

A People of the Book
8-Year Curriculum
Year 1, Quarter 2

**A Study of
Selected Texts from
The First Book
of Moses,
Genesis**

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Introduction

The book of Genesis is a book of beginnings. We read of the beginning of the world, the beginning of man, the beginning of sin, and so forth. The book is filled with some of the most famous personalities of history: Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Both children and adults often cite the events recorded in Genesis as some of their "favorite Bible stories."

Much of what you will study in these thirteen lessons will be a review; hopefully, though, you will be forced to think more deeply about some of these familiar events and seek application in your life as a child of God.

Scripture quotations come from the New King James Version.

Recommended Study Aids

Harrell Davidson, *Davidson's Notes on the Pentateuch*

James Burton Coffman, *Genesis*

Joe Slater, *In The Beginning – A study of the book of Genesis*

Guy N. Woods, *Biblical Backgrounds of the Troubled Middle East*

The schedule for this class is listed below. Students are encouraged to read the texts prior to class and study the worksheets provided.

Schedule

- 1) April 8 – "In The Beginning..." (Genesis 1-2)
- 2) April 15 – The Fall of Man & The Seed Promise (Genesis 3)
- 3) April 22 – Cain and Abel (Genesis 4)
- 4) April 29 – Noah and the Flood (Genesis 6-9)
- 5) May 6 – Babel Through Terah (Genesis 11)
- 6) May 13 – The Call of Abram (Genesis 12:1-5; 15:1-21; 17:1-19)
- 7) May 20 – Hagar and Ishmael (Genesis 16; 17:20-22)
- 8) May 27 – Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 18:16-33; 19:1-38)
- 9) June 3 – The Birth of Isaac & The Casting Out of Ishmael (Genesis 21:1-21)
- 10) June 10 – Abraham's Great Faith (Genesis 22)
- 11) June 17 – Jacob Receives Esau's Birthright and Blessing (Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-46; 28:1-5)
- 12) June 24 – Joseph's Early Life (Genesis 37; 39:1-41:36)
- 13) July 1 – Joseph's Later Life (Genesis 41:37-50:26)

"In The Beginning..."***Read: Genesis 1 & 2*****Review of the Reading**

- 1) What did God do on each day of the creation week?
 - a) First day:
 - b) Second day:
 - c) Third day:
 - d) Fourth day:
 - e) Fifth day:
 - f) Sixth day:
 - g) Seventh day:
- 2) "Then God saw _____ that He had made, and indeed it was very _____."
- 3) What are the names of the four rivers in Genesis 2?
- 4) What could be found in the land of Havilah?
- 5) Man was forbidden to eat the fruit of which tree?

Thought Questions

- 1) God said that the fruit tree "yields fruit according to its kind," and He "made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind." How can these facts be used to disprove the theory of evolution?

- 2) There are two theories created by man in an attempt to make the Bible respectable to an unbelieving world. The first is called the "gap theory," stating that a number of millennia are found in Genesis 1:2 creating a gap between the creation of the earth (Genesis 1:1) and the rest of God's work (Genesis 1:3 and following). Some subscribe to this theory because they think the Israelites were uneducated and could not understand the truth. How would you respond to this theory?

- 3) Another theory is called the "day-age theory," claiming that each "day" of the first chapter represents a long period of time. How can this theory be refuted? Is II Peter 3:8 applied properly when it is applied to this theory?

- 4) What role did Jesus play in creation? Refer to John 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:16.

- 5) Were Adam and Eve commanded to keep the Sabbath? Consider Deuteronomy 5:2-3 and Nehemiah 9:13-14 as you answer.

Your Questions...

What questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to answer each based on class discussions.

The Fall of Man & The Seed Promise

Read: Genesis 3

Review of the Reading

- 1) What type of fruit was on the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

- 2) What did Adam and Eve use to cover their nakedness?

- 3) Who did the man blame for his sin? Who did the woman blame for her sin?

- 4) What did God use to clothe Adam and Eve?

- 5) What was placed at the east of the garden to protect the tree of life?

Thought Questions

- 1) What one word did the serpent use to change the Word of God? Can you think of other examples in which this is done today in the religious world?

- 2) Read I John 2:16 and compare to Eve's perception of the fruit in Genesis 3:6. Match what Eve saw with what John wrote.
 - a) Lust of the flesh _____

 - b) Lust of the eyes _____

 - c) Pride of life _____

- 3) The seed promise of Genesis 3:15 is often viewed as the first Messianic prophecy recorded in the Scriptures. In what way did Christ bruise Satan's head? In what way did Satan bruise Christ's heel?

Cain & Abel

Read: Genesis 4

Review of the Reading

- 1) What was Abel's occupation? What was Cain's occupation?

- 2) What was Cain's offering? What was Abel's offering?

- 3) What was Cain's attitude toward the Lord's rejection of his offering?

- 4) When God asked Cain where Abel was, what was his response?

- 5) What was the name of Cain's son?

Thought Questions

- 1) Using your Bible's footnotes or center-column references, or a Bible dictionary, what is the meaning of each of the following names?
 - a) Cain _____
 - b) Abel _____
 - c) Enoch _____
 - d) Seth _____

- 2) Why was Abel's offering to God acceptable, but Cain's sacrifice was not? Consider Leviticus 17:11 as you answer.

- 3) What role did faith play in Abel's offering? Refer to Hebrews 11:4.

- 4) What is the proper answer to Cain's question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Think about the commands issued to us today through the New Testament in relation to this question.

- 5) The Hebrew writer said Abel "being dead still speaks" (Hebrews 11:4). Explain what is meant.

Your Questions...

What questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to answer each based on class discussions.

Noah and the Flood***Read: Genesis 6-9*****Review of the Reading**

- 1) Who were Noah's sons?
- 2) How many windows did God command Noah to include in the ark?
- 3) How old was Noah when the flood started?
- 4) "While the earth remains, _____ and harvest, _____ and heat, _____ and summer, and _____ and night shall not cease."
- 5) What was the reason given for the death penalty?

Thought Questions

- 1) Who were "the sons of God" in Genesis 6:2?
- 2) Many in the religious world teach that the necessity of obedience contradicts the grace of God. How would you answer such, using Noah as at least one example?

Babel Through Terah***Read: Genesis 11*****Review of the Reading**

- 1) Where did the people find a plain in which to dwell?
- 2) What did God do to the language of the people?
- 3) What were the names of the three sons of Terah?
- 4) What was the name of Nahor's wife?
- 5) "And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from _____ of the _____ to go to the land of _____; and they came to Haran and dwelt there."

Thought Questions

- 1) What would have been some of the benefits of speaking the same language?
- 2) Why did God not want the people to build the tower in Babel? Consider Genesis 8:15-17 as you answer.

Hagar and Ishmael***Read: Genesis 16 & 17:20-22*****Review of the Reading**

- 1) How many years had Abram been in Canaan when Sarai gave Hagar to him?
- 2) Where did the angel of the Lord find Hagar after she fled from Sarai?
- 3) "He shall be a _____ man; his hand shall be _____ every man, and every man's hand _____ him. And he shall dwell in the presence of all his _____."
- 4) What was the well between Kadesh and Bered called?
- 5) How old was Abram when Ishmael was born?

Thought Questions

- 1) Considering the culture in which they lived, was it reasonable and rational for Abram to try and conceive a child by Hagar?
- 2) What was Sarai's reaction when she saw that Hagar had conceived a child with Abram?

Sodom and Gomorrah***Read: Genesis 18:16-33 & 19:1-38*****Review of the Reading**

- 1) Abraham asked God to spare Sodom and Gomorrah if fifty righteous were found there, but kept lowering that number. What number did he get down to?
- 2) What did the angels do to the men that surrounded Lot's house?
- 3) How did Lot's sons-in-law react to the news that the city was about to be destroyed?
- 4) What was the name of the city to which Lot escaped?
- 5) What were the names of the children born to Lot's daughters?

Thought Questions

- 1) How does the account of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah demonstrate the Lord's mercy and longsuffering?
- 2) What did Lot offer to the men of the city if they left his visitors alone? Was this an appropriate suggestion?

Abraham's Great Faith***Read: Genesis 22*****Review of the Reading**

- 1) Where did God tell Abraham to take Isaac?
- 2) What three things did Abraham and Isaac take with them?
- 3) "And Abraham said, 'My son, God will _____ for Himself the _____ for a burnt offering.' So the two of them went together."
- 4) Where did Abraham find an animal to sacrifice, and what kind of animal was it?
- 5) "In your _____ all the nations of the earth shall be _____, because you have _____ my voice."

Thought Questions

- 1) The King James Version says "God did tempt Abraham" in Genesis 22:1. In what sense is the word "tempt" used in this context, considering what James wrote in James 1:17-19?
- 2) How did Abraham's vocabulary in verse 5 demonstrate his faith? Consider the words of Hebrews 11:17-19 as you answer.

Joseph's Early Life***Read: Genesis 37; 39:1-41:36*****Review of the Reading**

- 1) How old was Joseph at the beginning of Genesis 37?
- 2) Which of Joseph's brothers wanted to save him from death? Which suggested selling him to the Ishmaelites?
- 3) Joseph was made overseer of whose house?
- 4) What two men had dreams in prison? Which one had a good dream, and which one had a bad dream?
- 5) How many years of plenty and how many years of famine were to come upon Egypt?

Thought Questions

- 1) How serious is jealousy, according to the Bible? Read Galatians 5:19-21. How seriously do we actually take it?
- 2) Jacob believed Joseph was dead, and felt an enormous amount of grief. However, Joseph was alive. Jacob's feelings were based upon a lie that he was misled to believe. Relate this to the feelings of deeply religious people who are sincere in their belief, but that belief is based upon error. Does their sincerity make them correct?

A People of the Book

8-Year Curriculum

	January - March	April - June	July - September	October - December
2007	<i>Matthew</i>	<i>Genesis</i>	<i>Galatians & Ephesians</i>	<i>Isaiah</i>
2008	<i>Exodus</i>	<i>I & II Timothy, Titus</i>	<i>Hebrews</i>	<i>Minor Prophets I (Hosea-Obadiah)</i>
2009	<i>Mark</i>	<i>Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy</i>	<i>Romans</i>	<i>Jeremiah and Lamentations</i>
2010	I and II Thessalonians	Joshua, Judges, Ruth	James, I & II Peter	Minor Prophets II (Jonah-Habakkuk)
2011	Luke	Samuel, Kings, Chronicles	I, II, III John & Jude	Daniel
2012	Acts	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther	I Corinthians	Minor Prophets III (Zephaniah-Malachi)
2013	John	Job	II Corinthians	Psalms
2014	Philippians, Colossians & Philemon	Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon	Revelation	Ezekiel

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