



OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Part 1: The Pentateuch



WEEK 2: GENESIS 1-11

**GENESIS OVERVIEW, GENESIS 1-11,
COVENANT WITH NOAH**

GENESIS OVERVIEW

Foundational Events (1-11)

- Creation
- Fall
- Flood
- Babel

Foundational People (12-50)

- Abraham
- Isaac
- Jacob
- Joseph

STORYLINE OF GOD'S KINGDOM

- **Act 1: Creation**
- **Act 2: Fall**
- **Act 3: Redemption**
- **Act 4: Consummation**



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CREATION: GENESIS 1-2

- Does **not** answer all the questions we might have about the origin of the universe.
- Is **not** a science textbook by today's standards, but it does present truth about the created universe.
- Is **not** a myth but is a polemic against the myths Israel would hear from other nations.

CREATION: GENESIS 1-2

Genesis 1-2 is an historically accurate, theologically informed, poetically flavored, authoritative account about the creation of the universe

CREATION: GENESIS 1-2

- Genesis 1-2 declares that the personal covenant God who brought Israel out of Egypt, is the same God who created the universe.
- So just as God brings life out of nothing, light out of darkness, order out of chaos, blessing out of barrenness, and rest out of labor... God will also give His people: life, light, order, blessing, and rest.

THE SYMPHONY OF CREATION

- Genesis I has many poetic features, which presents the creation account like a symphony or a piece of art.
- Like many poems, there is rhythm, rhyme, and repetition.
- Like a symphony, there are themes, movements & structure.

RHYMING

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was **without form** [*tohu*] and **void** [*bohu*], and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. (Genesis 1:1–2 ESV)

INCLUSIO (BOOKENDS)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1 ESV)

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. (Genesis 2:1 ESV)

TENSION & STRUCTURE

The earth was **without form** and **void**, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

(Genesis 1:2 ESV)

TENSION & STRUCTURE

Day	Formless → Form	Day	Void → Filled
1	Light & Darkness	4	Lights: sun, moon, stars
2	Sky & Sea	5	Birds & Fish
3	Dry land & Vegetation	6	Land animals & humans
Day 7: God rested and called the day holy			

PATTERN IN THE SYMPHONY

1. Announcement
2. Separation
3. Report
4. Naming
5. Evaluation
6. Chronological framework

(From Bruce Waltke, *Genesis: A Commentary*)

PATTERN IN THE SYMPHONY

Announcement: “Let there be light...” or
“Let there be an expanse...”

*This conveys that God sovereignly and simply
creates through his powerful word.*

PATTERN IN THE SYMPHONY

Separation: God separates light from darkness, water above from water below, land from water, etc.

This demonstrates God's power over the physical universe, but also his desire for order and boundaries

PATTERN IN THE SYMPHONY

Report: “And so God made...”

Whatever God says will happen, happens. In contrast to the pagan gods or the kings of the earth, God is able to accomplish his plans, his purposes will come to pass.

PATTERN IN THE SYMPHONY

Naming: “And so God called the dry land earth...”

To name something in the Scripture signifies ownership. God has the right to name his creation because it belongs to him.

PATTERN IN THE SYMPHONY

Evaluation: “And so God saw that it was good...”

We learn that God is the ultimate authority on moral excellence. God's assessment of his good creation also reveals that He is a Benevolent Lord since the blessing of life is filled with beauty, order, and abundance

PATTERN IN THE SYMPHONY

Chronological Framework: “...there was evening and there was morning, the second day...third day...”

This shows that not only is space the result of God's creative efforts, but time itself is part of God's creative work

CREATION: GENESIS 1-2

- Genesis 1 provides the big picture overview or “wide shot” perspective of creation.
- Genesis 2 provides a zoomed in focus on the creation of humanity, or the “close up.”

BIG PICTURE IN GENESIS 1

Then God said, “Let us make man **in our image** after our likeness. And let them **have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in **his own image**, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

(Genesis 1:26–27 ESV)

CREATION OF HUMANITY

- The creation account slows down & expands on Day 6 when God creates humans.
- Unique from the rest of creation, humans are “**created in God’s image.**”
- Also unique from creation, humans are given authority & responsibility to “**have dominion**” over the rest of creation.

MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

“Being made in the image of God confers on us ***dignity***, entrusts us with ***responsibility***, and implants in us a certain potential, namely, the *capacity* to mirror our Creator.”

(Walton, *NIV Application Commentary*, p. 137)

WHY DID GOD CREATE US IN HIS IMAGE?

God created humans in his image for the purpose of relationship.

RELATIONAL PURPOSE

1. Relationship with the World
2. Relationship with other People
3. Relationship with God

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WORLD

And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and **fill** the earth and **subdue** it, and **have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

(Genesis 1:28 ESV)

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WORLD

- Our essential relationship with the world is to reflect God's image as his image bearers.
- To ***fill the earth...subdue it...and have dominion over it*** means that humans will best reflect God in the world when they imitate God's relationship to the world.

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WORLD

- God himself is the one who ultimately ***fills, subdues, and rules*** his creation, but he has given humanity the role of being his representative authorities on the planet.
- Of course, it's an authority and responsibility that should drive us to humility and worship rather than pride and abuse.

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WORLD

“Humanity is the representative of the whole creation so that God deals with creation on the basis of how he deals with humans...when man falls because of sin the creation is made to fall with him. In order to restore the whole of creation, God works through his Son who becomes a man to restore man.”

(Goldsworthy, According to Plan, p. 96)

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PEOPLE

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; **male and female** he created them.

(Genesis 1:27 ESV)

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PEOPLE

Then the LORD God said, "***It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him...*** So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

(Genesis 2:18-22 ESV)

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PEOPLE

- As great as animals are, God determines that humans need other humans.
- We need others (male & female) to accurately reflect God's image in the world, who also exists as a community of equal but distinct persons (Father, Son, & Spirit).
- We need other humans in order to experience the love & intimacy God intends for us to experience.

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PEOPLE

“The naming of the animals, a scene which portrays man as monarch of all he surveys, poignantly reveals him as a social being, made for fellowship, not power: he will not live until he loves, giving himself away to another on his own level.”

(Kidner, Tyndale OT Commentary: Genesis, p. 65)

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- Genesis 1 & 2 demonstrates that the Creator is a personal God, actively engaged with the humans.
- He created humans in His own image; he formed man with his own hands and breathes life into him.
- God then expresses his intimate care for Adam by giving him a perfect home, plenty of food, meaningful work, human companionship, and by spending time with the humans each day.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

(Genesis 2:16-17 ESV)

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

“This unique prohibition confronts humans with the Creator’s rule. The tree is good, but it belongs exclusively to God. Sin consists of an illicit reach of unbelief, an assertion of human autonomy to know morality apart from God. The creature must live by faith in God’s word, not by a professed self-sufficiency of knowledge.”

(Waltke, Genesis, p.87)

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

“...God designates the tree as off limits as the means of showing the difference between good and evil. The choice for Adam and Eve was not between ignorance and the knowledge of good and evil, but between remaining good and becoming evil themselves.”

(Goldsworthy, According to Plan, p. 98)

PATTERN OF THE KINGDOM

- The Kingdom is God dwelling, with God's people, in God's place.
- The Kingdom of God at the time of creation was everything in existence all relating perfectly as God intended.
- God relates to his creation by means of his word.

STORYLINE OF GOD'S KINGDOM

- Act 1: Creation
- **Act 2: Fall**
- Act 3: Redemption
- Act 4: Consummation



4

THE TEMPTATION

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?”

(Genesis 3:1–6 ESV)

THE TEMPTATION

And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”

(Genesis 3:1–6 ESV)

THE TEMPTATION

But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

(Genesis 3:1–6 ESV)

THE TEMPTATION

God's provision
is minimal

Did he say you can't eat of any tree?

God's warning is
weak

You will not surely die

God's restriction
is oppressive

He knows your eyes will be opened

THE TEMPTATION

“Apart from this claim being an unadulterated distortion, it is an attempt to create in the woman’s mind the impression that God is spiteful, mean, obsessively jealous, and self-protective.”

(Hamilton, *NICOT: Genesis*)

THE TEMPTATION

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

(Genesis 3:1–6 ESV)

APPEALS TO BASIC DESIRES

Human Desire	Genesis 3	1 John 2	Matthew 4	God's Provision
Satisfaction	Good for food	Lust of the flesh	Make stones into bread	Jesus is the Bread of Heaven
Security	Delight to eyes	Lust of the eyes	Throw yourself down	God is Our Rock & Fortress
Significance	Able to make one wise	Boastful pride of life	I will give you all kingdoms	Spirit testifies with our spirit we are children of God

The background features a stylized, monochromatic illustration of a prehistoric landscape. In the foreground, the silhouettes of a man on the left and a woman on the right stand on a dark ground. In the middle ground, a large dinosaur is depicted in silhouette, facing right. The background consists of rolling hills and a sky with a large, glowing sun or moon partially obscured by a dark, jagged silhouette of a tree or rock formation. Several small, circular, flame-like or sun-like symbols are scattered across the sky. The overall color palette is dark, with shades of brown, tan, and black, accented by the white text.

**WHAT ARE THE
RESULTS OF THE
FALL?**

RESULTS OF THE FALL

Shame

Blame

Hostility

Pain

Futility

Separation

CONCLUSION

The fall of humanity into sin resulted in a broken relationship with God, with each other, and with the world.

STORYLINE OF GOD'S KINGDOM

- Act 1: Creation
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4

FIRST GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; ***he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.***

(Genesis 3:15 ESV)

IDENTITY OF SERPENT

Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, **that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan**, the deceiver of the whole world...

(Revelation 12:7–9 ESV)

DEFEAT OF SATAN

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that **through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil...**

(Hebrews 2:14 ESV)

GOD'S REDEMPTIVE PLAN

- Even in the midst of failure & judgment, God has a good ***plan to redeem & restore.***
- His redemptive plan will involve the “**seed,**” or “offspring” of the woman conquering the enemy.
- Genesis 4-11 traces the genealogy of Adam & Eve's children to ***keep this promise central in storyline.***

TRACING THE “SEED OF THE WOMAN”

Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, “**I have gotten a manchild with *the help of the LORD.***”

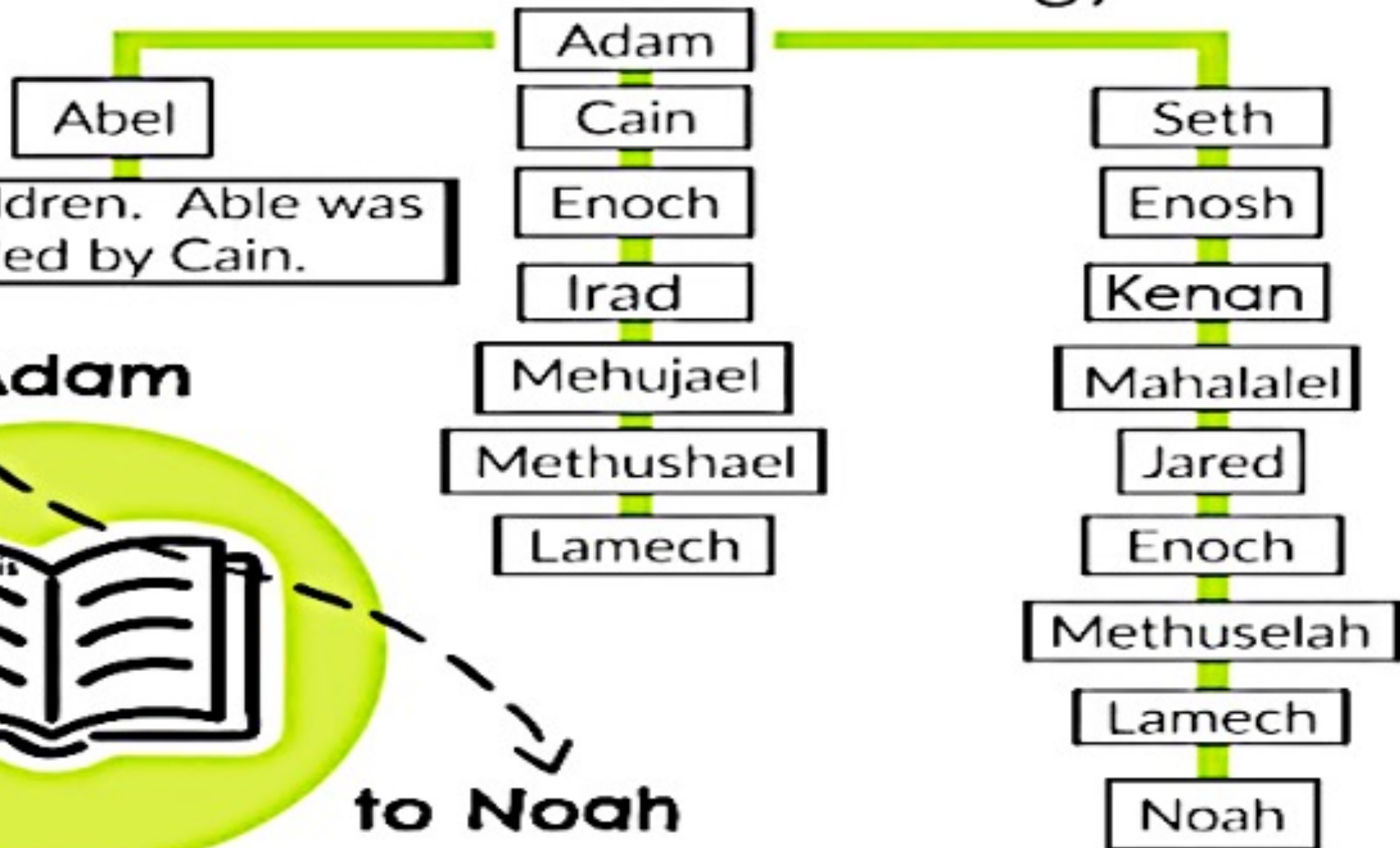
(Genesis 4:1 NASB)

TRACING THE “SEED OF THE WOMAN”

Adam had relations with his wife again; and she gave birth to a son, and named him Seth, for, *she said*, **“God has appointed me another offspring in place of Abel, for Cain killed him.”** To Seth, to him also a son was born; and he called his name Enosh. **Then men began to call upon the name of the LORD.**

(Genesis 4:25-26 NASB)

From Adam to Noah Genealogy Chart



From Adam



to Noah

COMPARING THESE 2 LINES

- Including Adam, Cain's line contains a list of 7 names that ends with 3 children
- Including Adam, Seth's line contains a list of 10 names that ends with 3 children
- The 7th in each line is highlighted by expanded descriptions

COMPARING THESE 2 LINES

- Both families include the names Enoch and Lamech but represent 2 very different men.
- Cain's Enoch had a city named after him (4:17), while Seth's Enoch walked with God (5:22).
- Cain's Lamech proclaimed revenge (4:24), while Seth's Lamech proclaimed rest (5:29).

OTHER OBSERVATIONS: GENESIS 4-5

- There are **positive & negative** examples in both lines. Cain's relatives domesticated animals (4:20), played music (4:21), & made tools (4:22).
- The **image of God** in humanity is still present but is now distorted by sin.
- The long **lifespans** are recorded but not explained. *Are they literal or symbolic?*

GOD'S PLAN CONTINUES

When Lamech had lived 182 years, he fathered a son and called his name Noah, saying, “Out of the ground that the LORD has cursed, **this one shall bring us relief from our work and from the painful toil of our hands.**”

(Genesis 5:28–29 ESV)

GOD'S PLAN CONTINUES

For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. **But I will establish my covenant with you**, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. (Gen. 6:17–18 ESV)

GOD'S PLAN CONTINUES

“And you, be fruitful and multiply, increase greatly on the earth and multiply in it...Behold, I establish my **covenant** with you and your offspring after you... I establish my **covenant** with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

(Genesis 9:7–11 ESV)

GOD'S PLAN CONTINUES

- God affirms his plan to restore his fallen creation by making a **covenant** with Noah.
- This **covenant** is reaffirmed & expanded upon after the Flood.
- The **covenant** with Noah connects with God's original command: "Be fruitful and multiply"

OLD TESTAMENT COVENANTS

	NOAHIC	ABRAHAMIC	MOSAIC	DAVIDIC
MEDIATOR	Noah	Abraham	Moses	David
PROMISE	Will not destroy earth with flood again	Nation, Land, & Blessing to the nations	Israel to be kingdom of priests to the nations	God Of Preparation
BENEFICIARY	Whole earth	Abraham's Descendants	Israel	David's Seed
SIGN	Rainbow	Circumcision	Sabbath	N/A

CONTEXT: NOAHIC COVENANT

- Sin & evil was extensive & pervasive (Gen. 6:5, 11-12).
- God was so grieved over this result that He decides to blot out (most) humans (Gen. 6:6-7).
- But Noah was unique among the humans, he was righteous, walked with God, & found favor in God's eyes (Gen. 6:8-9).

CONTEXT: NOAHIC COVENANT

“God’s response accords with his righteous and holy character... No one finally triumphs over the Lord, and at the end of the day, evil cannot and will not win, and thus God’s enemies are swept away in judgment... God sent a flood as a cataclysm to destroy his enemies and to vindicate his holiness.”

(Thomas Schreiner, *Covenant and God’s Purpose for the World*, p. 32)

NOAHIC COVENANT

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “Behold, I **establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, and with every living creature** that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. **I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood,** and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” (Genesis 9:8–11 ESV)

NOAHIC COVENANT

And God said, “**This is the sign of the covenant** that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have **set my bow in the cloud**, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth... I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

(Genesis 9:12–15 ESV)

NOAHIC COVENANT

“... God will fulfill the promise of Genesis 3:15 before history concludes. The covenant with Noah is a creation covenant in that it guarantees the continuance of the world until the great events of redemptive history are consummated.”

(Thomas Schreiner, *Covenant and God's Purpose for the World*, p. 35-36)

HOW DOES NOAH POINT TO JESUS?

- Like Noah, Jesus walked faithfully before God.
- Like Noah, Jesus proclaimed the truth about God in the midst of opposition.
- Like Noah, Jesus is God's mediator to extend salvation to others.
- Like Noah, Jesus brought rest by ushering a "new creation" after judgment.



**WHAT WAS THE
PROBLEM AT
BABEL?**

WHAT WAS THE PROBLEM AT BABEL?

Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.”

(Genesis 11:4 ESV)

THE PROBLEM AT BABEL

- The appeal to build a high tower “to the heavens,” is an attempt to establish their own **security** & escape God’s judgment (flood).
- The desire to make a name for themselves is an attempt to carve out identity & **significance** apart from God.
- The appeal to stay together is a rejection of God’s command: “to multiply & fill the earth.”



OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Part 1: The Pentateuch