

The Book of Genesis

Author:

Moses, who also wrote the entire Pentateuch

- ◆ “*Pentateuch*” = Genesis – Deuteronomy; it means “*five rolls*”; it was called by Jews the Torah (“*law*”); also called the Law of Moses or the Books of Moses

- ◆ Moses’ authorship is confirmed by Christ Himself. (Mk. 12:26; Lk. 24:44; Jn. 5:45-47; Jn. 7:19)

- ◆ God used Moses to pen about 20% of the entire Bible.

Date:

This book was written between 1445-1400 B.C. It was likely written after the exodus from Egypt and during the wilderness wanderings, most likely on Sinai.

- ◆ How did Moses write about events that took place before his time?

 - *Holy Spirit inspiration guarantees the accuracy of the Scriptures.

Side Note: (The world has many theories about how Moses gathered stories that had been passed down to him from culture, but most of these are critical of the Bible record, assuming that they cannot be true. One lie that is widely propagated is that it wasn’t written by Moses at all, but stories gathered by a priest in the Babylonian exile. This is because there have been many Flood stories discovered in other cultures from this time period. We of course believe that other cultures have Flood stories because it actually happened. While Moses undoubtedly knew some of earth’s history through stories passed down through the generations from Adam to Noah and from the dispersion at Babel, he did not rely on these to record the Biblical account. The writings were the result of direct revelation from God.)

Theme:

“*BEGINNINGS*”

- ◆ Genesis is the beginning of the written revelation of God.

It is the foundation upon which the whole of divine revelation stands.

- ◆ Some things that begin in Genesis . . .

Old Testament Survey Notes

1. The Human Race (2:4-25)
 2. Marriage & Family (2:22-25; 4:1-2)
 3. Nations & Government (10:1-32)
 4. Human Sin (3:6-7)
 5. Divine Salvation (3:8-24)
- (*The only things that did not begin in Genesis was God!)

Side Note: The “Law of First Mention” in Bible study.

Outline:

(See Baxter, p. 29)

I. Primeval History (ch. 1-11)

*Based on four outstanding events:

- 1) Creation
- 2) The Fall
- 3) The Flood
- 4) Babel

II. Patriarchal History (ch. 12-50)

*Based on four outstanding characters:

- 1) Abraham
- 2) Isaac
- 3) Jacob
- 4) Joseph

Key Words

“beginning”

“these are the generations of...”

Key Verse

Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

*See Baxter p. 34 – This one verse contains the denial of every major false philosophy.

- 1) It denies Atheism
- 2) It denies Polytheism
- 3) It denies Fatalism
- 4) It denies Evolution

Old Testament Survey Notes

- 5) It denies Pantheism
- 6) It denies Materialism

Special Features

1. The Creation – (ch. 1-2) God's Word does not present *theory*; it gives true *testimony*; it is a record of the *truth*, not an opinion of a man.
2. The Protoevangelium – (Genesis 3:15) This is the first promise of the Savior.
3. The Flood – (ch. 6-9) God reveals Himself as a God of judgment and yet a God of grace. "*Noah found grace...*"
4. The Hebrew Race – (11:10-50:26) Through Abraham, God created a people for Himself to whom & through whom He would make Himself known to the entire world.

Christ in the Book

1. Adam – Christ is the Second Adam (Rom. 5:12, 19)
2. Noah's Ark – Christ is our ark of safety from the wrath of God on our sins (I Peter 3:20-21)
3. Melchisedek – Christ is our High Priest forever (Gen. 14:18-20; Heb. 6:20-7:3)
4. Isaac – He was the son of promise offered on Mt. Moriah (Gen. 22)
5. Joseph --- He is the greatest individual type of Christ in the O.T. (Gen. 37-50)