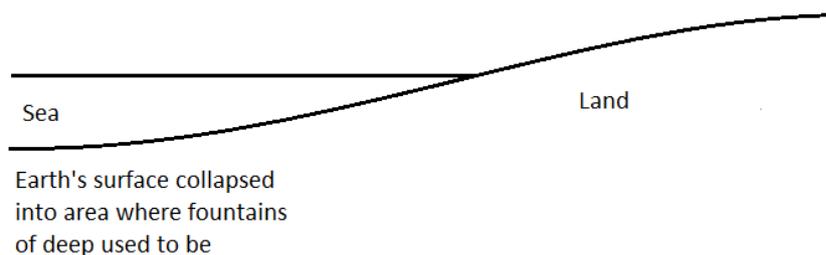
Note: Mountains higher than the mountains at Ararat, *e.g.* Mt Everest, are over 3000 kms away, *i.e.* way out of sight of the Ark.

The following has been suggested as a possibility of how some areas of the earth changed because of the Flood.

#### Start of Flood



#### After the Flood



### 6) Genesis 8:6-12

After 40 more days – window opened

- raven sent out – keeps coming and going until water dried up.
- dove also sent out – returns due to water still covering land.

7 days later, dove sent again – returns with olive branch.

- a sign the waters have receded, vegetation growing.

Another 7 days later, dove sent again – does not return.

## Genesis

### 7) Genesis 8:13-19

A year after Flood started, Noah removed covering over Ark.  
Flood started in Noah's 600<sup>th</sup> year (**7:6,11**), ended 601<sup>st</sup> (**8:13**).

- vs **13** – earth not covered with water.

About 8 weeks later (1<sup>st</sup> day of 1<sup>st</sup> month to 27<sup>th</sup> day of 2<sup>nd</sup> month), the earth dried.

- vs **14** – earth completely dried.

God tells Noah to leave the Ark – all leave.

### 8) Genesis 8:20-22

Noah offers sacrifice to God of the clean animals.

- he had taken 7 of each onto the Ark – **7:2-3**
- animal sacrifices had been in place since Abel (**Genesis 4:4**)

“*a soothing aroma*” – the corruption had now gone.

- now have a new start.
- same terminology used with regard to Jesus' sacrifice.
  - a satisfaction that things were now right.

God's promise not to curse ground again for man's sake.

- there would be a new process to address man's sins
  - Old Testament – the Law of Moses
  - New Testament – the law of Christ

While the earth remains, we will have seasons, day and night, cold and heat, *etc.*

Note: The earth will ultimately be destroyed by God by being burned up (**2 Peter 3:10**).

## Genesis

### LESSON 7 – Genesis 9:1-29 Post-flood

#### 1) Genesis 9:1-7

The command to “*..be fruitful and multiply...fill the earth*” – only 8 people present at the time.

Same command given to Adam and Eve (**Genesis 1:28**).

Animals, birds to fear man

Note: In **Genesis 1:28**, man had dominion over them, but “fear” not specifically mentioned.

- animals had been killed for sacrifices – *e.g.* **Genesis 4:4; 8:20**.

Every living thing that moves is now available for food – not just vegetation as in **Genesis 1:29**.

The exception: not eat flesh with its blood in it.

Note: This requirement was also in the Mosaic Law (**Leviticus 7:26-27**), and the New Testament (**Acts 15:19-20, 29**). Under the Mosaic Law, only “clean” animals could be eaten (**Leviticus 11**).

“*...life is in the blood....*” – also mentioned in **Leviticus 17:11**.

It is the blood that distributes the chemicals from the air and food throughout the body, and to our brain, so that we can live.

Accountability now for murder – change from **Genesis 4:10-15**.

Note: Capital punishment was for justice, not revenge (*e.g.* **Exodus 21:28-29**).

- Points:
- These verses show the difference between man and animals  
**vs. 6** “*...man made in the image of God...*”  
Killing a man brings capital punishment  
Killing an animal does not.
  - In the secular world, that authority is still there today  
**Romans 13:1-4** “*...he does not bear the sword in vain....*”  
**Acts 25:11** Paul acknowledges a place for capital punishment.
  - vs 5** “*...from the hand of every man’s brother....*”  
All are responsible to ensure this is done.
  - The scope of capital punishment increased under the Law.  
**Leviticus 20:2, 9-16; 24:11-14, 16; Deuteronomy 21:18-21**
  - This does not mean that grace and mercy cannot intervene  
David and Bathsheba – adultery, Uriah’s murder (**2 Samuel 11**)  
Woman caught in adultery (**John 8:3-11**).

#### c) Genesis 9:8-17

God established covenant with Noah – mentioned in **Genesis 6:18a**.

Covenant also with all living creatures.

- God cares for them as well (**Matthew 6:26; Jonah 4:11b**)

a) Never destroy all flesh through a flood again

b) Never again a flood to destroy the earth (**2 Peter 3:6**).

- it is now reserved for fire 2 Peter 3:7

## Genesis

Note: The earth has seen many local and regional floods since the time of Noah, and many of these floods have taken lives. If God has kept His covenant (and I believe He has), then this goes to show that Noah's Flood was not just a local or regional flood – it was something completely different.

Rainbow given as a sign of the covenant.

- first mention of clouds in the Bible.
- no mention of rain occurring before the Flood (**Genesis 2:5**)

### **d) Genesis 9:18-19**

Noah's 3 sons – Shem, Ham and Japheth

All of mankind descended from these.

*i.e.* there were no more “creations”. The natural process would be used to increase the population.

Note: Canaan specifically mentioned. His descendants would play a role in Israel's history centuries later (**Genesis 13:12-15**).

### **e) Genesis 9:20-23**

Noah becomes a farmer – plants a vineyard.

- his occupation prior to the Flood is unknown.

He drinks wine, becomes drunk, lays naked in bed.

- even the righteous fail at times. Satan is always looking for an opportunity (**1 Peter 5:8**).

Ham sees his father naked – tells his brothers.

Shem and Japheth were careful to cover their father while respectfully looking away.

- Ham could have done this himself when he first saw his father naked and been quiet about the matter - **Proverbs 17:9**.

Note: The Bible does not hesitate to show the failings of man, even righteous men, such as Noah, Abraham, David. The Book is not about “white-washing” man's sins.

### **f) Genesis 9:24-27**

Noah finds out what happened

Note: We don't know the exact timing of these events, but based on Noah's comments in vs **24**, Ham may have had his son Canaan by this time.

Canaan would be a “servant of servants”

*i.e.* low down in the social order of things.

Shem is in the “Seed” line – **Genesis 11:10f.f.; Luke 3:36**.

“...*the God of Shem...*”

- similar expression used when referring to other people who were faithful to God – **Genesis 24:27; Daniel 3:8; Ephesians 1:3**

- Canaan to be his servant – Israel conquered Canaan under Joshua.

Japheth – “..to be enlarged..” - could mean numerically or intellectually

## Genesis

- Canaan to serve him also
- “.. *dwell in Shem’s tents..*” may be a reference to the Gentiles being in the church.

### g) **Genesis 9:28-29**

Noah lived 350 years after the Flood - *i.e.* 950 years old

- was 600 years old when the Flood started – **Genesis 7:6**
- Methuselah lived to be 969 (**Genesis 5:27**)
- makes Noah the 3<sup>rd</sup> oldest recorded man.

Note: If there are no gaps in the genealogies, then he was still around when Abraham was born.

## Genesis

### LESSON 8 – Genesis 10:1 – 11:32 The spread of nations

#### 1) Genesis 10:1-32

Note: This chapter “overtakes” chapter 11.

- the nations mentioned in this chapter would have been set up after the Tower of Babel.

Vs. **25** The Earth was “divided” in the days of Peleg.

#### **Gen.11:10-16** Shem

	100 years	
Arphaxad		born 2 years after the Flood
	35 years	
Salah		born 37 years after the Flood
	30 years	
Eber		born 67 years after the Flood
	34 years	
Peleg		born 101 years after the Flood

During the 3<sup>rd</sup> generations after Noah’s sons are when discrete nations are identified

**10:2-5** Japheth ----Javan ---- 4 sons ---- coastlands.

**10:6-20-31** Ham ---- Cush ---- Nimrod ---- Babel (Shinar) ---- Assyria  
Mizraim ---- sons ---- Philistines  
Canaan ---- sons ---- various nations

**10:21-31** Shem --- sons --- sons ---- dwelt in Mesha

Note: Years and ages are not mentioned in the Japheth and Ham lines, just like Cain’s descendants in **Genesis 4:16-22**.

But years and ages are mentioned in Seth’s line in **Genesis 11:10-26**.

- this is the “Seed line” (**Luke 3:23-38** - note vs.**36**).

Other notes of interest:

- If there are no breaks in the genealogies....
  - Abram (Abraham) was born 191 years after Peleg was born – making it about 292 years after the Flood.
  - Noah lived 350 years after the Flood (**Gen.9:28**)
    - he dies when Abram was about 58 years old.
  - Shem lived 502 years after the Flood (**Gen.11:10-11**)
    - he dies about 35 years after Abraham died (**Gen.25:7**)
- Sheba and Dedan, the sons of Raamah (**Gen.10:7**) were also the names of Abraham’s later grandsons via Jokshan (**Gen.25:1-3**).
- Nimrod, grandson of Ham, set up Babel (**Gen.10:10**)
- The Jebusites, Ham’s grandsons/daughters (**Gen.10:16**) – were the inhabitants of Jerusalem (**Joshua 15:63; 2 Samuel 5:6-7**).

## Genesis

### 2) Genesis 11:1-4

All the population were together with one language. The “*they*” referred to in verse 2 refers to “*the whole earth*” in verse 1.

They journey from east to Shinar.

- some translations suggest “*they journeyed eastward*”.
- others suggest that Noah’s descendants had settled in Persia after the Flood (which is east of Iraq).
- Shinar = south-east Iraq area – near Persian Gulf.

People make bricks in order to build a tower, used asphalt for mortar.

- plan to build a city and tower.
- implies they intended to remain in the area.

The need to bake bricks may suggest that there was not enough natural stone around for building.

- Archaeology confirms that brick-making existed in the area.

Tower to be “*in the heavens*” = up into the sky

Note: These measures were a (rebellious) attempt to defy God’s command to “*fill the earth*” (**Genesis 9:1b**). The timeframe is around 100+ years after the Flood.

“*Let us make a name for ourselves*” suggests arrogance, pride, glorying in man’s achievements.

Noah and sons still around at the time, so knowledge of the Flood and the reason for it would have existed.

### 3) Genesis 11:5-9

“*The Lord came down*” = the Lord takes the situation directly under His control.

- the Lord had been patient – He had not come down when the building started.

Point: Sometimes God doesn’t intervene straight away – He lets things run their course. *e.g.* David and Bathsheba.- He didn’t prevent David from carrying out his plan to have Uriah killed in battle (**2 Samuel 11**).

The Lord intervenes because man was trying to thwart God’s Will.

Other examples of God intervening;

- **Exodus 7-12** The plagues to “convince” Pharaoh to let the Hebrews leave Egypt.
- **2 Kings 6:24 – 7:7** The Lord cause the Syrian army to flee from Samaria.
- **2 Kings 19:35** The Lord destroyed the Assyrian army that had laid siege to Jerusalem.
- **Matthew 27:62 – 28:8** Raising Jesus from the tomb, inspite of the tomb being sealed and a guard put in place.

God’s response – confuse the language.

Result – the people couldn’t understand each other, forced to separate.

- implies that those with a new language had no knowledge of their previous language.

## Genesis

The people scatter all over the earth.

- supports the fact that the Flood was not just a local flood. Otherwise, there would already have been people alive in other parts of the earth.

The building program stops.

The place is now called Babel - *i.e.* after the separation, not before.

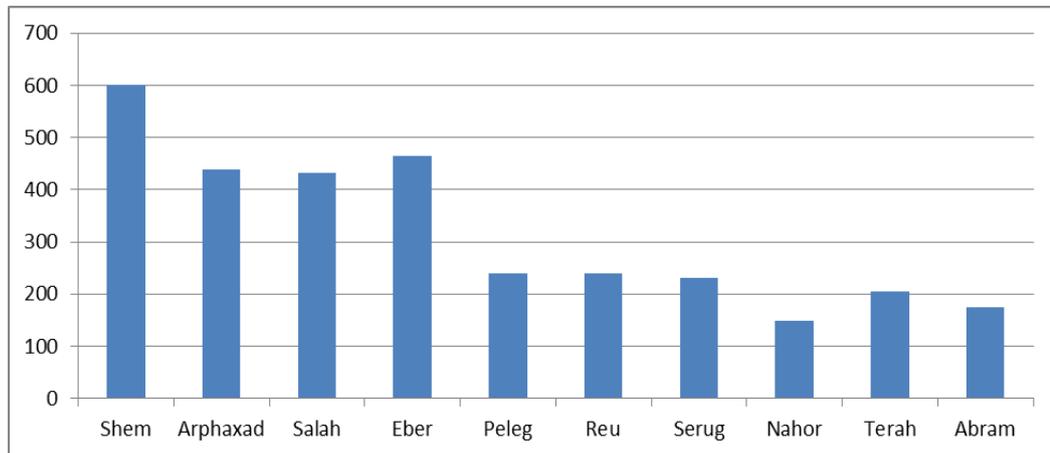
### 4) Genesis 11:10-26

Genealogy from Shem to Abram.

- expands on **Gen.10:22, 24, 25**
- **Gen.10:26-29** lists Peleg's brother's descendants (Joktan).

After the Flood, man's ages start to reduce significantly, indicating that a dramatic change had taken place because of the Flood.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Born</u> <sup>8</sup>	<u>Died</u>	<u>Age</u>
	---- w.r.t. Flood ----		
Shem	-98	502	600
Arphaxad	2	440	438
Salah	37	470	433
Eber	67	531	464
Peleg	101	340	239
Reu	131	370	239
Serug	163	393	230
Nahor	193	341	148
Terah	222	427	205
Abram	292	467	175



Note: If there are no gaps in the genealogy, then all these were still alive when Abram was born.

### 5) Genesis 11:27-32

Abram born ~ 292 years after the Flood

Haran, (Abram's brother, and Lot's father) died in Ur before Abram left.

<sup>8</sup> "w.r.t." = with respect to the time of the Flood.

## Genesis

Archaeology shows that Ur was a great city with a high level of civilisation, but very idolatrous and wicked.

- could help explain why God wanted Abram to leave there.

“*Haran died before his father*” = he died while his father was still alive.

The remaining brothers marry;

- Abram marries Sarai – his half sister (**Gen.20:12**)
- formed the basis for his “half-truths” (*i.e.* lies), in **Gen.12;13; 20:2**

Note: In **Genesis 11:31**, she is referred to as Terah’s daughter in law.

- Nahor married Milcah, his niece, Lot’s sister.

Note: Haran had children (**Gen.11:27, 29**)

Nahor had children (**Gen.22:20-24**)

But Abram and Sarai had none (**Gen.11:30**)

Terah, Abram, Sarai and Lot leave Ur to go to Canaan via Haran ~ 600km north west. They stay at Haran for a while.

- Terah dies aged 205, at Haran.

