

*Genesis Overview Chapters 1-5***Teacher Preparation**

1. Study lesson.
 - Scripture **Genesis Ch. 1–5**
2. Visuals • **Key Verse 1** Gen. 1:27
 - Adam to Noah's Flood 1
3. Objectives: To know—
 - Creation/Adam, Eve,
 - Serpent deceives,
 - Cain kills Abel.
 - Enoch raptured,
 - Methuselah's long life.

Lesson 1

★Teacher reads, as class follows.

Genesis/Moses

The first book in the Bible is Genesis. It was written approximately 3,500 years ago and is probably the **oldest writings** in the history of man. It covers more years than any other book in the Bible. The human author was **Moses**, who lived around 2,400 yrs. after God created the world. Events in Genesis ended before Moses was born. Moses wrote Genesis under the inspiration of the Spirit of God, which was probably during Israel's 40 yrs. in the wilderness. The word **Genesis** means "beginnings" or "origins"—it gives the **origin** of things.

Beginnings

★Teacher reads, as class follows.

Gen. 1:1 *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

This statement does not argue for God's existence, but merely **states** it and leaves no room for debate. God created all things and sustains all things by His power. The scientific accuracy in Genesis is astounding, which is another proof of its **divine** authorship. Genesis also includes, in embryonic form, all the major Bible doctrines.

Knowing the book of Genesis helps us understand much about scripture, especially the NT.

Gen. 1 to 11

In the first 2 lessons, we'll see an Overview of Chapters 1–11—the Creation, the fall of man, the Flood, and the tower of Babel, which covers around 1,900 yrs., about **one third** of the history of man. Chapters 12 to 50 feature the lives of **4 great Patriarchs of the faith**—Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, which cover about 350 yrs. of the early history of the Jewish nation. During that time, there were no temples, no churches, Bible schools, Christian organizations, or missionary endeavors. Yet, God revealed Himself to mankind through **nature**, which speaks to all people. Nature provides us with God's great "Outdoor Book."

God's Outdoor Book

Nature reveals God's power, order, beauty, intelligence, and the detailed precision of His handiwork. Through this, we understand why all people, even the heathen, are **accountable** to God Rom. 1:19–21.

Every person, through God's Outdoor Book, can know there is a God with power and intelligence. When a person responds **positively** to this ray of truth, God will see that the person receives further truth, which is His **written** Word. In God's providence, He may send a believer, often a missionary, so the person can hear the Word of God.

Faith in God or man?

The Bible is not written as a science book, yet it is **scientifically** accurate. To believe God's account of Creation requires faith in God's word. In the same way, to believe the **theory** of **evolution** requires **faith** in man's reasoning. Both propositions require faith. The difference is—what the **faith** is in—God's word or man's reasonings.

Heb. 11:3 Through faith we **understand** that the **worlds** were **framed** by the **word** of **God**, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Those who believe God’s record of origins find it easy to understand the harmony that exists in God’s account of Creation and **true** scientific knowledge. Gen. Ch. 1 is about—God **creating** the universe and planet Earth. This occurred in 6 days, which were 24-hr. days. On the **7th** day, God rested and did no work.

“Thus the heavens and the earth were **finished**, and all the host of them” Gen. 2:1. The word “**finished**” leaves no room for **evolution**, which is a continuing process.

Man/in God’s image

*Teacher reads, as class follows.

Gen. 1:26 And 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 fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Key Verse 1

A Key Verse is—

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



Man was God’s **special** creation, for he was created

in the **image** of God. The Trinity of God is—God the **Father**, God the **Son**, and God the **Holy Spirit**. Deut. 6:4 says, “The LORD our God is **one** LORD.” Thus, God is one God in 3 Persons. Like a triangle that has 3 equal sides and 3 equal angles, each Person of the **Trinity** is equal in power. The doctrine of the Trinity of God—**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**—is fully developed in the NT.

Man is also a **trinity**—with a body, soul, and spirit. 1 Thess. 5:23 names the 3 parts of man—“I pray God your whole **spirit and soul and body**

be preserved blameless.”

Garden of Eden

Gen. 2:6 But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

A mist watered the earth; there was **no rain**. **Rain** did not come until 1,656 yrs. after Creation. It began with the **Flood** of Noah’s day.

Vs. 15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

God placed the first man **Adam** in the garden of Eden. And Adam had fellowship with God, for Adam had a high level of language and thought, and his **conscience** was aware of right and wrong.

Later, God put Adam to sleep. From Adam’s rib, God made **Eve**, who was Adam’s wife. They were told not to eat of **one tree** in the garden—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they did, they would **die**. It was their test—to either obey, or not obey God.

Satan’s lie

Lucifer was a beautiful, high-ranking angel in heaven. But he **believed** his own **lie**—that he could be like God. Thus, he **rebelled** against God, and 1/3 of the angelic host followed him. God then **cast Lucifer** and the 3rd of angels out of heaven to earth. Lucifer became **Satan**, and the 3rd of angels became demons (devils). Ezek. 28:12–17; Isa. 14:12–15; Rev. 12: 3,4

Eve deceived

*Teacher reads, as class follows.

3:1 Now the **serpent** was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Satan came to the garden in the form of a **serpent** and tempted Eve to eat the forbidden fruit. She **believed** Satan’s lie, **ate** the fruit, and **gave** it to Adam to eat. They both disobeyed God. Then—they realized they were naked.

When God came to the garden, they **hid**. God called them. And Adam **blamed Eve** for **his disobeying God**, and she **blamed the serpent**. The **perfect world** was now **cursed**. God then made them **coats of skins** from an animal, probably a **lamb**.

Their sinful nature was passed on to their descendants. Satan continues deceiving people with **lies**. Only the blood of **Christ**, God's Lamb, can take away sin's stains.

Cain and Abel

In Gen. 4, the **first child born** into the world was **Cain**; after that, **Abel** was born. Later, **Cain** offered God his **best fruit** from the **ground**, but God **rejected** it. **Abel** offered a **lamb** from his flock, which God **accepted**. God had **set the example** in the garden, when he made **coats of skins** to **cover** Adam and Eve's shame of **disobedience**.

The **2 offerings** depict man's **2 approaches** to God. God never accepts **man's works**, but He **requires** a **sacrifice**—**foreshadowing Christ's death** as the Lamb of God.

Heb. 11:4, "**By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous.**"

Cain's works were **his efforts**, which God rejected. Cain was **angry** that God **rejected** his offering and **resented** God **accepting** Abel's offering. Later, Cain **killed** his brother **Abel**. This was the **first death** in man's history.

Cain left

Gen. 4:16 *And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.*

Cain left and went **east** to "**Nod**", which means "**wandering**." Some ask—where did Cain get his wife? He married his sister. Adam and

Eve had many sons and daughters—not named in scripture; "tradition says they had **33 sons** and **27 daughters**" (Halley). At first, the sons and daughters had to marry **brothers and sisters**. So the answer is—**Cain** married his **sister**.

Later, God **prohibited** marriage between **brothers** and **sisters**, and those **near of kin** (Lev. 18:9). Some years back, it was discovered that **inherited weaknesses** within a family are **multiplied** when marriages occur between family members. Examples—Europe's kingly families became free bleeders (hemophiliacs).

Seth's godly line

*Teacher reads, as class follows.

Gen 4:25 *And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name **Seth**: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.*

²⁶ *And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name **Enos**: then **began men** to call upon the name of the LORD.*

Adam was 130 yrs. old when **Seth** was born. Scripture only names **3** of Adam's children—Cain, Abel, and Seth. It was **after** Seth's son **Enos**, that men began to **call on the Lord**. From Seth's **godly line**, the **Messiah** would come into the world. There were now **2 kinds** of people—the **godly line** of **Seth** and **Cain's ungodly line**.

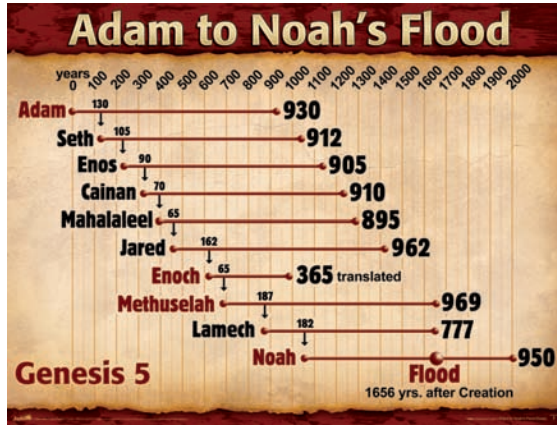
Graveyard—Gen. 5

Genesis 5 is called the "Graveyard Chapter", for it lists the generations of the **godly line** from **Adam** to **Noah**. Ch. 5 is like **walking** through a **graveyard**. The **name** is given; the **number of years** he **lived**; his age when a **son was born**; and his **age** when he **died**.

5:21 *And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah: ²² And **Enoch** walked with God after he begat **Methuselah** three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:*

²³ *And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years.*

God revealed to Enoch that as long as his son Methuselah lived, God would withhold His judgment on the world, but after the son died, judgment would come. This made such an impact on Enoch that he named his son Methuselah, which means, "when he is dead, it shall be sent."



(point to visual) Number after name is father's age when son was born. Right column is father's age at death.

Enoch's translation

Vs. 24 And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.

After Enoch lived 365 yrs., he was "translated"—that is, he went to heaven without dying. Enoch is a type of those who will be raptured—go to heaven without dying. The Rapture will occur before the 7-yr. Tribulation.

After God revealed to Enoch—judgment was coming, this turned Enoch into a fiery prophet. He warned people about judgment and the world's impending doom.

In Jude 14 "Enoch..., the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints."

This comforted the godly and warned the ungodly of their deeds against God.

God's longsuffering

Vs. 27 And all the days of Methuselah were 969 yrs.

He is the only man on record to live that long. Methuselah was Noah's grandfather, and he died the year of the Flood. His long life shows God's longsuffering to mankind in holding back judgment.

In Matt. 5:13, Jesus said, "Ye are the salt (preservative) of the earth."

God wants His people to be like salt, a preservative, to hold back evil in each generation. In that way, God's judgment on nations and individuals may be postponed.

The question to ask is—"Are we being salt—the preservative—in our family, among our relatives, and in our community and nation?"

Though our influence may not change any of these, we are to be God's testimony, like Methuselah, in the midst of an evil generation.

Key Verse 1

Review Key Verse

Gen. 1:27 —>

Let's say it together.



Announce—Scripture for each lesson is on back of Compass.

Prayer

As class exits, Asst. gives out Compass #1.



Scripture to read before next study
Genesis 6-11