

STOP 1: GENESIS

NAME: "Bereshith" or "In The Beginning" or "Book of Beginnings"

PURPOSE: To record God's creation of the world and His desire to have a people set apart to worship Him

AUTHOR: Moses

ORIGINAL AUDIENCE: The people of Israel

DATE WRITTEN: 1450-1410 B.C.

WHERE WRITTEN: In the wilderness during Israel's wanderings, somewhere in the Sinai peninsula

SETTING: The region presently known as the Middle East

KEY VERSES:

"So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." (Genesis 1:27)



"And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." (Genesis 12:2-3)

KEY PEOPLE: Adam, Eve, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Joseph

OUTLINE:

- A. THE STORY OF CREATION (1:1—2:4)
- B. THE STORY OF ADAM (2:4—5:32)
- C. THE STORY OF NOAH (6:1—11:32)
- D. THE STORY OF ABRAHAM (12:1—25:18)
- E. THE STORY OF ISAAC (25:19—28:9)
- F. THE STORY OF JACOB (28:10—36:43)
- G. THE STORY OF JOSEPH (37:1—50:26)

CHRIST IN GENESIS:

- (3:15) "Seed of the woman" (prophecy)
- (3:21) Innocent animal slain to cover Adam & Eve's sin (type)
- (Chapters 6-8) The ark a type of Christ
- (22:13) Ram caught in the thorns (type)
- (22:18) Seed of Abraham to bless all peoples of the earth (prophecy)
- (28:12) Jacob's ladder a type of Christ
- (Chapters 37-50) Joseph a type of Christ (Deliverer)
- (49:10) Shiloh (prophecy)

MEGATHEMES

THEME	EXPLANATION	IMPORTANCE
Beginnings	Genesis explains the beginning of many important realities: the universe, the earth, people, sin, and God's plan of salvation.	Genesis teaches us that the earth is well made and good. People are special to God and unique. God creates and sustains all life.
Disobedience	People are always facing great choices. Disobedience occurs when people choose not to follow God's plan of living.	Genesis explains why people are evil: They choose to do wrong. Even great Bible heroes failed God and disobeyed.
Sin	Sin ruins people's lives. It happens when we disobey God.	Living God's way makes life productive and fulfilling.
Promises	God makes promises to help and protect people. This kind of promise is called a "covenant."	God kept his promises then, and he keeps them now. He promises to love us, accept us, forgive us.
Obedience	The opposite of sin is obedience. Obeying God restores our relationship to him.	The only way to enjoy the benefits of God's promises is to obey him.
Prosperity	Prosperity is deeper than mere material wealth. True prosperity and fulfillment come as a result of obeying God.	When people obey God, they find peace with him, with others, and with themselves.
Israel	God started the nation of Israel in order to have a dedicated people who would (1) keep his ways alive in the world, (2) proclaim to the world what he is really like, and (3) prepare the world for the birth of Christ.	God is looking for people today to follow him. We are to proclaim God's truth and love to all nations, not just our own. We must be faithful to carry out the mission God has given us.