



MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

## GENESIS: INHERITANCE

© ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN CHURCH

[www.emcaz.org](http://www.emcaz.org)

### GENESIS 1-11 AS PROLOGUE

In Genesis 1, God makes mankind as His imagers to join Him in His work of creation.

**<sup>27</sup>So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup>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 1:27–28 (ESV)**

In Genesis 2, God makes His temple Eden, and places Adam and Eve as His Prophet/Priest/Kings to oversee the expansion of God’s order across the earth.

In Genesis 3, Adam and Eve reject God’s rule and their place in His Kingdom – join in a cosmic rebellion with the heavenly rebels – and are removed from Eden. The land is cursed.

In Genesis 4, Cain murders Abel and the land cries out with his blood.

In Genesis 6–8, the earth is filled not with faithful images of God but the wickedness of human and heavenly rebels in whom the image of God is distorted. As a result, God brings a flood, and this flood provides the context for the giving of Adam’s commission to Noah.

Just as God originally created the heavens and earth through waters (Gen 1:1-2) and blessed and commissioned Adam to be “fruitful and multiply and fill the earth” (Gen 1:28), so God re-creates the world through the waters of the flood and blesses and commissions Noah to “be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth” (Gen 9:1, 7).

In Genesis 9, the commission to Adam is passed down to Noah in the context of a new creation. However, just as Adam and Eve sinned in a Garden, so Noah sins in a vineyard (Gen 9:20-21).

In Genesis 10-11, instead of Noah as a second Adam expanding the sanctuary of God’s presence by filling the earth with images of God, the earth is filled with a people so rebellious that they are dispersed “over the face of all the earth” (Gen 11:9) and disinherited – turned over to the divine council.

The unabated spread of sin after the flood raises a question: How will the commission of Adam ever be fulfilled in light of the prevalence and power of sin?

**<sup>8</sup>When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.**

**Deuteronomy 32:8–9 (ESV)**

In Genesis 12, the focus shifts from “all the earth” to one man—Abraham. God passes down the commission of Adam to the patriarchs, and he himself promises and guarantees its fulfillment.<sup>1</sup>

**<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”**

**<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan,**

**<sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.**

**<sup>8</sup>From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.**

**<sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.**

**Genesis 12:1–9 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup>Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. <sup>2</sup>Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup>She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." <sup>4</sup>So Naaman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel." <sup>5</sup>And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing.

<sup>6</sup>And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy." <sup>7</sup>And when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me." <sup>8</sup>But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel."

<sup>9</sup>So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup>And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." <sup>11</sup>But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, "Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. <sup>12</sup>Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage.

<sup>13</sup>But his servants came near and said to him, "My father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, 'Wash, and be clean?'" <sup>14</sup>So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

<sup>15</sup>Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, "Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant." <sup>16</sup>But he said, "As the LORD lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none." And he urged him to take it, but he refused. <sup>17</sup>Then Naaman said, "If not, please let there be given to your servant two mule loads of earth, for from now on your servant will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god but the LORD.

<sup>18</sup>In this matter may the LORD pardon your servant: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD pardon your servant in this matter." <sup>19</sup>He said to him, "Go in peace."

**<sup>8</sup>Arise, O God, judge the earth; for you shall inherit all the nations!**

**Psalm 82:8 (ESV)**

**<sup>18</sup>“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory,**

**<sup>19</sup>and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations.**

**Isaiah 66:18–19 (ESV)**

**<sup>1</sup>Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? <sup>2</sup>The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying, <sup>3</sup>“Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”**

**<sup>4</sup>He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. <sup>5</sup>Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, <sup>6</sup>“As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”**

**<sup>7</sup>I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you. <sup>8</sup>Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. <sup>9</sup>You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”**

**<sup>10</sup>Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. <sup>11</sup>Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. <sup>12</sup>Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**

**Psalm 2:1–12 (ESV)**

**<sup>15</sup>Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”**

**<sup>16</sup>And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God,**

**<sup>17</sup>saying, “We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign.**

**<sup>18</sup>The nations raged, but your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying the destroyers of the earth.”**

**Revelation 11:15–18 (ESV)**

---

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from: Beale, G. K.. God Dwells Among Us: Expanding Eden to the Ends of the Earth (p. 40). InterVarsity Press. Kindle Edition.