



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

In The Beginning – A Survey of Genesis

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Dave DePue / PO Box 1775, Topeka, KS 66603 / dave.depue@capitolcom.org

Leadership requires understanding of perspectives that are greater than life and a confidence that your decisions will stand the test of time. Our 2015 study series will touch on enduring truths found in the Holy Scriptures. I trust that this survey of key books of the Bible will strengthen your foundation for thought and action.

INTRODUCTION

The title “Genesis” is translated from the Greek term “origins” and the Hebrew “beginnings”. Dozens of verses ascribe this writing to Moses. While Moses set this in record between 1445 and 1405 BC, he revealed events in primeval history.¹ Have you considered recording the events of your walk and the record of your generations?

GOD SPEAKS

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

God spoke life into the dark, void, and formless universe. This is affirmed by the Second Law of Thermodynamics, the Law of Entropy: Things go from order, to disorder, to chaos (never the reverse). What have you observed that illustrates entropy? Have you watched as a government leader “spoke” and programs or structures were created?

GOD GIVES HUMANS SPECIAL HANDLING

Genesis 1:26a Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;

The LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being (Genesis 2:7). Can you identify a couple of reasons why God created mankind? How effective have you been at fulfilling these?

SIN IMPACTS FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

Genesis 3:3 “but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’”

What character trait is necessary to live in liberty? Do you see God’s problem with you knowing much evil? What was Adam’s sentence for sin? What is our sentence? What other tree did Adam lose access to (Genesis 3:24)?

GOD WAS GRIEVED WITH HIS CREATION
Genesis 6:5 Then the LORD saw that man’s wickedness was widespread on the earth and that every scheme his mind thought of was nothing but evil all the time.

One of Adam’s sons (Cain) murdered his brother (Abel) and the progression of sin continued for nearly a thousand years. The earth was corrupt and filled with violence. God determined to blot out all his creation. Have you scrapped a project or program that was not serving its purpose? Are there parallels today?

NOAH WALKED WITH GOD

Genesis 7:1 Then the Lord said to Noah, “Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this time.”

Noah lived right in the eyes of God and led his family to follow. They were granted new life after the flood and re-populated the earth. Do you see the similarity between the ark and the promise of Jesus (John 3:16)? Do you feel that you have God’s favor?

GOD CHOOSES A MAN, BLESSES A PEOPLE

Genesis 12:1-3 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. 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. I will bless those who bless you, and who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

God set Abraham apart, covenanted to bless him, shaped generations of descendents, and established a people. The focus was on a chosen nation, Israel, a light to the world. Through them, God would progressively accomplish His redemptive plan.

A PRAYER

Father God: Please help me to see Your hand in events past, present, and future. Show me Your call on my life in this drama. I offer this prayer in the Name of Your Son, Jesus

¹ John MacArthur, The MacArthur Study Bible. (Thomas Nelson).2005.p13