

THE BOOK OF GENESIS: AN OVERVIEW

BOOK OF DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY

- In Creation
- In Preservation
- In Providence
- In History
- In Redemption

PRIMEVAL HISTORY (1-11)

Four Outstanding Events:

- *The Creation* (God's Majesty)
- *The Fall* (God's Moral Authority)
- *The Flood* (God's Judicial Severity)
- *The Babel Crisis* (God's Governmental Supremacy)

PATRIARCHAL HISTORY (12-50)

Four Outstanding Persons:

- Abraham (Supernatural Call)
- Isaac (Supernatural Birth)
- Jacob (Supernatural Care)
- Joseph (Supernatural Control)

BOOK OF BEGINNINGS

Origin of All Things: Universe, Life, Mankind, the Hebrews, Sin, Salvation, Civilization, Marriage, Language, Government, Society, Worship, Nations, Religions

GOD OF GENESIS

- God of Creation
- God of History
- God of Providence
- God of Promise
- God of Redemption
- God of Covenant
- God of Sovereignty

A FOUNDATIONAL BOOK

- Foundation of God's Revelation
- Unfolding Drama of Redemption
- Prophetic Promises
- God's Plan to Reverse the Effects of Sin
- Introduces the Mercy and Grace of God
- The most quoted O.T. Book in the N.T.
- Doctrinal foundation & the roots of all subsequent Revelation.

SUPREME THEOLOGY

1. Monotheism
2. Hints of the Tri-unity of God
3. God's unified plan and purpose for history.
4. A biblical/revelatory worldview for Israel.

SEVEN BASIC QUESTIONS EVERY WORLDVIEW TRIES TO ANSWER:

1. What is prime reality – the really real?
2. What is the nature of external reality, that is, the world around us?
3. What is a human being?

4. What happens to a person at death?
5. Why is it possible to know anything at all?
6. How do we know what is right and what is wrong?
7. What is the meaning of human history?

The Meaning of Genesis to Israel

- The sovereign, majestic Creator of the universe is the Creator of Israel
- Israel should know their unique place as the chosen, separated people of God
- God is the Law-giver of His people
- God accomplishes His Work through His Word
- Israel must obey His Revelatory Word
- God is the deliverer and Redeemer of His people

THE SCARLET THREAD OF REDEMPTION

- The Covering of Adam & Eve (3:21)
- The *Protoevangelium* – the Promise of a Savior (3:15)
- Justification by Faith (15:6)
- Salvation by Grace (6:8)

(Other cryptic references: Abel's offering, Noah's ark, Abrahamic Covenant, Provision of a lamb for Abraham etc.)

- Salvation Truths through Typology
- God's doxological purpose in salvation - God not only has a plan for redemption but intends to see it through to completion for His glory (50:20)
- The future fulfillment of God's redemptive and prophetic plans inaugurated in Genesis

THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT (12:1-3, 7; 15: 5-7, 17-18; 17:1-8)

- A Foundational Covenant, Significance in God's Prophetic Program
- The *Promises* of the Covenant – Personal, National, Messianic, Universal
- The *Duration* – Eternal & Everlasting
- The *Sign* – Circumcision
- The *Features* – Land, Seed, & Blessing
- Fulfillment – Millennium

GENESIS & REVELATION: A CONTRAST

<u>Genesis</u>	<u>Revelation</u>
Paradise lost	Paradise regained
Cursed world	Eternal world
Curse (3:17)	No more curse (22:3)
Sorrow (3:17)	No more sorrow (21:4)
Satan opposing (3:15)	Satan banished (20:10)
Evil continually (6:5)	Nothing that defiles (21:27)
Kept from the tree of life (3:24)	Access to the tree of life (22:14)
Tree of life in the midst of the garden (2:9)	Tree of life throughout the city (22:2)
Banished from the garden (3:23)	Free entry to the city (22:14)
Man in a prepared garden (2:8,9)	Man in a prepared city (21:2)
Redeemer promised (3:15)	Redemption accomplished (5:9,10)

A BIOGRAPHICAL STUDY OF GENESIS

The transforming power of divine grace in human life

Seven Prominent Men in Genesis:

- Abel – man of spiritual desire
- Enoch – spiritual choice
- Noah – spiritual renewal
- Abraham – man of faith
- Isaac – life of sonship

- Jacob – life of service
- Joseph – life of suffering & glory

THE GOD WHO IS THERE

“I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.”

(The Apostles' Creed)