

Quick Bible Survey Vol 01

Genesis



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The Book of Genesis

A Quick Survey & Overview

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The Book of Genesis

The Book of Genesis is the first book of the Hebrew Bible and the Christian Old Testament. It tells the story of the creation of the world, the origins of humanity, and the history of the early generations of mankind. The book is divided into two main sections: the first eleven chapters describe the creation of the world and the first humans, while the remaining chapters tell the story of the descendants of Adam and Eve, including the first families, the first cities, and the first civilizations.

Genesis also includes the stories of significant figures such as Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Noah and the flood, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. These stories are significant in many religions, as they are seen as providing key insights into the nature of God, the origins of humanity, and the nature of morality. Many of the characters and events in Genesis are important figures in the religious traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. They are also of great interest to scholars and researchers studying the history of religion and human civilization.

Author and Time: Moses, the Greatest leader in history wrote this book after

1450 BC. They became free from Egypt in 1450 BC. Then Moses had 40 years of time to write this and his other books with the filling and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

What Does Each Chapter Tell Us

The book of Genesis is divided into two main sections: the first eleven chapters describe the creation of the world and the first humans, while the remaining chapters tell the story of the descendants of Adam and Eve, including the first families, the first cities, and the first civilizations.

The first chapter of Genesis describes the creation of the world in six days,

with God creating the heavens and the earth, the light, the sky, the land, the sea, and all the plants and animals. On the sixth day, God creates humanity in his own image, both male and female. The second chapter of Genesis describes the creation of the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve, and the establishment of the Garden of Eden as their home.

The third chapter of Genesis tells the story of the fall of humanity, as Adam and Eve disobey God's command not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. As a result of their disobedience, they are banished from the Garden of Eden and must contend with the difficulties of life outside of it.

The fourth chapter of Genesis tells the story of Adam and Eve's first children, Cain and Abel. Cain, a farmer, becomes jealous of Abel, a shepherd, and kills him. As a result, God curses Cain and he becomes a wanderer. The chapter also describes the descendants of Cain, including the first cities and the first metalworkers.

The fifth chapter of Genesis describes the descendants of Adam, including Seth, Enosh, and Enoch. The chapter also includes the story of Enoch, who "walked with God" and was taken by God without experiencing death.

The sixth chapter of Genesis tells the story of the "sons of God" marrying the "daughters of men" and the resulting

"Nephilim" or "giants." God sees the wickedness of humanity and decides to destroy the world with a flood, but spares Noah and his family, as well as a pair of every kind of animal, on an ark. After the flood, God makes a covenant with Noah and his descendants, promising never to destroy the world by flood again.

The seventh chapter of Genesis tells the story of Noah's descendants, including his son Ham, and the nations that descended from them. The chapter also includes the story of the Tower of Babel, where humanity attempted to build a tower to reach the heavens and God scattered them by confusing their languages.

Genesis 8 describes the story of God remembering his promise to Noah and his family, and the end of the flood. The story describes how the Ark came to rest on the top of the mountains, and how Noah sent out a dove to check if the waters have receded. The chapter also describes God's covenant with Noah and his descendants, promising never to destroy the world by flood again, and the creation of the rainbow as a symbol of that promise. It also describes how Noah become a farmer and how he offered burnt offerings to God, which was pleasing to God.

Genesis 9 describes God's covenant with Noah and his descendants after

the flood. God promises to never again destroy the world with a flood and sets the rainbow as a symbol of that promise. God also gives humanity permission to eat meat and establishes the principle of capital punishment for murder. The chapter also tells the story of Noah becoming a farmer and how he became drunk and exposed himself in front of his son Ham. As a result, Ham's son Canaan is cursed and the descendants of Shem and Japheth are blessed. The chapter ends with a genealogy of Noah's descendants and the spread of humanity around the world.

Genesis 10 provides a genealogy of the descendants of Noah's three sons,

Shem, Ham, and Japheth. It lists the nations and peoples that descended from them, and the geographical locations of their settlements. The chapter is known as the Table of Nations, it lists the descendants of Noah's sons and their descendants that formed the 70 nations of the ancient world. The chapter serves as a bridge between the flood story and the following stories of God's interaction with specific nations and individuals, such as Abraham and his descendants. It also helps to provide a historical context for the events that occur in the following chapters of the Bible.

Genesis 11 tells the story of the Tower of Babel event. The chapter describes

how all humanity spoke the same language and decided to build a tower to reach the heavens. In response, God confused their languages, causing them to scatter and form different nations. The event is seen as an explanation for the diversity of languages and cultures in the world, and it serves as a reminder of the limits of human ambition and the power of God. It also marks the end of humanity living in one place and the start of their spreading across the earth. The chapter serves as a transition from the genealogies of the previous chapter to the story of God's call of Abraham and the formation of the nation of Israel in the following chapters.

Genesis 12 describes the call of Abraham by God to leave his home and travel to the land of Canaan, which God will give to him and his descendants. Abraham becomes the father of Isaac, who becomes the father of Jacob. The chapter also describes God's promise to make Abraham the father of many nations and to bless those who bless him and curse those who curse him. It serves as the starting point of the patriarchal narrative of the Bible, which tells the story of the patriarchs - Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob - and their descendants, the Israelites. It also marks the beginning of God's special relationship with the Israelites,

through which he will bring about the salvation of the world.

Genesis 13 tells the story of Abraham and Lot, his nephew, who are both prosperous and have large herds of cattle, but they have a disagreement over land and decide to part ways. Lot chooses to move to the plain of Jordan, which is well-watered and fertile, while Abraham stays in the land of Canaan, which God had promised to give to him and his descendants. This chapter serves as an example of how even the righteous can fall into conflicts and how sometimes it is better to separate to avoid conflicts.

Genesis 14 tells the story of the Battle of the Kings, where a coalition of kings

led by Chedorlaomer defeated the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, and took Lot, Abraham's nephew, captive. Abraham rescues Lot and the other captives and is blessed by the priest-king Melchizedek. This chapter serves as an example of Abraham's bravery and faith, as he defeated a powerful enemy to rescue his kin. It also serves as an introduction to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, which will be destroyed later in the book for their wickedness.

Genesis 15 describes God's covenant with Abraham, in which God promises to give the land of Canaan to Abraham and his descendants and that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars in the sky. In this chapter, God

also makes a promise that Abraham will have a son, in spite of his and Sarah's old age and infertility. The chapter also describes a ritual in which God confirms the covenant and Abraham's belief in God is credited to him as righteousness. This chapter serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness to His promises and how God's promises to Abraham will be fulfilled through his descendants.

Genesis 16 tells the story of Hagar, a slave girl given to Sarah, Abraham's wife, to bear a child for them. Hagar gives birth to Ishmael, who becomes the father of the Arab nations. This chapter serves as an introduction to Ishmael and his descendants, who will

be important in later parts of the Bible. It also serves as an illustration of how human impatience and lack of faith can lead to difficulties and how God can still bring blessings through difficult situations.

Genesis 17 tells the story of God renewing his covenant with Abraham and changing his name to Abraham and Sarah's name to Sarah. He also promises that Sarah will have a son and that he will be the father of many nations. The chapter also describes the rite of circumcision as a sign of the covenant and the promise that Sarah will have a son, Isaac. This chapter serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness to His promises and how God's promises to

Abraham will be fulfilled through his descendants, especially Isaac.

Genesis 18 tells the story of three men, who are later identified as angels, visiting Abraham and Sarah and telling them that Sarah will have a son, despite her advanced age. The chapter also describes how Abraham pleads with God to spare the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah if there are righteous people living there. It serves as an illustration of Abraham's faith, hospitality, and concern for others.

Genesis 19 tells the story of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, where God sends two angels to rescue Lot and his family before destroying the cities for their wickedness. The

chapter also describes how Lot's wife looks back and turns into a pillar of salt, and how Lot's daughters make him drunk and become pregnant by him to preserve their family line. The chapter serves as an illustration of the wickedness of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, and the consequences of disobeying God's commands.

Genesis 20 tells the story of Abraham moving to Gerar and pretending that Sarah is his sister to avoid conflict. He is discovered by the king Abimelech, but is blessed by God with wealth in return for his honesty. The chapter serves as an illustration of how even the righteous can fall into fear and deception and how God can still bring

blessings through difficult situations. It also serves as a reminder of the importance of honesty and integrity.

Genesis 21 tells the story of the birth of Isaac, the son of Abraham and Sarah, as God had promised. The chapter also tells the story of Hagar and Ishmael, being sent away by Sarah due to jealousy. However, God promises to make Ishmael a great nation, and takes care of Hagar and Ishmael in the wilderness. The chapter serves as a fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham and Sarah and how God's promises are fulfilled in unexpected ways.

Genesis 22 tells the story of God testing Abraham's faith by asking him to sacrifice his son Isaac. Although

Abraham is willing to do so, God intervenes and provides a ram to sacrifice instead. The chapter serves as an illustration of the depth of Abraham's faith and obedience to God, and how God will provide for his people even in difficult situations.

Genesis 23 tells the story of the death of Sarah and the purchase of a burial plot for her by Abraham. The chapter also tells the story of the purchase of a burial place for Sarah by Abraham. The chapter serves as a reminder of the mortality of humanity and the importance of providing for the dead, and also serves as an illustration of the respect and honor that Abraham had for his wife.

Genesis 24 tells the story of Abraham's servant, who is sent to find a wife for Isaac from Abraham's family. The servant finds Rebekah and brings her to Isaac. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God can guide and bless the decisions of His people, even in matters of marriage.

Genesis 25 tells the story of the birth of Esau and Jacob, the twin sons of Isaac and Rebekah. The chapter also tells the story of how Esau sells his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of stew. The chapter serves as an illustration of how choices and actions can have long-lasting consequences and how the blessings of God can be passed on from one generation to the next.

Genesis 26 tells the story of a famine in the land and how Isaac goes to Gerar, where he tells the same lie as his father Abraham, about his wife Rebekah being his sister, to avoid conflicts. The chapter serves as an illustration of how the actions of ancestors can affect the following generations and how God can still bless His people even in difficult situations.

Genesis 27 tells the story Jacob deceiving his father Isaac into giving him the blessing intended for his older brother Esau. The chapter serves as an illustration of the consequences of deception and how it can lead to conflict within families.

Genesis 28 tells the story of Jacob leaving his family to find a wife, and how God appears to him in a dream, renewing the promise of land and descendants made to Abraham and Isaac. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God's promises are passed down through generations and how God guides and blesses His people even when they are far from home.

Genesis 29 tells the story of Jacob falling in love with Rachel, and working for her father, Laban, in exchange for the right to marry her. The chapter also tells the story of Laban tricking Jacob into marrying Leah, Rachel's older sister, and Jacob's subsequent agreement to work for another seven years

to marry Rachel. The chapter serves as an illustration of the consequences of deception and how it can lead to conflict and dissatisfaction. It also serves as an introduction to Jacob's marriages and children, who will be important in later parts of the Bible.

Genesis 30 tells the story of Jacob's wives, Leah and Rachel, competing for his affections by having children. The chapter serves as an illustration of the tension and jealousy between the two sisters and how it affects their relationship with Jacob. It also tells how Jacob prospers in his time with Laban and how he becomes very wealthy.

Genesis 31 tells the story of Jacob leaving Laban's household and returning

to his home in Canaan. The chapter describes how God speaks to Jacob in a dream and commands him to leave, and how Jacob and his family depart secretly. It also describes how Laban pursues Jacob but God intervenes to protect him. This chapter serves as an illustration of God's guidance and protection of Jacob, and how Jacob's faith in God leads him to follow God's commands even when it means leaving his home and family.

Genesis 32 tells the story of Jacob preparing to meet his brother Esau, from whom he had been separated for many years, and from whom he had taken away his blessing. Jacob is afraid of his brother's wrath, so he sends gifts

ahead, and he also prays to God for protection. The chapter also tells the story of Jacob wrestling with an angel, who blesses him and changes his name to Israel. The chapter serves as an illustration of Jacob's fear and guilt, and how he turns to God for protection.

Genesis 33 tells the story of Jacob's reunion with his brother Esau, who forgives Jacob for stealing his blessing. The chapter serves as an illustration of how forgiveness and reconciliation can heal past wrongs and bring about peace between individuals and families.

Genesis 34 tells the story of the rape of Dinah, Jacob's daughter, by Shechem,

the son of Hamor, a local ruler. The chapter also tells the story of how her brothers, Simeon and Levi, take revenge on the people of Shechem for the crime. The chapter serves as an illustration of the consequences of violence and how it can lead to further violence and conflict.

Genesis 35 tells the story of God appearing to Jacob again and reaffirming his promises to him. The chapter also tells the story of the death of Rachel during childbirth and the naming of her son, Benjamin. The chapter serves as an illustration of the faithfulness of God to His promises and how God's promises are fulfilled through difficult situations, and it also serves as

a reminder of the mortality of humanity.

Genesis 36 gives a genealogy of Esau, Jacob's brother, and his descendants. It lists the kings and peoples that descended from him and the geographical locations of their settlements. This chapter serves as a reminder of the people and nations that descended from Esau and how they lived in different parts of the world.

Genesis 37 tells the story of Joseph, Jacob's favorite son, being sold into slavery by his brothers. The chapter also tells the story of Joseph's rise to power in Egypt, where he becomes a high-ranking official and saves the Egyptians from famine. The chapter

serves as an illustration of how jealousy and betrayal can lead to great suffering, but also how God can use difficult situations to bring about blessings and redemption.

Genesis 38 tells the story of Judah and Tamar, one of his sons, Er, was wicked in the eyes of the Lord, so the Lord put him to death. The chapter also tells how Tamar, Er's widow, disguises herself as a prostitute and sleeps with Judah to conceive twins, Perez and Zerah. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God can bring about unexpected blessings through difficult situations and how the actions of individuals can have far-reaching consequences.

Genesis 39 tells the story of Joseph's rise to power in Egypt, where he becomes a high-ranking official and saves the Egyptians from famine. The chapter also tells the story of how Joseph is falsely accused by Potiphar's wife of attempted rape and is imprisoned. Despite his difficult circumstances, Joseph remains faithful to God and interprets the dreams of his fellow prisoners, which leads to his release and promotion. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God can use difficult situations to bring about blessings and redemption and how faithfulness to God can lead to success.

Genesis 40 tells the story of the Pharaoh's cupbearer and baker being imprisoned and Joseph interpreting their dreams. The cupbearer's dream comes true and he is restored to his position, but the baker's dream comes true and he is executed. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God can use Joseph's gift of dream interpretation to bring about justice and how the consequences of one's actions can have far-reaching effects.

Genesis 41 tells the story of Pharaoh having a dream that no one can interpret, except for Joseph. Joseph interprets the dream as a warning of seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine. Pharaoh places Joseph in

charge of preparing for the famine, and Joseph becomes second in command of Egypt. The chapter serves as an illustration of God's provision and protection, and how Joseph's faithfulness and wisdom leads to him being blessed and rising to a position of power.

Genesis 42 tells the story of Jacob sending his sons to Egypt to buy grain during a famine. Joseph, who is now a high-ranking official in Egypt, recognizes them but they do not recognize him. He tests them by accusing them of spying and putting them in prison, but then releases them on the condition that they bring their younger brother, Benjamin, to Egypt. The

chapter serves as an illustration of how God can use difficult situations to bring about blessings, even when it is difficult to understand his plan at the time.

Genesis 43 tells the story of Jacob's sons returning to Egypt with Benjamin to buy more grain, and Joseph reveals himself to them. The chapter also tells the story of how Joseph tests his brothers' remorse for their past actions by accusing them of being spies, but then forgives them and reunites with his family. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God can bring about reconciliation and healing in families, and how forgiveness can bring about peace and understanding.

Genesis 44 tells the story of Joseph testing his brothers by planting a silver cup in Benjamin's bag and accusing him of stealing it. The chapter also tells the story of how Joseph's brothers prove their loyalty to him and their remorse for their past actions by offering to be enslaved in place of Benjamin. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God can bring about reconciliation and healing in families, and how forgiveness can bring about peace and understanding. It also serves as an illustration of the lengths that people can go to in order to show their love and loyalty to their family.

Genesis 45 tells the story of Joseph revealing himself to his brothers, and

how they are reunited in Egypt. He forgives them for selling him into slavery and tells them that it was all part of God's plan to save them and the Egyptians from famine. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God can use difficult situations to bring about blessings, even when it is difficult to understand his plan at the time. It also serves as an illustration of the power of forgiveness and how it can bring about healing and reconciliation.

Genesis 46 tells the story of Jacob and his family moving to Egypt, where they are welcomed by Pharaoh and given the best land in the country to live in. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God can provide for his people

even in difficult times and how his blessings can extend to future generations.

Genesis 47 tells the story of Joseph's administration during the famine in Egypt, where he saves the people from starvation by rationing food. The chapter also tells the story of how the people sold their land and themselves into slavery to Pharaoh in exchange for food. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God can use difficult situations to bring about blessings, even when it is difficult to understand his plan at the time. It also serves as an illustration of how human greed and selfishness can lead to the exploitation of others during times of crisis.

Genesis 48 tells the story of Jacob blessing his grandsons Ephraim and Manasseh, and how he adopts them as his own sons. The chapter serves as an illustration of the importance of family and how blessings can be passed down through generations. It also serves as an illustration of how God can bring unexpected blessings through difficult situations, such as Joseph's brothers selling him into slavery.

Genesis 49 tells the story of Jacob blessing his twelve sons and giving them prophetic words about their future and the future of their descendants. The chapter serves as an illustration of how God's blessings and

guidance can extend to future generations, and how the actions of individuals can have far-reaching consequences.

Genesis 50 tells the story of Joseph's death and how his brothers are afraid that he will take revenge on them for selling him into slavery. The chapter also tells the story of Joseph forgiving his brothers and assuring them that God had used their actions for good. The chapter serves as an illustration of the power of forgiveness and how it can bring about healing and reconciliation, and how God can bring blessings through difficult situations. It also serves as a reminder of how the

actions of individuals can have far-reaching consequences and how God's plan is greater than human understanding.

Why Genesis Is Important

Genesis is the first book of the Bible and serves as a foundation for understanding the entire Bible, including the New Testament. It lays out the origins of the world, humanity, and God's chosen people, the Israelites. This background information is crucial for understanding the context and themes of the New Testament.

Genesis also establishes the concept of God's covenant with humanity. This theme is prominent throughout the New Testament, as Jesus is seen as the fulfillment of this covenant. Understanding the nature and significance of the covenant in Genesis is necessary for comprehending the New Testament's portrayal of Jesus and his role in salvation history.

Genesis also introduces key figures and characters in the Bible, such as Adam and Eve, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, who are referenced and alluded to throughout the New Testament. Understanding the stories and significance of these figures in Genesis

provides deeper insight into the New Testament's references to them.

The New Testament also references and builds upon the themes of sin and redemption that are first introduced in Genesis. In Genesis, humanity's first sin results in their expulsion from the Garden of Eden and their separation from God. The New Testament portrays Jesus as the means of redemption and the way to reconcile humanity with God.

The book of Genesis also establishes the idea of God's chosen people and the concept of God's promise to bless them, which is important for understanding the New Testament's portrayal of Jesus as the savior of all

people, not just the Jews. It is also explains the concept of the Messiah and his coming as the savior of humanity, which is central to the New Testament message. Understanding these themes in Genesis helps to understand the New Testament message of salvation and reconciliation through Jesus Christ.



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The Authors

Dr. Johnson C. Philip is a prolific author, with more than 250 books and eBooks (by the end of 2020). He is the senior-most active theologian and apologist in the Indian Brethren Assemblies.



A PhD in quantum-nuclear physics, and apologetics- hermeneutics, he has devoted his life to Bible exposition and apologetics.

Dr. Saneesh Cherian is a devoted Christian author. He is the Managing Editor of



the high-demand Verpad Magazine. He has played a major role in the writing of Systematic Theology (800 pages), Christian Apologetics (800 pages) Bible Survey I (600 pages), 4 Volume Bible Encyclopedia, and countless other publications. He is also very active in house to house ministry in Ernakulam area.



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