

Genesis



Author: Moses



Date: Between 1446 - 1406 B.C.



Audience: God's chosen people, the Israelites



Written in: Hebrew as Beres'it

Introduction & Purpose of Genesis

Genesis, meaning "beginning," details the creation of the world and humanity, the origins of sin, and God's redemption plan. It establishes the Bible's historical and theological foundation, emphasizing humanity's rebellion and need for salvation. Chapters 1-11 showcase humanity's inability to redeem themselves, while chapters 12-50 illustrate God's efforts to form a redeemed people, portraying Him as Creator, Judge, and Redeemer.

About the Author

Moses was well-suited to author the Pentateuch due to his elite education in Egypt, time to write during Israel's desert journey, and commitment to God's mission. He is recognized as the chief prophet, leader of the Israelites' exodus from Egypt, a miracle-worker, and the "lawgiver" of the Ten Commandments. His life spans three 40-year periods: living in Pharaoh's household (0-40), living as a fugitive in Midian (40-80), and leading the Israelites to the Promised Land (80-120). Moses died at 120 years old.

Structure & Themes of Genesis

Genesis can be divided into two sections:

1. *Primeval History (Gen. 1:1 – 11:26):*

Details creation to the Tower of Babel.

2. *Patriarchal Narratives (Gen. 11:27-50:26):*

Centers on Abraham and his family, showcasing humanity's unity in sin and God's desire for redemption.

Key theological themes include:

- **God the Creator King:** Establishes order and purpose while ruling creation.
- **Humanity's Identity and Brokenness:** Created in God's image, yet sin leads to separation.
- **God's Covenant Promise of Redemption:** God's response to sin foreshadows Jesus' sacrifice, promising blessing and rescue through Abraham's covenant.

Genesis helps us KNOW, LIVE, & LOVE like Jesus

Genesis helps us truly know God as Creator, Covenant-Maker, and Redeemer, a God who brings order out of chaos and remains faithful even when we are not. From the opening chapters to God's promise to Abraham (Gen. 12, 15, 17), Genesis reveals a God who is actively working to restore what sin has broken. As we see His character and purposes unfold, we are invited into a deeper trust and relationship that helps us truly **KNOW Jesus**.

Genesis calls us to live by faith rather than control, learning to trust God's promises even when obedience feels uncertain or costly. Abraham's journey reminds us that following God often requires stepping forward without having all the answers. This kind of surrendered faith shapes our daily decisions, perseverance, and obedience as we learn to **LIVE like Jesus**.

Genesis shows that God's heart has always been for people and that His blessing was never meant to stop with one person or group. As those created in God's image, we are called to reflect His grace by building relationships, sharing burdens, and sharing Jesus to a broken world. When God's blessing flows through our lives to others, we begin to **LOVE like Jesus**.

Notable Verses in Genesis

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. - Genesis 1:1

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. - Genesis 1:27

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel. - Genesis 3:15

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. - Genesis 50:20

Resources to Dive Deep into Genesis

- *Genesis Series* - The Bible Project
- *Genesis: A Commentary* - Bruce Waltke
- *The Lost World of Genesis One: Ancient Cosmology and the Origins Debate* – John H. Walton
- *Genesis* – John H. Walton (NIVAC, NIV Application Commentary)

Question to Ponder from Genesis

Where in your life are you still trying to take control instead of trusting God's promises and living in faithful obedience to Him?