

# Genesis

**Authorship:** Moses

**Date:** c. 1446 BC – 1406 BC

The historical period during which Moses lived seems to be fixed with a fair degree of accuracy by 1 Kings. We are told that “the fourth year of Solomon’s reign over Israel” was the same as “the four hundred and eightieth year after the Israelites had come out of Egypt” (1 Kings 6:1). Since the former was c. 966 BC, the latter—and thus the date of the exodus—was c. 1446 (assuming that the 480 in 1 Kings 6:1 is to be taken literally). The 40-year period of Israel’s wanderings in the desert, which lasted from c. 1446 to c. 1406, would have been the most likely time for Moses to write the bulk of what is today known as the Pentateuch.

**Background:** Genesis is the Greek word for “beginning.” The book of Genesis traces earth’s history from Creation to the death of Joseph in about 1805 BC. Genesis has two main parts, both of which are foundational to everything else in the Bible. Its record of Creation and the early history of humanity (1-11) establishes the existence, power, and goodness of God. Its record of God’s special dealings with the nation of Israel (12-50) shows his intention to establish and develop a relationship with humanity beginning with God’s call to Abram in chapter 12 and ending with Jacob’s family safely dwelling in Egypt.

**Message:** Beginning of creation and the nation of Israel. Genesis records the beginning of all creation and of God’s chosen nation. God works to bring blessing to the world despite humanity’s constant sinful failures. Chapters 1-11 show that human beings cannot remedy themselves without divine intervention; chapter 12 records the beginning of God’s intervention in the call of Abraham. Through Abraham, the chosen nation will come and the Redeemer will appear.

**Purpose:** To reveal the origin and purpose of the universe, life, and humanity; to show the personal, relational, covenant-making nature of God; to record the early history of the Hebrews; to begin revealing Jesus the Messiah.

## Outline:

### I. Primeval History (1-11)

#### A. Creation of universe and humankind (1-2)

1. Days of Creation →
2. Adam and Eve in Eden
3. Creation/Dominion Mandate

#### B. Fall (3)

1. Adam’s Disobedience (3:1-6)
2. Adam’s Deceit (3:7-8)
3. Adam’s Despair (3:9-11)
4. Adam’s Defense (3:12-19)
5. Adam’s Discipline (3:14-19)
6. Adam’s Deliverance (3:15, 20-21)
7. Adam’s Dismissal (3:22-24)

#### C. Cain, Abel, and Seth (4)

1. Abel, the godly son (4:1-2, 4)
2. Cain, the godless son (4:3-26)
3. Seth, the granted son (4:25-26)

#### D. Adam and Eve’s Family Tree (4-5)

1. Cain went out from the presence of the Lord (4:16)
2. Cainites were the first to form a civilization (4:16-18)
3. Seth was born and men began to call on the name of the LORD (4:25-26)
4. Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him (5:24)
5. Methuselah lived to be 969 years old “oldest person” (5:27)
6. Lamech had a son, Noah and Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japeth (5:28-32)

#### E. Noah and the Flood (6-9)

1. The Preparation for the Flood
  - a. God’s Grief (6:1-7)
  - b. God’s Grace (6:8)
  - c. God’s Guidance (6:11-22)
2. The Protection During the Flood (7:1-24)

### Days of Creation

Formation:  
Replacing formlessness

Filling:  
Replacing the void

Day 1: Light  
Day 2: Water, sky  
Day 3: Land, vegetation

Day 4: Sun, moon, stars  
Day 5: Fish, birds  
Day 6: Animals, people

Day 7: God rested

### Creation Mandate

“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).

### Thesis of the Bible

“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).

3. The Particulars Following the Flood (8:1-10:32)
  - a. Noah's security (8:1-5)
  - b. Noah's Search (8:6-12)
  - c. Noah's Surveillance (8:13-14)
  - d. Noah's Summons (8:15-19)
  - e. Noah's Sacrifice (8:20-22)
  - f. Noah's Sign (from God) (9:1-17)
  - g. Noah's Shame (9:18-29)
  - h. Noah's Son, Ham and the curse of Canaan (9:24-25)

### Three Features of the Noachic Covenant

Genesis 9:8-17

- It is an unconditional covenant;
- It is to Noah and his descendants and "every living creature";
- The rainbow is its sign.

#### F. Table of Nations (10)

#### G. Tower of Babel (11)

1. The Sin (11:1-4)
2. The Sentence (11:5-9)
3. The Settlement of Shem, the ancestor of Abraham (11:10-32)

## II. History of the Patriarchs (Chapters 12-50)

### A. Abraham (11-20)

1. The Calling of Abram (12:1-5)
2. The Canaan of Abram (12:6-9)
3. The Carnality of Abram (1<sup>st</sup> occasion) (12:10-20)
4. The Condescension of Abram (13:1-18)
5. The Courage of Abram (14:1-16)
6. The Communion of Abram (14:17-24)
7. The Covenant with Abram (15:1-21)
8. The Compromise by Abram (16:1-16)
9. The Circumcision of Abraham (17:1-27)
10. The Compassion of Abraham (18:1-19:38)
11. The Carnality of Abraham (2<sup>nd</sup> occasion) (20:1-18)
12. The Celebration of Abraham (21:1-21; 25:12-18)
13. The Contract by Abraham (21:22-34)
14. The Command to Abraham (22:1-24)
15. The Cave of Abraham (23:1-20)
16. The Commission of Abraham (24:1-67)
17. The Closing Years of Abraham (25:1-11)

### B. Isaac (25:19-28:9; 36:1-43)

1. Isaac and Rebekah (25:19-26:16)
2. Isaac and the People of Gerar (26:17-22)
3. Isaac and God (26:23-25)
4. Isaac and Three Philistine Leaders (26:26-33)
5. Isaac and His Sons (26:34-28:9; 36:1-43)

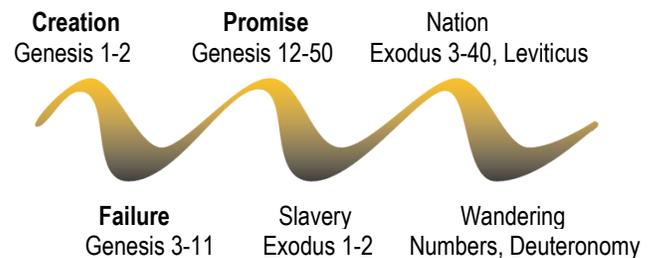
### C. Jacob (28:10-35, 37-38)

1. The Traveler (28:10-22)
2. The Lover (29:1-30)
3. The Family Man (29:28-30:24; 35:16-18, 23-26)
4. The Employee (30:25-31:55)
5. The Wrestler (32:1-33:16)
6. The Obedient Patriarch (33:17-20; 35:1-7, 9-15)
7. The Broken-Hearted (34:1-31; 35:8, 16-29; 37:1-36; 38:1-30)

### D. Joseph (37, 39-50)

1. Joseph, the Favored Son (37:1-35)
2. Joseph, the Faithful Steward (37:36; 39:1-20)
3. Joseph, the Forgotten Slave (39:21-40:23)
4. Joseph, the Famed Statesman (41:1-57)
5. Joseph, the Forgiving Saint (42:1-48:22)
6. Joseph, the Fruitful Tree (49:1-50:26)

### Peaks and Valleys of the Pentateuch



### Three Components of the Abrahamic Covenant

(Genesis 12:1-3; 13:15-17; 15:18; 17:6-8; 26:3-4; 28:13-14)



1. The Promised Land
2. The Promised Seed (descendants)
3. The Promised Blessing

### The Wives and Children of Israel

<u>Leah</u>	<u>Zilpah</u> (Leah's handmaid)	<u>Rachel</u>	<u>Bilhah</u> (Rachel's handmaid)
1. Reuben	7. Gad	11. Joseph	5. Dan
2. Simeon	8. Asher		12. Benjamin
3. Levi		Manasseh	6. Naphtali
4. Judah			Ephraim
9. Issachar			
10. Zebulun			
<i>Dinah (female)</i>			

#### Sources:

<https://www.biblica.com/resources/scholar-notes/niv-study-bible/intro-to-genesis/> (visited on: 09-08-2020)

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