

Beginnings Series

Introduction

Exploring Genesis

Some Questions that the Book of Genesis:

Where did the patriarchs come from?

Where did humanity originate?

How did the universe begin?

Why is there death?

Where did animal and plant life come from?

Did God create the universe for a purpose?

What was the origin of marriage and family?

How did the world get to be so evil?

Why is humanity now in an alienated relationship with God?

Why is sacrifice needed for covering of sin?

And many more....

OVERVIEW

The Title Genesis. This is a Greek word ([γένεσις](#) and is pronounced Genesis) meaning: [origin, source, beginning](#).

Hebrew titles for the first five books (The Torah) are just the first few important words of the book. The title for Genesis is [“Bereshith”](#) which means [“in the beginning.”](#)

One way you can approach Genesis is breaking it apart into two sections:

Part 1 – Chapters 1 -11 – which deals with the creation, the fall, the flood, and tower of Babel. This section of the book explains much of how we got where we are. The world, the problems in the world, the relationships of animals to man, the fossils we find everywhere, the landscape, and how different people groups formed (including the language they speak).

Part 2 – Chapters 12 -50 – God dealing with His people (Ones he made a covenant with). Mainly talking about Abraham and ending with Joseph. This section shows the formation of the nation God will use to bring in His promise of salvation to all mankind. It shows how

they get their name (Israel), how the tribes get their name, and why there are some unique interactions with some of the tribes. It also explains how these people get to Egypt. Because remember in exodus they are already there and enslaved.

So, who authored the book? God is the Author, but who was the human writer used? Moses. There have been many attacks on the authorship of the first five books of the Bible and there are many that say Moses did not write them or only wrote part. One such skeptic theory is the JEDP Hypothesis (J -Jahweh - unknown authorship that would refer to God as Jahweh, E – is authored by someone who preferred to use the name Elohim for God, D – stand for Deuteronomy and supposedly written during King Josiah’s reform, and P – Priest – referring to the texts in Leviticus – and written supposedly by priest).

Here are some reasons to reject the attacks and the JEDP theory; and just attribute the authorship to Moses:

"{14} And the LORD said **unto Moses, Write** this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven." - Exodus 17:14 KJV

- Moses is being directed to write the things happening in a book.

"{4} And **Moses wrote all the words of the LORD**, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel." - Exodus 24:4 KJV

- Moses is writing all the words spoken to him of the LORD. This could be all the early books like Genesis.

"{27} And the **LORD said unto Moses, Write thou these words**: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel." - Exodus 34:27 KJV

- Writing what was on the tablets (Law).

"{1} These are the journeys of the children of Israel, which went forth out of the land of Egypt with their armies under the hand of Moses and Aaron. {2} **And Moses wrote their goings out according to their journeys by the commandment of the LORD**: and these are their journeys according to their goings out." - Numbers 33:1-2 KJV

- Showing that Moses wrote all their (Israel) goings out, their journeys.

"{9} And Moses **wrote this law, and delivered it unto the priests** the sons of Levi, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and unto all the elders of Israel. {10} And Moses commanded them, saying, At the end of every seven years, in the solemnity of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles, {11} When all Israel is come to appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose, thou **shalt read this law** before all Israel in their hearing." - Deuteronomy 31:9-11 KJV

- Writing much of the law and what God told him and passing it down.

Much scripture refers to the “Book of the Law, Book of Moses, or also Book of the Law of Moses” - [Joshua 1:8](#); [8:31–32](#); [1 Kings 2:3](#); [2 Kings 14:6](#); [21:8](#); [Ezra 6:18](#); [Nehemiah 13:1](#); [Daniel 9:11–13](#); [Malachi 4:4](#).

We also see the authorship attributed to Moses in the New Testament by stating things he wrote: [Matthew 19:8](#); [John 5:45–47](#); [7:19](#); [Acts 3:22](#); [Romans 10:5](#); [Mark 12:26](#).

We also see things attributed to Moses’ because he wrote it down; but the original person to receive the command/promise was Abraham in Genesis:

- ["22} Moses therefore gave unto you circumcision; \(not because it is of Moses, but of the fathers;\) and ye on the sabbath day circumcise a man." - John 7:22 KJV](#)
- ["1} And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved." - Acts 15:1 KJV](#)

You can see that statements in Genesis are brought up as “Moses Writings.” You can study this out more, and there are some nice resources out there ([Answers in Genesis](#), which I used as well in studying this out) to help you see why Moses is the hand used to write this down.

Why does this matter? Skeptics like to discredit the first five books as much as possible. They show design, ownership of God, the sin problem, and much of what the world does not really want to acknowledge. Which includes Israel’s claim on a land. Genesis alone shows the errors of the world’s thinking in science, beliefs, marriage, gender, sacrifice, worship, righteousness, and just overall general purpose in our lives.

CONCLUSION

So, in conclusion to this introduction of Genesis, we will be doing some deep dives in sections to really see what God has revealed to us in this wonderful book. Showing how it all started and showing that God has direction, purpose, and is not caught off guard. In fact, we will see it has always been by Faith one follows God.