

Outlines - Book of Genesis

I. What we are going to do?

1. Starting tonight, we're gonna be journeying through the bible... from a birds eye view
2. Outlining books of the bible
 - (1) What there are about
 - (2) What are the big themes from the book
3. We will not study any one book exhaustively, but try to cover the whole book within the course of a couple of studies

II. Whats our goal?

1. To grow in a fuller knowledge of the big picture of scripture
2. To understand books that we might otherwise have a difficult time understanding
3. If you commit yourself to coming, you will finish this series with a running understanding of what every book in the bible is about
4. **Commit to this!!!**

III. What is the bible?

1. **The Bible is the most published, transmitted, translated, most owned and read book ever written Yet sadly it's not used as much as it should be...we're looking to change that**
2. **The bible is a single book - for 2 reasons**

(1) **Because of it's singular source - 2 Timothy 3:16–17**
(ESV)¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

i) The bible is not a book about God from Man, It's a book from God about Himself

(2) **Because of it's singular message - Salvation**

i) The Bible is made up of 66 books, written by 40 authors, over a period of 1,500 years, in primarily 3 languages.

ii) **Wrap your head around that!**

iii) Yet It's one cohesive book - all of those authors, all those different languages, over that period of time... and they all are saying the same thing **"We're sinners who need to be saved, We can't save ourselves so salvation was offered to us through Jesus Christ"**

iv) So thats the bible in a nutshell

3. The contents of the book - 66 books writing by 40 authors

(1) 2 section - O.T and N.T

(2) O.T covers the creation of the earth till about 400 years before Jesus came to earth...39 books in all

i) And it highlights the dealings of God's chosen people Israel who have been chosen to bring the savior into the world

(3) N.T picks up with the birth/life/ministry of Jesus

i) Acts - The birth of the church

ii) 21 letters written by apostles or close associates of the apostles instructing believers how to live out their faith in Christ

iii) Revelation tells us how everything wraps up

(1) In **Genesis** we see *paradise lost*. In **Revelation** we see *paradise restored*.

(2) In **Genesis** we see the *curse imposed*. In **Revelation** shows us *the curse removed*.

(3) In **Genesis** we see *fellowship with God broken*. In **Revelation** we see *God dwelling with man*.

(4) In **Genesis** we see a *perfect Garden defiled by sin*. In **Revelation** we see a *City in which there is nothing that defiles*.

(5) In **Genesis** we see *the triumph of evil and the serpent*. In **Revelation** we see *the ultimate triumph of the Lamb of God over sin, Satan and death*.

(6) The 64 books in between fill the gap and move the story forward.

(7) So Genesis answers the question "How did it all start" and Revelation answers the question, "Where's it all going?"

IV. Let's begin - The book of Genesis

A. It's widely presumed by most credible scholars that Moses wrote this book, by divine revelation and accounts passed down over time

B. The best way to look at Geneses is break it up into 2 parts

(PROP) Gen 1-11 highlights 4 big events Gen 12-50 Highlights One Family...The big theme that God wants to us is the is complete control

1st Devision Genesis 1-11 - 4 Big Events

1. CREATION - Gen 1-2

Genesis 1:1 (ESV) ¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1 is absolutely amazing because in one verse we have God refute all of man's false claims concerning the origin and meaning of the world.

It refutes *atheism*

It refutes *deism* — which says that God created and then removed Himself from all involvement in His creation

It refutes *pantheism* - which says god is everything— God is *separate* from and *transcendent* to that which he created

It refutes *polytheism* — because *one* God created all things.

It refutes *dualism* the belief that the universe contains opposed powers of good and evil, seen as balanced equals. (see Star Wars – the dark side and the good side) — because God was *alone* when He created.

It refutes *humanism* — because God, *not man* is the ultimate reality

The rest of the Bible proceeds from that truth. God keeps it so simple. And if You Embrace this first declaration and everything after it is not a problem.

Here's the point: If you've struggled with the miraculous, go back to Genesis 1:1. If you can believe that your God is powerful enough to create the heavens and the earth, the rest is a piece of cake.

In a single verse **we have the beginning** of the Universe.

Genesis 1:26–27 (ESV) ²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; **male and female he created them.**

So here we have the introduction to the first 2 human beings to ever walk the earth, Adam and Eve. their both individual characters but their also a representation of all of humanity

1. **We see who made us** - the triune God “let us make man in our image”
2. **We see why we were made** - To reflect God's image - His love - Creativity - His Goodness and reproduce this over and over again though ruling, populating and building the earth in the same manner that God would
3. **We see what did God think of His plan** - 7 times in these first 2 chapters he says “It's good”

But we also see a moral choice that God lays before them...

Genesis 2:16–17 (ESV) ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the

knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Up to this point, God has been the one defining what's right and what's wrong...but now we have this tree represents a choice...between living according to God's standards or trying to play the role of God for themselves and defining what's right and wrong for themselves

Why? Because without choice love is not love

They chose the poorly, and that leads us to the next event

2. THE FALL - Genesis Chapter 3

Why is there pain and brokenness in the world? because of what has happened here in Genesis 3...this is where we get introduced to the greatest issue in mankind...sin

Romans 5:12 (ESV) ¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned

I. Notice 3 traits of our sinful condition here in Gen 3...when satan enters the picture...

1. **A Distrust for God** - Satan says “Genesis 3:1 (ESV) “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”

(1) Sin comes out of a lack of trust toward God - His word and His heart

2. **A Desire to be your own God** - Genesis 3:5 (ESV) ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil.”

(1) Sin can be considered treason...an attempt to dethrone God of his right full place in the world and in your life

3. **A Desire to save yourself** - [Genesis 3:7 \(ESV\)](#) ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. **And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.**

(1) They thought, they could fix themselves, they didn't understand What sin was, or God's holiness

(2) This could be considered the first manmade religious system...Man trying to fix their brokenness apart from God's help

II. In the midst of the Rubble, we have the first promise about Jesus...all the way back in Geneses

[Genesis 3:15 \(ESV\)](#) ¹⁵ **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."**

This is the first promise of One who would come from the womb of a woman (a human) and he would heal what has been broken by sin

Now that promise would be fulfilled in the life of Jesus...But things would get much worse before they got better, and if you to read chapters 4 and 5 and do the math you would know that 1600 years passes in these 2 chapters...things get really darkened this brings us to the next event?

3. THE FLOOD - Chapter 6

The historic event communicates to us the reality of wrath, grace, and salvation!

I. The condition of the earth

Genesis 6:1 (ESV) ¹ Man began to multiply on the face of the land...

- A. **What kind of a population are we looking at here? In the "The Genesis Flood,"** they took the genealogical records of Genesis in Chapters 4 and 5, the average lifespan and number of kids recorded, and they calculated that at the end of 18 generations there could have been 774 million people on earth. So we're looking at close to a billion or a billion plus people on the earth.
- B. Now, there some wild things that happen in Geneses 6, but needless to say, the world was dark, violent and demonic!
- C. The state of affairs on the planet leading to the judgment of the flood was in a very real way God's judgment
 - a) 1. God let man have his way
 - b) 2. God let man experience the only possible outcome of de-godding God.
 - c) So...

II. The Judgment of God

Genesis 6:5–7 (ESV) ⁵ The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶ And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷ So the Lord said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them."

This the first glimpse we get into the "Wrath of God"

- 1. Here you may say, "I don't like the idea of the wrath of God. I want a God of love" but heres the problem, If you truly love someone or

something YOU WILL GET ANGRY when what YOU love is mistreated and defiled”

2. **Think about this for yourself:** If someone we love is being hurt or hurting themselves... You would be livid - If you didn't get angry, you wouldn't love them
3. **Now think about this:** God's love for humanity is infinitely greater than any human being... therefore his anger towards it will be as well

III. The Grace and Mercy of God

⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. ⁹ These are the generations of Noah, Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation, Noah walked with God.”

1. **FAVOR** — that's the Hebrew word for grace — unmerited love, undeserved affection.
2. Most professing believers **misunderstand** the account of Noah.
 - (1) They think that God spared Noah and his family from the flood because he was the good guy and everybody else was the bad guy. It **DOES** say that Noah was a righteous man — that he walked with God.
 - (2) But what does it say before that? That he *found favor* or *grace in the eyes of the Lord*.
 - i) Noah is the Old Testament illustration of this huge New Testament truth —
 - ii) ***Ephesians 2:4-9** God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us*

up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

- iii) **Here's the point:** Salvation is always a matter of grace. It is always and only the result of God doing for us that which do not deserve and could never earn.
- iv) By grace Noah and his family is spared to carry on the promised plan of God to redeem and restore man. By the end of **Genesis 9** there is a new social order on the earth. Capital punishment is ordained and human government is established

Now God gives Moses and his family...a number of INSTRUCTIONS, here's one that relates to the next event - Genesis 9:1 (ESV) ¹ And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.

So here we see God's commandment, multiply and fill the earth!!!

And this leads us to the last event...

4. THE TOWER OF BABAL - Chapter 11

About 300 years after the flood...this happens... God's people who he's graciously given a second chance...doe this

⁴Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."

Here we see, a unified disobedience against God...**He wanted them to fill the earth, they wanted to stay in one place, He wanted them to be a reflection of His image...they wanted to elevate their own.**

1. **They were unified against God!!!**
2. **Here's the something for us to remember**, Just because something is accepted and championed by the masses doesn't mean It's right or God honoring
3. **Unity is only a good thing, when what unify you is a God honoring**
4. There are a lot of ideologies becoming popular and championed by the masses these days
 - (1) A women right to chose - **abortion**
 - (2) A redefining of marriage
 - (3) A disregard of sexual purity
5. All of these things God has spoken clearly on...So It's important that we don't unify with those who push a world view that is against God's world view
6. It's gonna cost you friendships...don't forfeit your faith over a friendship

Look how God see this....

⁵And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. ⁶And the Lord said, "**Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.**" ⁷Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." ⁸So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. ⁹Therefore its name was called Babel, because there

the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

Babel will one day become Babylon. This is the birthplace of pagan religion built around a guy named Nimrod...Every false religious system of the world has its origin in Babylon.

1. **Here's the point** Spiritually speaking the bible presents to us **"Tale of Two Cities" — the City of Man and the City of God - Babylon or Jerusalem**
2. **Here's the question:** Which city do you live for? Which city do you belong to?

2nd Division - One Family

It's important to understand that doesn't tell us about every single thing that ever happened, but It does tell us about the most important thing that happened...and it's gonna happen through a single family, that comes out of a single man named **Abram or Abraham...If you notice this genealogy in **chapter 11:26** You'll see his name**

1. Abraham Chapters 12 -25

Abraham would be one of the most important people in all the bible...When we meet Abraham he is not Jewish. A lot of people are thinking, 'Abraham, he's Jewish.' No, he wasn't Jewish.

1. He was actually from Ur which is close to Babylon...mordant day Iraq
2. He was a pagan

3. He's going to be the father of the Jewish nation. But when we meet him he is not Jewish. He would be the Father of the nation of Israel. When we meet him he does not know that yet

Genesis 12:1–3 (ESV) ¹ 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.** ² 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.** ³ **I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”**

1. **God pursues Abraham** - Now think about what we have read up to this point, God has blessed mankind with so much - made in his image - the earth - marriage - and yet all man has done from the beginning is hurt, ruin, and destroy all that God loves
 - (1) How do you treat those who have failed you? - shut down, build walls, retreat, lash out.
 - (2) He could have responded to Adam and Eve’s betrayal by simply saying, “You sinned. You die. Game over. That’s it.” But He didn’t.
 - (3) That’s because God is gracious. He owes us nothing. Yet He pursues man for the purpose of relationship. He wants to have a relationship with Adam. And it’s a stellar story. It’s an incredible account of God having a relationship with man.
2. **God Makes a 3 fold promise to Abraham**
 - (1) **God promises a land**
 - (2) **God promises a nation to come from him** - He would say to him I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars of the sky

(3) **God promises a blessing** - What god alluding is what was promised in Gen 3...that one of Abrahams decedents would be the bless the entire world - Jesus

3. God Asks somethings of Abraham “V. 1 Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.

(1) Turn from your sinful lifestyle - This is called Repentance

(2) Turn to me - This is called Faith

Abrahams journey takes us from chapter 12 - 25 where He dies but in chapter 21, we are introduced to His Son...

2. Issac Chapters 21-35

Isaac name in Hebrew means “Laughter” which is a fitting name because of how old Abraham and His wife Sarah were when they had them

1. Hebrews 12 tells us that Sara was way passed the age of childbearing....and Abraham was as good as dead...so no wonder you name your boy “laughter”
2. Not only were they old, but they were dysfunctional as well, in Gen 16 Sarah (Abrahams wife) had gotten tired of waiting for God to deliver on His word, So she decided to take matters into her own hands...she told Abraham to sleep with her maid servant Hagar...and Ishmael was born and then Sarah became jealous and hated Hagar...whom Abraham would later banish in Gen 21
3. So much failure in this family, yet God’s promise marches on...

Now God's promise are transferred to Issac....Now Issac had 2 sons....

3. Jacob Chapters 25-50

Jacobs life is an interesting story, because He thought he had to lie and manipulate in order to get what God had already intended to give him freely and he went through a long series of events that prove that

1. Jacobs name means "swindler" and that's what His life was all about until...**Chapter 32 when He has his name changed by God to Israel**
2. He would have 12 Sons...who would become the nation of Israel

The most Famous son was

4. Joseph Chapters 37-50

Joseph was the man whom God used to rescue the nation of Israel:

1. Think about the twist and the turn of Joseph's life though
 - (1) Favored by his Father,
 - (2) Hated by His brothers
 - (3) Sold into Slavery by His brothers
 - (4) Spent his life ripped apart from His family
 - (5) But, He finds favor in the house of Pharaoh because of his God-given ability to interpret dreams
 - (6) Ends up being the 2nd in charge

- (7) A Famine breaks out and all of Joseph's people, all the nation of Israel would certainly have died...except for the fact that Joseph is now in Egypt, in power, where all the food is...
- (8) Without Joseph's life and all the twist and turns that it took Isaac, Jacob, and all of His brothers would have died out because of starvation...But He's able to save them all, and push God's promise of blessing on
- (9) Joseph sees his brothers again, and they were terrified of him...but look what happens in **Genesis 50:18–20 (ESV)**¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.

Conclusion

What does Genesis teach us? 2 THINGS

God is in control!!!!

- I. THE CREATION TEACHES US - He controls the physical world
- II. THE FALL TEACHES US - He's the supreme standard on what's right and wrong
- III. THE FLOOD TEACHES US - He's the Judge of the world
- IV. THE BABEL CRISIS TEACHES US - He's the one who places people where they are

God is loving!!!!

- V. THE FAMILY OF ABRAHAM TEACHES - He pursues us in our broken state, calls us out, and inspire of all our failure...He still remains faithful to fulfill His promise of the Messiah
- VI. The bible is about Jesus - **John 5:39 (ESV) ³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me,**